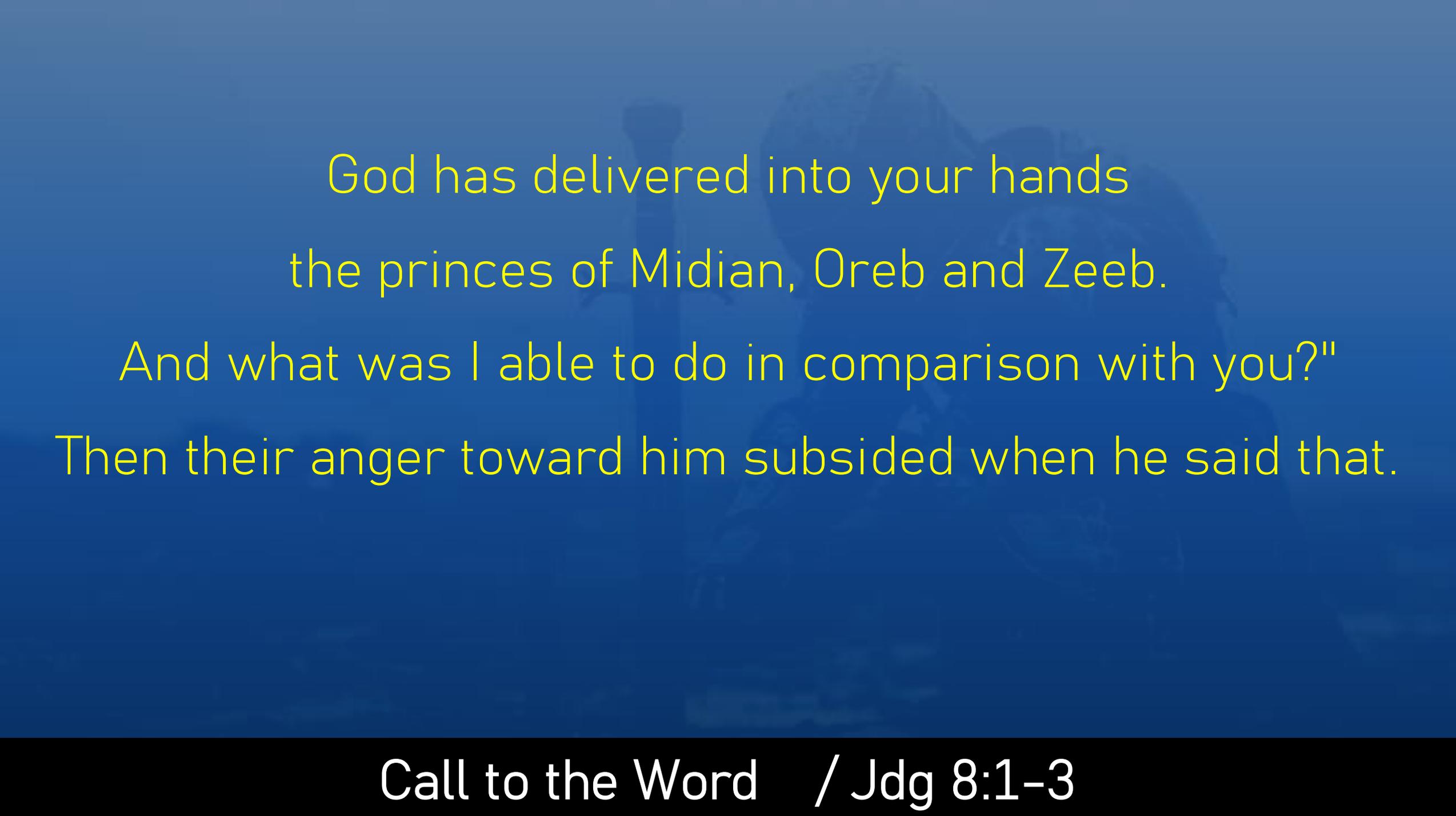


The Redemption Stories of Judges

From Victor to Vanquished to Victor

Now the men of Ephraim said to him, "Why have you done this to us by not calling us when you went to fight with the Midianites?" And they reprimanded him sharply.

So he said to them, "What have I done now in comparison with you? *Is not the gleaning of the grapes of Ephraim better than the vintage of Abiezer?*



God has delivered into your hands
the princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb.

And what was I able to do in comparison with you?"

Then their anger toward him subsided when he said that.

Call to the Word / Jdg 8:1-3

introduction

Finishing Well (or not) Judges 8:1-21





introduction

Finishing Well (or not) Judges 8:1-21



"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us. We tend by a secret law of the soul to move toward our mental image of God."

(A.W. Tozer)

"...the life of man is to see God," (Lewis)

introduction

Masterclass in Peacemaking

Deescalated tension...

Modeled Humility and Self Denial...

*Recognized that honest criticism often hides wounded
pride and addresses it with grace.*

humility preserves unity

Proverbs 15:1 says, *"A soft answer turns away wrath."*

envy is best removed by humility.

