

If the Lord be With Us, Why Then is all this befallen us?

(Judges 6:13)

This passage is about Gideon, but we all can relate to it. At some point in our lives we have all asked the question, "If the Lord is with us, why then is all this happening to me?" There are seasons when it feels like we are cursed or that God has forgotten us, but the truth is the exact opposite. God does not define us by our current circumstances. He sees the finished product long before we do. That is why the angel greeted Gideon as a "Mighty Man of Valour," even though Gideon was hiding in a winepress threshing wheat out of fear. God was not speaking to Gideon's present condition. He was speaking to his future purpose. When Gideon looked for someone else to deliver Israel, God simply asked, "Have not I sent thee?" Gideon responded with excuses, saying his family was poor and that he was the least in his father's house. Before God could use him, Gideon had to tear down the altar of Baal. In our lives, tearing down the altar of Baal means removing anything that takes God's place in our hearts and choosing to trust Him completely. It means saying, "Lord, regardless of what I am facing, I trust You. I will not live in the past or dwell on what could have been. Even when I am surrounded by others with similar struggles, I will be the difference because You are with me." When we surrender our lives to Christ and cast all our cares upon Him, He begins to transform us into the person He has always seen us to be. God does not see who you are today. He sees who you will become through faith and obedience.