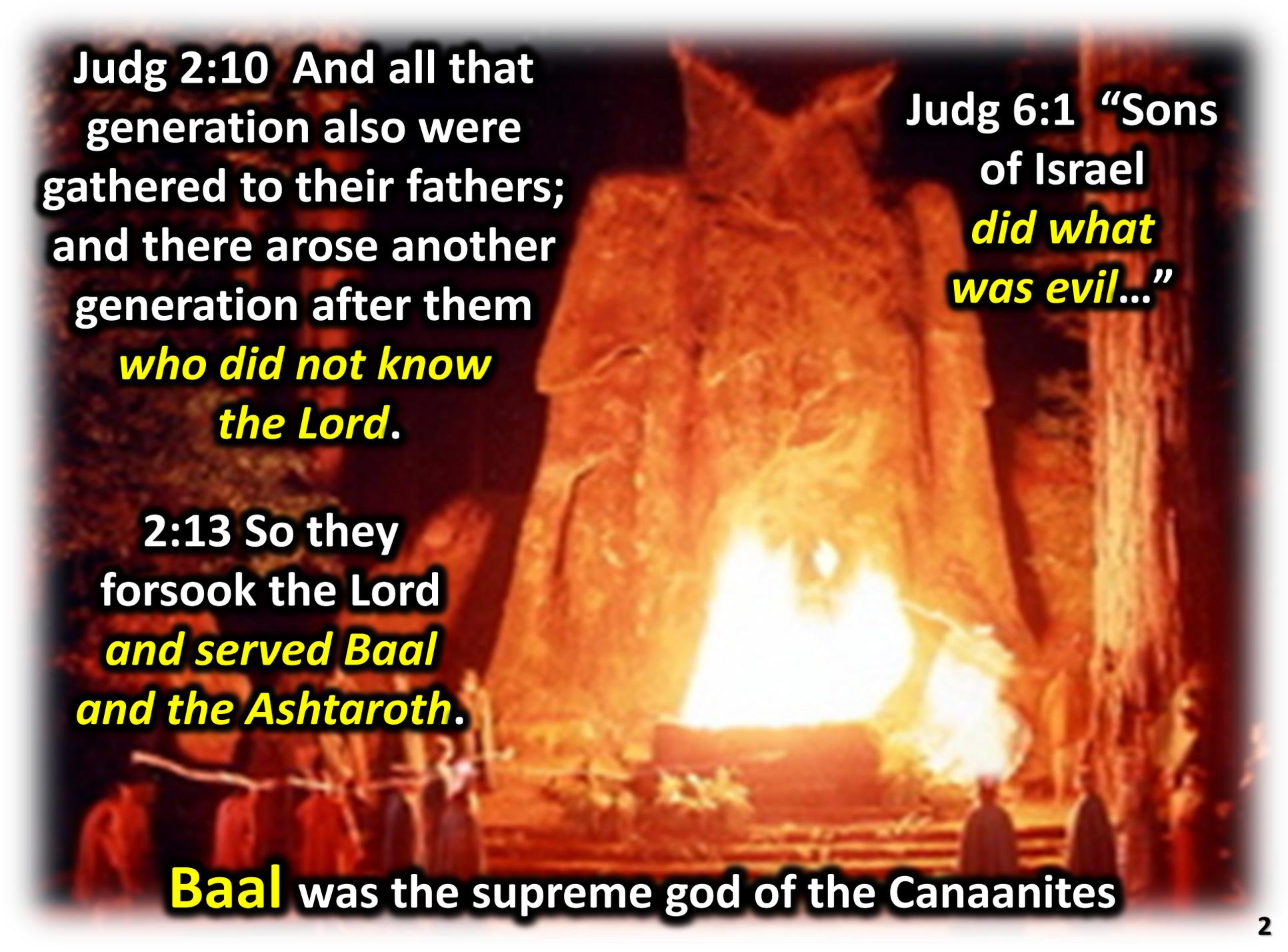


The Faith of Gideon
Heb 11:32-34



IMPOSSIBLE
GIDEON: A TESTED FAITH

A dramatic scene of a bonfire at night. A large, bright fire burns in the center, casting a warm, orange glow. Several people are gathered around the fire, some holding long sticks or branches. The background is dark, suggesting a night setting. The overall atmosphere is one of a significant event or ritual.

