

God's Hidden Mighty Warrior

Description

Hebrews 11:31-40

It's one thing to want God to act, to do something, to see human misery and chart a way out. It's another thing to allow oneself to be summoned to the unanticipated plan God assembles. The people have cried out to God to come and deliver Israel in the midst of their misery from the Midianites who are defeating them, confining them, ruining their fields and their ability to sustain themselves.

But now their cries and God's plans for deliverance intersect in Gideon, who is promised the divine presence and named the mighty warrior. That mighty warrior part is already a stretch, especially as Gideon hides in fear of the Midianites, trying to harvest wheat for food where the enemy won't discover it. He is not now the epitome of strength and power, but unlike us, God relies on what He can do with and through us more than the skill or strength we bring to God's purposes. Gideon needs only to trust what God can and will do, the very thing the people of God have been reluctant to do, then and now.

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