

Devotional from Pastor Ho
July 23, 2020

Judges 6:36-37, *“Then Gideon said to God, ‘If you will save Israel by my hand, as you have said, behold, I am laying a fleece of wool on the threshing floor. If there is dew on the fleece alone, and it is dry on all the ground, then I shall know that you will save Israel by my hand, as you have said.’”*

This passage on Gideon is a well-known means to seek God’s will in a particular matter, albeit disputable. It is disputable because it is no different from modern people’s coin flipping to figure out what to do in a situation that involves a “yes” or “no” decision. Sometimes people pray, “Lord, if it is your will that I go, let the third car that passes before me be a red one.” Seeking God’s will in a particular matter involves more than just a simple yes or no. It involves knowing God’s will as revealed in the Bible, as well as the application of that will in a particular situation.

Gideon didn’t have the Bible as we do today, but God sent his angel to reveal his will to him. Therefore, the wet and dry fleeces were not a means to help him make the decision whether or not to go to the battle; the previous two verses (6:34-35) indicate that his army was ready for the battle. The wet and dry fleeces were for Gideon to know his God and what this God could do. It was for his faith to be strengthened before he went out for battle.

What do we do today when we are in Gideon’s situation, facing a huge undertaking before us? First of all, we need to step forward in faith, for whatever does not proceed from faith is sin (Rom 14:23). This faith implies we depend entirely on God and his promises in the undertaking. On the other hand, if we have reservations or doubts concerning it, it does not proceed from faith. What if our faith needs strengthening, like that of Gideon? On this side of the cross, we look to the object of our faith, Jesus Christ and the power of his resurrection. The demonstration of God’s power to Gideon was through the wet and dry fleeces, but to us it is through the raising of Jesus from the dead. If even death could not detain him, COVID-19 is by no means a formidable enemy. By faith in Christ we therefore submit to the higher law of love for Christ and his people.

Prayer: Lord, would you strengthen our faith and help us to submit to you in faith by loving your people? To do or not to do, it is a matter of faith. Amen.

何牧師的靈修

2020年7月23日

士師記 6 篇 36 之 37 節：“基甸對神說：你若果照著所說的話，藉我手拯救以色列人，我就把一團羊毛放在禾場上：若單是羊毛上有露水，別的地方都是乾的，我就知道你必照著所說的話，藉我手拯救以色列人。”

這段講到基甸的經文是在 1 問題上尋求神的旨意的知名方法，儘管這是有爭議的。之所以引起爭議，是因為它與現代人用硬幣在某種情況下做“是”或“否”的決定沒有什麼不同。有時人們會禱告：“主啊，如果是你的旨意讓我去，讓在我面前過的第三輛車是紅色的。”在某個問題上尋求神的旨意不僅只是一個簡單的是或否。它抱括了解在聖經中神所啓示的旨意，以及在具體情況下該怎麼應用這個旨意。

基甸沒有我們今天擁有的聖經，但神差遣了天使向他顯明祂的旨意。因此，乾濕羊毛不是幫助他做出是否去打戰的決定的工具。前兩節(6:34-35)表明他的軍隊已經作好了打戰的準備。乾濕羊毛是讓基甸認識他的神和知道這個神所能做的。這是為了在他出戰之前增強他的信心。

今天，當我們在基甸的情況時，面對面前的巨大任務，我們怎麼做呢？首先，我們要踏出信心的腳步，因為凡不出於信心的就是罪(羅馬書 14:23)。這信心包含我們在這任務中完全依靠神和祂的應許。另一方面，如果我們對此任務有保留或懷疑，那就不是出於信心。如果我們的信心，像基甸的信心，需要加強，該怎麼辦？在十字架的這一邊，我們就仰望我們信心的對象，耶穌基督和他復活的大能。對基甸，神的大能是通過乾濕羊毛來顯示，但對我們則是通過耶穌從死裡復活來顯示。如果連死亡都不能扣留他，新冠病毒絕對不是一個強大的敵人。因為對基督的信心，我們順服更高的律法，就是愛基督和他子民。

禱告：主，請你增強我們的信心，並幫助我們，通過愛你的子民在信心中順服你。做或不做，關鍵在於信心。阿們。

何牧师的灵修

2020年7月23日

士师记 6 篇 36 之 37 节：“基甸对神说：你若果照着所说的话，借我手拯救以色列人，我就把一团羊毛放在禾场上：若单是羊毛上有露水，别的地方都是干的，我就知道你必照着所说的话，借我手拯救以色列人。”

这段讲到基甸的经文是在 1 问题上寻求神的旨意的知名方法，尽管这是有争议的。之所以引起争议，是因为它与现代人用硬币在某种情况下做“是”或“否”的决定没有什么不同。有时人们会祷告：“主啊，如果是你的旨意让我去，让我面前过的第三辆车是红色的。”在某个问题上寻求神的旨意不仅只是一个简单的是或否。它抱括了解在圣经中神所启示的旨意，以及在具体情况下该怎么应用这个旨意。

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今天，当我们在基甸的情况时，面对面前的巨大任务，我们怎么做呢？首先，我们要踏出信心的脚步，因为凡不出于信心的就是罪（罗马书 14:23）。这信心包含我们在这任务中完全依靠神和祂的应许。另一方面，如果我们对此任务有保留或怀疑，那就不是出于信心。如果我们的信心，像基甸的信心，需要加强，该怎么办？在十字架的这一边，我们就仰望我们信心的对象，耶稣基督和他复活的大能。对基甸，神的大能是通过干湿羊毛来显示，但对我们则是通过耶稣从死里复活来显示。如果连死亡都不能扣留他，新冠病毒绝对不是一个强大的敌人。因为对基督的信心，我们顺服更高的律法，就是爱基督和他子民。

祷告：主，请你增强我们的信心，并帮助我们，通过爱你的子民在信心中顺服你。做或不做，关键在于信心。阿们。