Judg 2:10 And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers; and there arose another generation after them *who did not know the Lord.*

2:13 So they forsook the Lord *and served Baal and the Ashtaroth.*

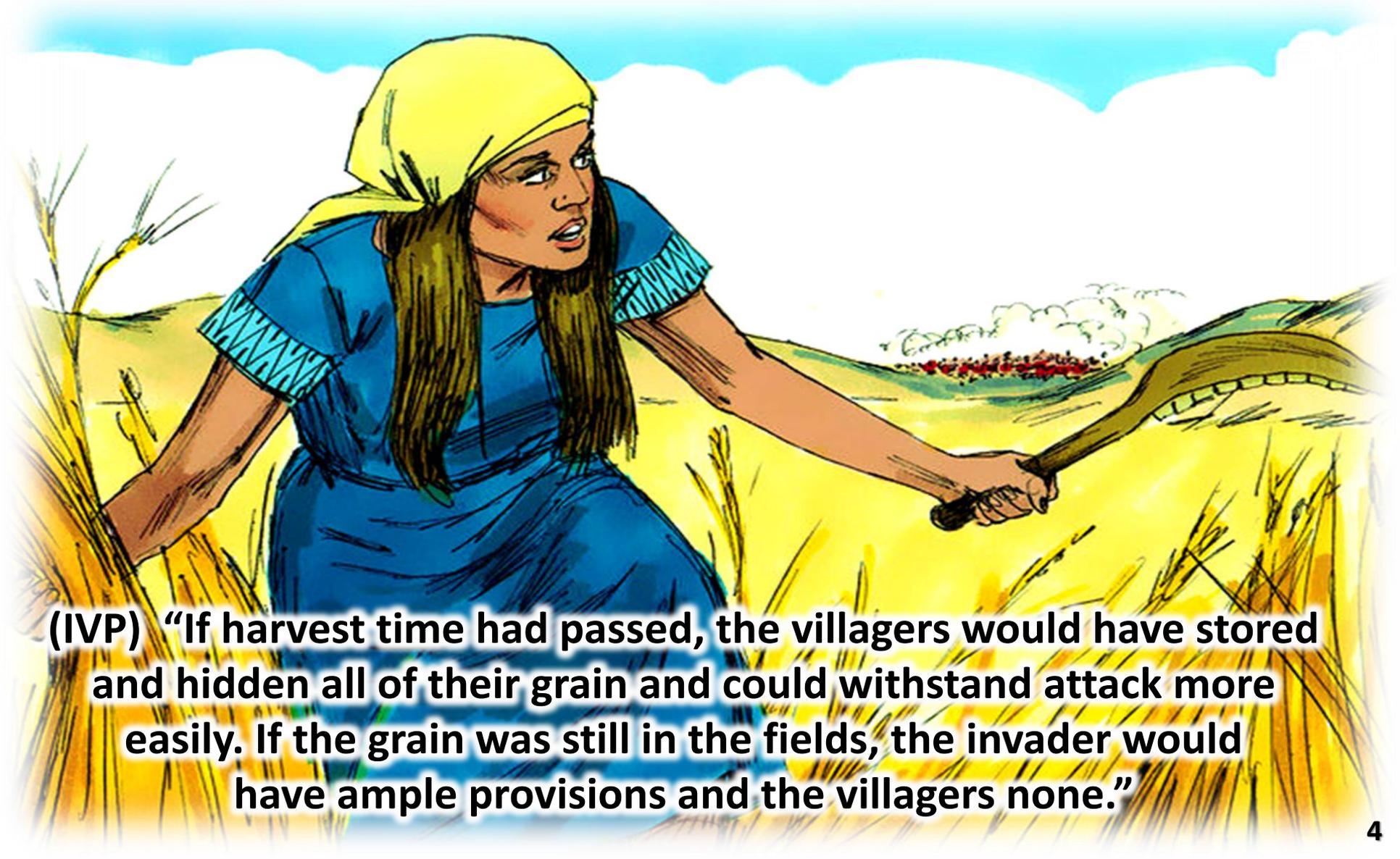
Judg 6:1 “Sons of Israel *did what was evil...*”

Baal was the supreme god of the Canaanites

Judg 6:1 “The Lord gave them into the hands of
Midian seven years.”