Humility Preserves Unity / Jdg 8:1-3

Gideon and his men were
"exhausted but still pursuing." (Jdg 8:4)

2Tim 1:15; 2Tim 4:16; Gal 6:9

Ministry isn't always cheered on — sometimes it's met with **silence, indifference, or rejection**. Succoth and Penuel show us that sometimes the greatest discouragement in ministry doesn't come from the world, but from God's own people.

Weariness of God's Servants / Jdg 8:4-9

Neutrality isn't neutral.

When God is moving, sitting on the sidelines is actually resistance. Gideon's strong response reminds us that failing to support the work of God has real consequences.

The kingdom advances through those who trust God enough to step forward — even when it costs.

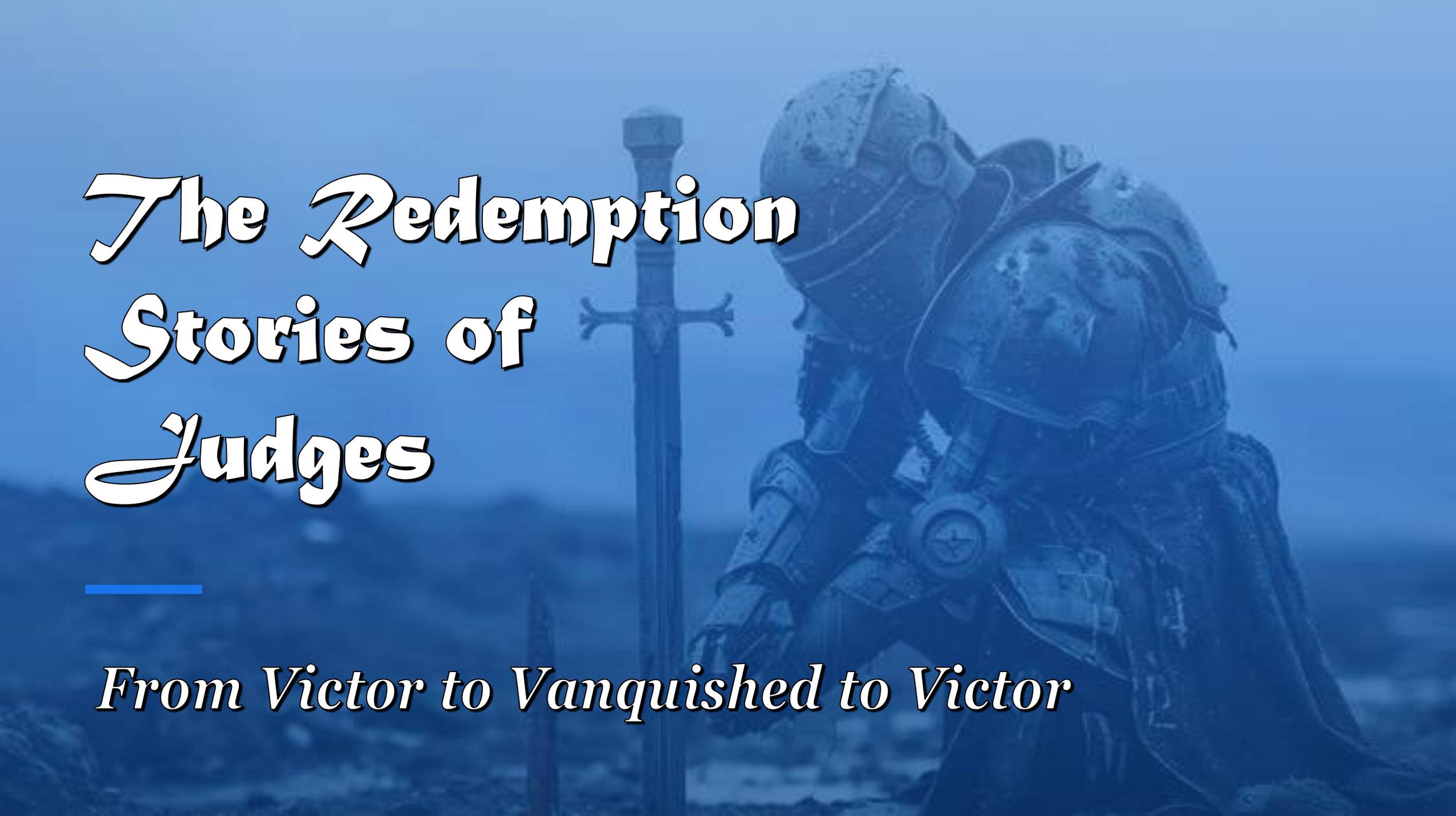
Weariness of God's Servants / Jdg 8:4-9

The Lord finishes what He starts.

“He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” (Php 1:6)

God didn't set you free to leave you stuck halfway; He finishes what He starts. The God who begins the song of grace always writes the final chorus of victory.”

Application/ Reflection



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