

N. Union 10/5/47
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Salina City
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Eagerness for God's Tasks.

Scripture: - Judges 6: 11-16
7: 1-6. loyalty way.

Text: - Judges 7: 4. "The people are
yeh too many."

Sub: - The day of Israel as we
find it at the time of Gideon
was a dark day. The nation had
forsaken the Lord, the worship
of Jehovah for the worship of Baal.
The hosts of Midian are invading
the land and threatening to
engulf it. There seems no hope.
The old enthusiasm and spirit
are gone.

In this dark hour there comes
a faint ray of hope. Listen as I
read Judges 6: 11-16. A new day was
about to dawn, because one man
was willing to listen to the Lord.
The altar of Baal was cash down
by night and the people began
to rally to the call of Gideon.
Then God said to Gideon.

I. The People are yeh too many.

1. Success not predicated on numbers alone.
2. Fear and hesitancy -
frees of money.
3. So in Church of

Christ. needful to distinguish
between those who may be
simply hangers on; and give it
but a dilatory service; without
a clear faith, and are more
than half absorbed in
the pastimes and follies
of the world. Such will
not be helpers of the church
but are those that must be
helped. Not all our church
membership represents ag-
gressive strength. As -
Biden's day, so today,
there are many who are
not eager for God's tasks.

II. The Sifting - Finish.

1. Fearful and afraid. -

Grimmings - 22,000 week time
thought of Amherst farms.

2. ~~Every one who is eager.~~

~~300 eager for battle~~

~~This represents about 1/70
of our church, about 7 people.~~

the battle on every day. at the
front there are those who are
bearing burdens; at rear, those who

are idling, talking and having a good time, as though there were no foe to face, no cross to bear, no task to do. The fearful and faint hearted are always as dangerous as the enemy himself.

2.- Second sifting.

1. To remove those who do not have zeal, eagerness, they showed their spirit by the manner in which they drank. Gideon wanted a group that could move as one man with one purpose, to do God's task in defeating Midian.

2. We show our spiritual state by the way we spend our leisure time; by the way we seek our pleasures; by the way we spend our Sunday is the question simply is whether we are so engaged with God's plan for our lives, in knowing his plan, in fulfilling it, that we have no time to dawdle and no disposition to trifle as we face his tasks. One out of 100 - what -

our average?

we live in a day when ^{church} people
are piling up object after object
that needs attention and
entering into engagement
after engagement that comes
between them and their ^{duty},
their loyalty to God and the
church. They go visiting, they
read the newspapers, ^{get through} they
follow pleasure to their own
hark, they trifle and fritter
away their lives, because
they are not willing as were
Dionys Zao and as was
Jesus, to restrict this earthly
life to the simplest terms,
so spiritual energy and
power can be had for ^{God's}
tasks.

IV. Why the Sifting and
Why the Victory.

1. So as not to leave
room for self-vaunting.

2. To make room for
faith in God, the unseen,
though flesh helped.

3. How did God work,
he discomfited the
hosts of midian. Judge 7:9-14

Core! - what kind of disciples
are we? Fearful, fainthearted,
afraid, trembling. Engrossed
in things of life & eager for
God's tasks. Loyal to our
God & church.