Judg 6:3 “When Israel had **SOWN**, the **Midianites** would come up with the **Amalekites**, and the **sons of the east** [Arabian Tribes] Barnes



(IVP) “If harvest time had passed, the villagers would have stored and hidden all of their grain and could withstand attack more easily. If the grain was still in the fields, the invader would have ample provisions and the villagers none.”

Judg 6:4 So they would camp against them & they would destroy the produce of the earth as far as Gaza leaving no substance, **No sheep, ox or donkey".**



Judg 6:5a “For they would come up with their livestock and their tents, they would come in like *locusts* for number.”



Judg 6:5b “They would come up like locusts... and their *camels* were innumerable; and they came into the land to devastate it.”



Judg 6:6 “So Israel
was brought very low
because of Midian,
and the sons of
*Israel cried to
the Lord.*



Judg 6:7 “Now it came about when the sons of Israel cried to the Lord on account of *Midian*, v8 that the Lord sent a

prophet

to the sons of Israel, and he said to them...”

Judg 6:10 “I am the Lord your God; *you shall not fear* the gods of the Amorites in whose land you live.”





Judg 6:11 “Then the angel of the Lord came and sat under the oak that was in Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezerite [a Clan of Manasseh Joshua 17:2] as his son **Gideon** was beating out wheat in the wine press in order to save it from the **Midianites**.

Judg 6:12 And the angel of the Lord appeared to him and said to him, “The Lord is with you, ***O valiant warrior.***”



Judg 6:14 "The Lord looked at him and said, "***Go in this your strength and deliver Israel*** from the hand of Midian. Have I not sent you?"

Judg 6:17 Gideon said to Him, "If now I have found favor in Your sight, ***then show me a sign that it is You*** who speaks with me.

Judg 6:18 "Please do not depart from here, until I come back ... and bring my ***offering.***"

Judg 6:19 “Then Gideon prepared a kid and unleavened bread..”

