

Full assurance of Faith 2
Hebrews 10:22
Putting foreign armies to flight.

Pride is pernicious. God not only resists the proud, but He actively opposes them. An army of pride can be put to flight by a few humble people who receive God's grace. It is the humble who walk in the strength that God supplies who will see progress in the faith. Jannes and Jambres made no further progress because they could not match the miracles of God with their "black arts".(2 Tim 3:8-9) Their methods fell short of God's power. God's strength was seen as superior to every idol of Egypt by the plagues the Lord sent through Moses...who was a humble man. Many of God's people find themselves struggling to make progress in the faith and the reason is pride. When looking for spiritual growth or victory over sin so many get sidelined when they look to their failings and successes. Obedience here brings a level of satisfaction and joy whereas "failure" there, leads to despondency and anger. Frustrations bitterness and judgment based on outward appearance. Trying to perfect in the flesh that which was begun in the Spirit. Not boasting in the work of Christ but secretly looking to boast in the flesh. That of accomplishment. Why the difficulty, Why the challenge? Grace is not in sight.

Jas 4:5 Or do you think that the Scripture says to no purpose, "He jealously desires the Spirit whom He has made to dwell in us"?

Jas 4:6 But **He gives a greater grace**. Therefore *it* says, "GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."

Jas 4:7 Submit therefore to God. But resist **the devil**, and **he will flee from you**.

The battle starts at the fountain

Jdg 7:1 Then Jerubbaal (that is, Gideon) and all the people who were with him got up early, and camped beside **the spring of Harod**; (fountain of trembling) and the camp of Midian was on the north side of them by the hill of Moreh (teaching or early rain) in the valley.

Jdg 7:2 And the LORD said to Gideon, "The people who are with you are too many for Me to hand Midian over to them, otherwise Israel would **become boastful**, saying, 'My own power has saved me.'"

Php 2:12 So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out

your own salvation with fear and **trembling**; (awed by God's goodness)

Php 2:13 for it is God who is at work in you, both to desire and to work for His good pleasure.

Psa 2:11 Serve the LORD with reverence And rejoice with trembling.

"men should so rejoice in Christ as to have no confidence in the flesh, or assume any degree of glory to themselves, or have any rejoicing in themselves, but wholly in Christ, giving all the glory of what they have to him."

The number was too many? Even at 32,000 the enemy still outnumbered them. To reduce the number of fighting men was not "logical". But would keep Israel from usurping God's glory

2Co 10:5 *We are* destroying **arguments** and all arrogance raised against the knowledge of God, and *we are* taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,

Arguments – computation, taking an inventory, reasoning
imagination, thought, conceit

Faulty logic has no defense against the truth. Victory or salvation is not based on numbers. Sizing up the number of soldiers to predict the odds of winning goes out the window when the Lord is involved. 300 hundred men of Israel put a great army to flight

Pro 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding.

Jdg 7:7 And the LORD said to Gideon, "**I will save you** with the three hundred men who lapped, and will hand the Midianites over to you; so have all the *other* people go, each man to his home."

God is giving the victory but sometimes we need to be assured

Jdg 7:9 Now on the same night it came about that the LORD said to him, "Arise, go down against the camp, for I have handed it over to you.

Jdg 7:10 "**But if you are afraid** to go down, go with Purah your servant down to the camp,

Jdg 7:11 so that you will hear what they say; and afterward you will have the courage to go down against the camp." So he went down with Purah his servant to the outposts of the army that was in the camp.

A word from the Lord brings courage. Prophecy is something we all should desire so that we may encourage God's people to continue walking by faith.

2Pe 1:20 *But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture becomes a matter of someone's own **interpretation,***

2Pe 1:21 for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

We see dreams in scripture needing to be interpreted often by men of God. But...

Jdg 7:13 When Gideon came, behold, a man was relating a dream to his friend. And he said, "Behold, I had a dream; a loaf of barley bread was tumbling into the camp of Midian, and it came to the tent and struck it so that it fell, and turned it upside down so that the tent collapsed."

Jdg 7:14 And his friend replied, "This is nothing other than **the sword of Gideon** the son of Joash, a man of Israel; God has handed over to him Midian and all the camp."

Jdg 7:15 When Gideon heard the account of the dream and its **interpretation,** he bowed in worship. Then he returned to the camp of Israel and said, "Arise, for the LORD has handed over to you the camp of Midian!"

The interpretation "breaks it down" so the dream may be understood or rather confirmed. In this, the inner man is strengthened and worship is the result!

1Co 1:6 just as the testimony concerning Christ was **confirmed** in you,

1Co 1:7 so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you eagerly await the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ,

1Co 1:8 **who will also confirm you to the end,** blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is a promise to hold fast to. God will continue to strengthen His people in the Truth until the end. We can continue to run to Him and receive strengthening and encouragement in His word. For when we humble ourselves under His mighty hand the devil will flee from us.

Our enemies have no defense for the sword of the Lord

Light shines out of darkness.

Jdg 7:19 So Gideon and the hundred men who were with him came to the outskirts of the camp at the beginning of the middle night watch, when they had just posted the watch; and they blew the trumpets and smashed the pitchers that were in their hands.

Jdg 7:20 When the three units blew the trumpets and broke the pitchers, they held the torches in their left hands and the trumpets in their right hands for blowing, and shouted, "**A sword for the LORD and for Gideon!**"

Jdg 7:21 And each stood in his place around the camp; and **all the army ran, crying out as they fled.**

Jdg 7:22 And when they blew the three hundred trumpets, the LORD set the sword of one against another even throughout the entire army; and the army fled as far as Beth-shittah toward Zererah, as far as the edge of Abel-meholah, by Tabbath.

Heb 4:12 For **the word of God** is living and active, and sharper than any **two-edged sword**, even penetrating as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Heb 4:13 And there is **no creature hidden from His sight**, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of **Him to whom we must answer.**