

The Battle of Midian as a
Foreshadow of Isaiah 9

Isaiah 9:2

The people who **walk** in darkness,

They **will see** great light

Those who **dwell** in a land of the death-shadow

A light **will shine** upon them

Is 9:3

You will cause to increase the nation.

To it you will cause to be great the jubilation

They will **rejoice** before your face

Like the **jubilation** of the harvest,

Like when they **shout for joy** in the division of the spoil.



Is 9:4

For the **yoke** of its burden
and

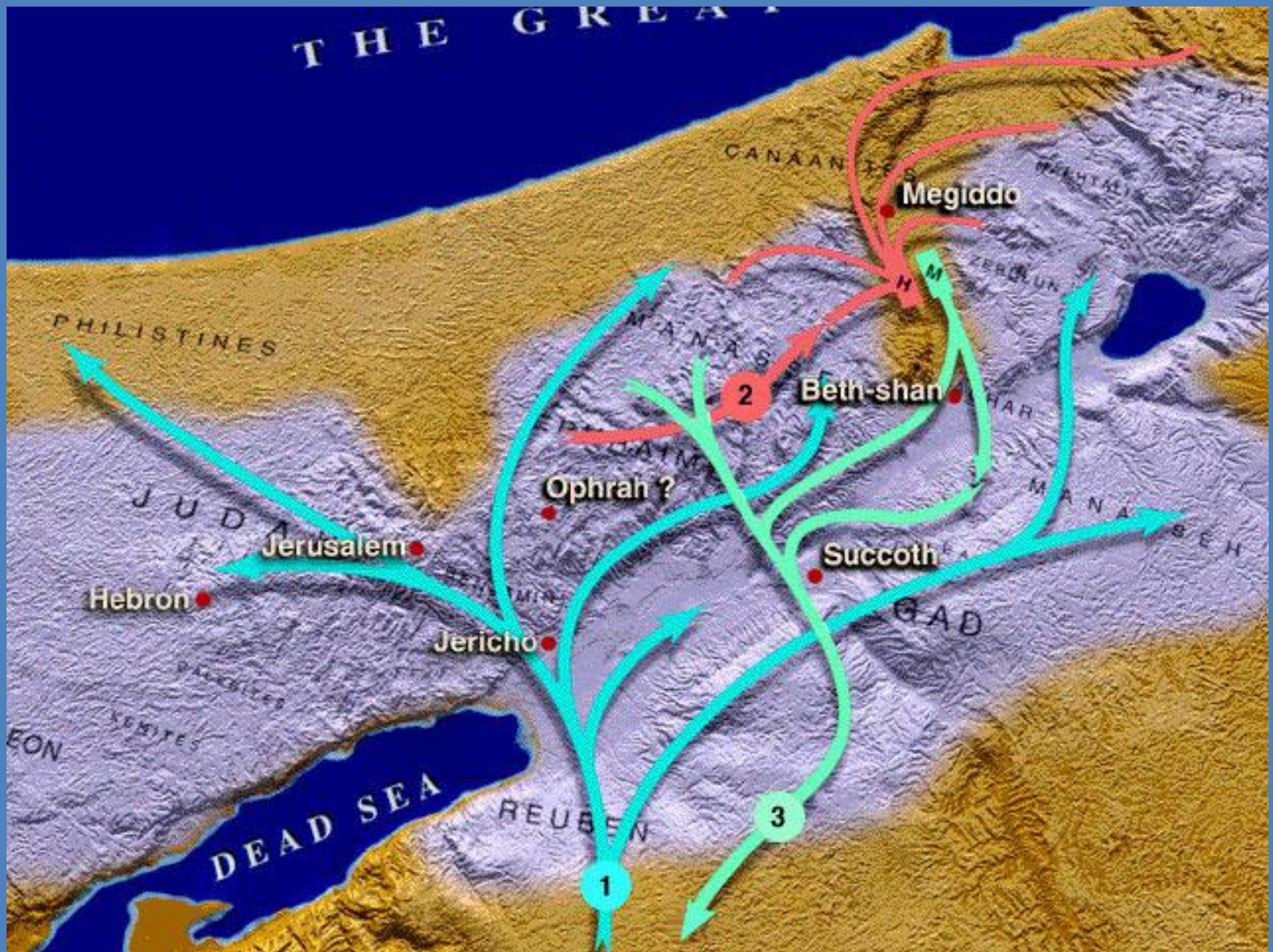
The **staff** of its shoulder,

The **rod** of forced labor against it

You will shatter like *in* the day of Midian

Cycle of the Judges





A Better Outline for Gideon's Story

- I. Israel's Trouble: the national conflict with the LORD
 - A. The Setting: 6:1-6
 - B. The Prophecy: 6:7-10
- II. Gideon and the Angel of YHWH: God's instrument of deliverance
 - A. The Meeting: 6:11-17
 - B. The Validation: Gideon tests the LORD's Identity: 6:19-24

III. Gideon's First Task

- A. The command and Gideon's fear: 6:25-27
- B. The successful results despite fear: 6:28-35
- C. Another validation: Gideon tests the LORD's ability: 6:36-40

IV. Gideon's Success as a Judge

- A. Army Selection: 7:1-8
- B. Victory over Midian: 7:9-23
- C. Controversy with Ephraim: 7:24-8:3
- D. Treason and Final Victory: 8:4-17
- E. Final resolution of the national conflict: 8:18-21

V. Gideon's Failure 8:22-28 (really through 9:57)

“As in the day of Midian”

1. The dramatic point of continuity between Isaiah 9 and Judges 6-8 is the PERSON doing the fighting.
2. The Angel of the LORD is the pre-Incarnate Christ, the 2nd Person of the Trinity.
3. It is He who confuses the armies of Midian.
4. It is He who will rule over Israel and destroy the rod of her oppressors in Isaiah 9:4.
5. Just as Gideon was encouraged to look to the Exodus and Moses' deliverance, Isaiah's generation was to look back to Gideon's deliverance.

- Principle: We have an even greater victory to remember, which was won by the same Hero as with Moses and Gideon.
- Application: Be deliberate about remembering God's past works of deliverance, especially the greatest Deliverance of the Cross.

Doggerel and Gideon

The Youngest of the Least

Got a promise from the Lord

And so he cast a fleece

Not believing in His Word.

And yet he won the battle

By just playing in a band,

But really it was God

Driving Midian from the Land.

Is 9:5

FOR every boot that marches with a roar

and

Every cloak having been rolled in blood

Will be for incineration, food for the fire.

Is 9:6

FOR a child (YELED) will be born (YuLAD) to us
(LANU)

A Son (BEN) will be given (NITTAN) to us (LANU)

And the dominion will be upon His shoulder

And His name will be called PehLeH YOETS, EL
GIBBOR, AVIYaD, SAR SHALOM.

Is 9:6

FOR a child (YELED) will be born (YuLAD) to us
(LANU)

A Son (BEN) will be given (NITTAN) to us (LANU)

And the dominion will be upon His shoulder

And His name will be called Extraordinary
Strategist, God of Valor, Father of Eternity,
Prince of Peace.

Is 9:7

Of the increase of *His* dominion
and of peace

there will be no end:

Upon the Throne of David
and upon His Kingdom

Towards the goal of establishing it (the Kingdom)

And towards the goal of strengthening it (the Kingdom)

With justice

and with righteousness.

From that time

and unto forever

The zeal of the LORD of the Armies will accomplish this.

where

why

what

manner

how