

# How Will You Finish?

## Judges 8.22-35

Gideon Succeeded over Every EXTERNAL Enemy but Failed when Fighting the INNER Man.

How we FINISH the Race is just as important, if not more, than how we RUN the Race.

Gideon Faced Temptations in THREE AREAS that Reveal BOTH Sides of his Character.

### 1. GIDEON FACED SECULAR TEMPTATION. (vv. 22-23)

- God's People Make A REQUEST Of Gideon. (v. 22)
- Sometimes we must Stand Against things even if we have to Stand Alone.
- God's Man REFUSES Their Request. (v. 23)
- He Refused their offer & Reminds them their Loyalty was to GOD Alone.
- Sometimes, like Gideon, you just have to say "NO!"

### 2. GIDEON FACED SPIRITUAL TEMPTATION (vv. 24-27)

- Gideon Does Make A REQUEST. (v. 24)
- He Turns Down One Temptation only to Yield to Another.
- God's People RESPOND Immediately. (vv. 25-26)
- Anything we DO should be Fully Backed by the Word & Will of God!
- What Were The RESULTS Of This Inappropriate Request? (v. 27)
- Beware of ANYTHING that Draws you Away from Worshipping the Lord.
- What Was Gideon's REASON?
- It's NEVER RIGHT to DO WRONG!
- For the True Christian, God, His Will, His Word & His Worship must be FIRST.

### 3. GIDEON FACED SOCIAL TEMPTATION. (vv. 28-35)

- Gideon Was A CELEBRITY.
- Sometimes, Great Success can LEAD to Great Defeat.
- Gideon Was A COMPROMISER. (vv. 30-32)
- There is ALWAYS a Price to Pay for Disobedience!
- Gideon Became A CASUALTY. (vv. 33-35)
- In the end, this great man Lost his Testimony, his Influence & his Family.
- You can LIVE well & You can LEAVE well.
- How Will You FINISH? ...As A Success OR A Failure?