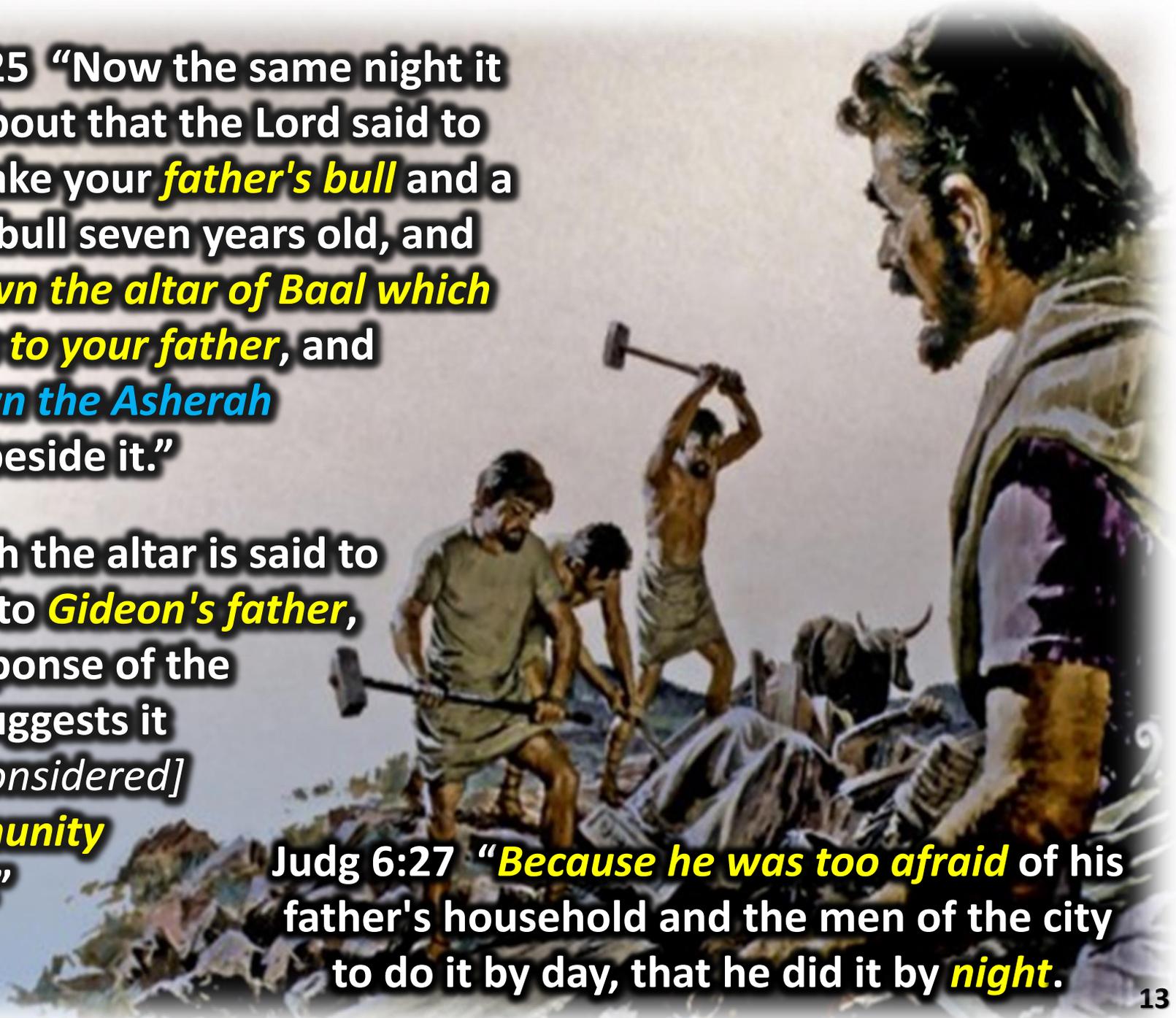


Judg 6:21 “Then the *angel of the Lord* put out the end of the staff ... and touched the meat and the unleavened bread; and *fire sprang up* from the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened bread. *Then the angel of the Lord vanished from his sight.*”

Judg 6:25 “Now the same night it came about that the Lord said to him, “Take your *father's bull* and a second bull seven years old, and *pull down the altar of Baal which belongs to your father*, and *cut down the Asherah* that is beside it.”

“Though the altar is said to belong to *Gideon's father*, the response of the town suggests it was [considered] a *community shrine*.”
(IVP)

Judg 6:27 “*Because he was too afraid* of his father's household and the men of the city to do it by day, that he did it by *night*.”



Judg 6:33 “Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the sons of the east assembled themselves; and they crossed over and camped in the valley of Jezreel.”

Here many notable battles were fought. It was the staging area for the battle of Saul against the Philistines (1 Sam 28:4). Here the armies of Israel defeated Canaanites (Judg 5:19), later it was the scene of the fatal struggle between Josiah and Egyptians (2 Kings 23:29); and last it is referenced in (Rev 16:16).



Judg 6:34 “ **So the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon** ; and he blew a **trumpet**, and the Abiezrites were called together to follow him. ”

35 “were called to gether to follow him; & he sent messengers to **Asher**, **Zebulun**, and **Naphtali**, and they came up to meet them.”



