

A Tale of Two Gideons

Judg. 7:23-8:21

1. Dr. Jerubbaal: A monster trying to be _____. (7:23-8:3)

The town folk wanted to kill Gideon for this, but his father forbid it and gave Gideon the name _____, which means "let Baal contend against him."

Who has been the main actor in this long story? _____.

Dr. J has done good things as long as he has been willing to _____ God's lead.

So Dr. J could be described as fearful, skeptical yet obedient, bold and brave in battle, wise, tactful, and even diplomatic as he followed God and was being led by God's _____. (6:34)

2. Mr. Gideon: A monster out of _____. (8:4-21)

The kings of Midian, Zebah & Zalmunna, killed Mr. G's brothers in the battle at Mt. Tabor and he wanted _____.

Mr. G is domineering, imperious, unforgiving, abusive, cruel, vengeful, and murderous. And he no longer has any _____ for faith or for God.

He was operating on his own, without God's leading. He has gotten what he _____ from God and now he has left Him completely behind.

3. Only Jesus Christ can remove the _____ in all of us. (John 3:3; 2 Cor. 5:17; Rom. 12:1-2)

Gideon had _____ been a monster.

And the same is true of all of us. We are all _____ monsters.

Christ _____ and rose again so that you can be born again.

Calvary Connection Group
Discussion Questions for the week of Jan. 6, 2019

Getting to Know Me

- How was your Christmas? What present gave you the most pleasure to give?

- Are you making in New Year's resolutions? Why or why not? What are they (optional)?

Into the Bible

- What one thing stood out to you in this week's sermon as something important to understand and apply?

- What is it about vengeance that God reserves it to Himself? (See Deut. 32:35; Rom. 12:19; Heb. 10:30)

- What does God think about people, like Dr. J, who follow Him in order to get something they want? (Gal. 6:7-10; Phil. 3:18-19; Is. 64:6)

- Read Rom. 7:14-25. This is Paul struggling with his "monster." How does Paul describe his experience of trying to follow God while still living in the flesh? Does this square with your experience? How does it make you feel to know that Paul the Apostle, author of over half the New Testament, also struggled with his "monster"?

Application

- What was one "monster-like" thing that someone has done to you? How did you respond?

- Have you ever seen the "monster" come out in yourself? Yes or no. Care to tell us about it? (Optional)