

# JUDGES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018  
**Week 7: The Lord Is Peace**

## Scripture Reading: Judges 6:1-24

We meet our fifth judge: **GIDEON**

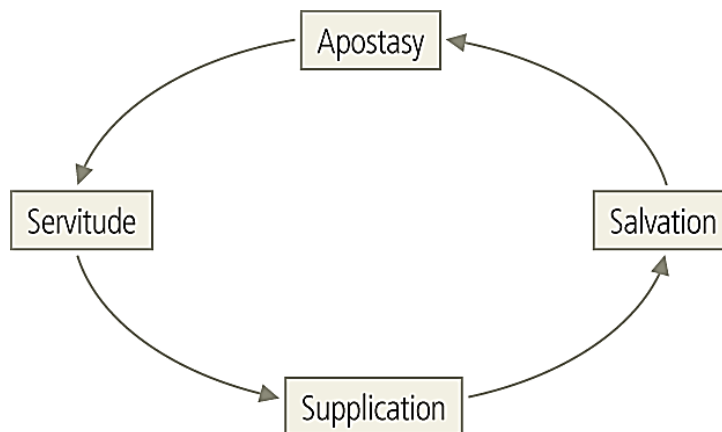
- Besides Samson, Gideon is the second judge we have the most information about: *Judges 6-8*

### 1. God sends a prophet (verses 1-10)

God's sending of judges to Israel repeatedly followed a fourfold cycle:

1. Apostasy: *the Israelites do what is evil in the sight of the Lord*
2. Servitude: *God allows the nation to be conquered & oppressed*
3. Supplication: *the people cry out to God*
4. Salvation: *God sends a judge to deliver the Israelites*

The cycle *repeats* after the current judge dies



- The **Midianites** oppress the Israelites in 4 ways:
  - *They force them to live in caves*
  - *They devour all their crops*

- We learn from verse 3 that they're not alone: The Amalekites & the "*people of the East*" are also helping
  - Significance & discussion of the phrase "*people of the east*"/ "*East*"
    - *They consume & abuse all their livestock*
    - *They pollute the land*
- Instead of a judge, first they receive a **prophet**. He reminds them of *two things*:
  - *What **God** has done*
  - *What **they** have done*
    - Regret vs. repentance

## 2. God sends a sign (verses 11-24)

- God sends a heavenly visitor in verse 11
  - *WHO is it though?*
- We meet Gideon in hiding
- "*How can I save Israel?*"
- **Two** things to take home with us tonight:
  - *May we never disregard the Bible = 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Joshua 1:8*
  - *God never hesitates to apply his holiness & grace = Romans 5:8*