Get Your Facts Straight!
(Prov 14:33)

Judges 6:36 – 40
Gideon's fleece

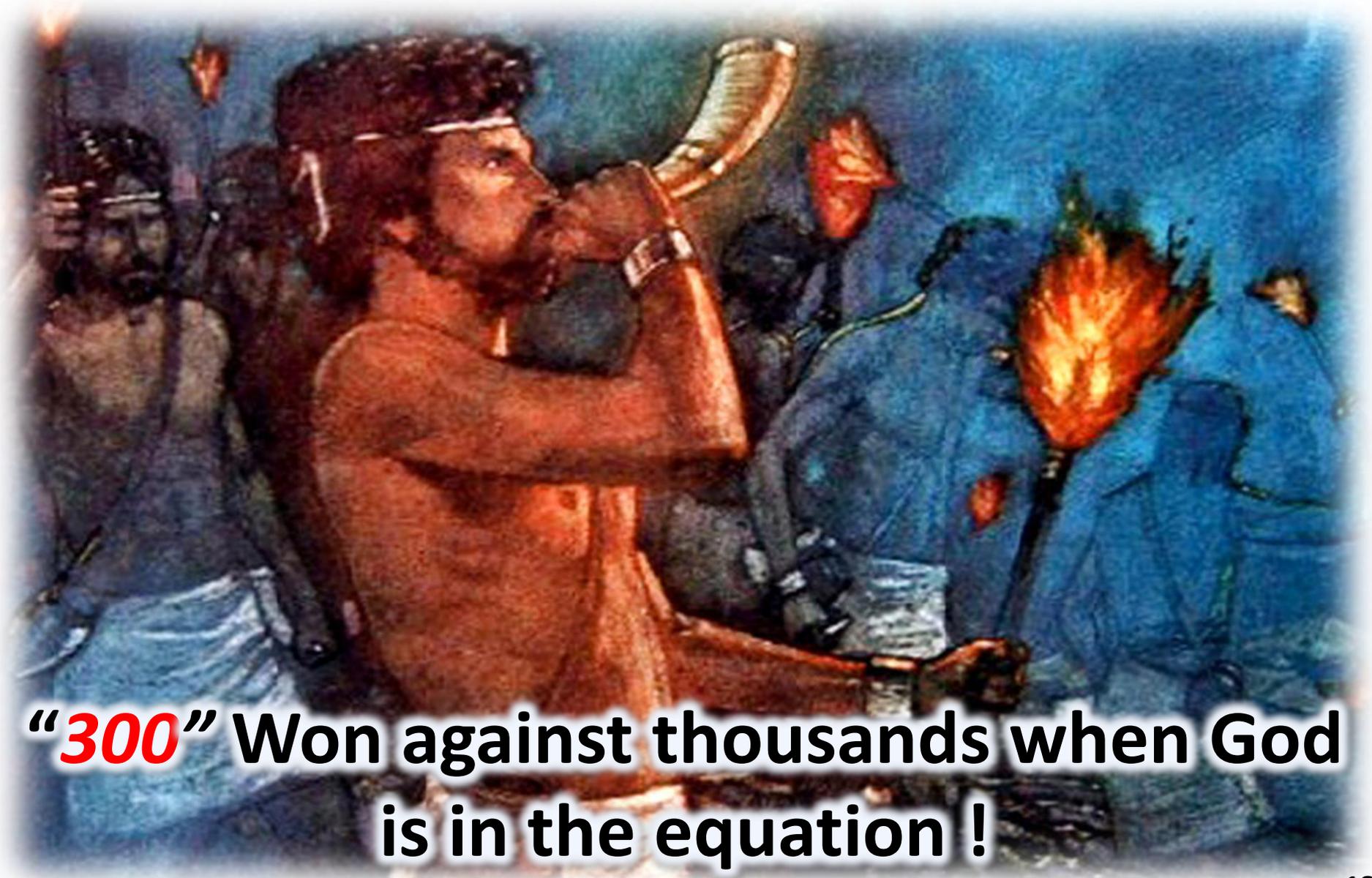
v.37 Dew on
***Fleece* only.**

v.39 Dew on
***Ground* only.**

Choosing the *Courageous*: Judges 7:2-3 “*Afraid?*”
Selecting the *Prepared*: Judges 7:4-6 “*Drink?*”



Using the *Warriors*: Judges 7:22-25



“300” Won against thousands when God is in the equation !