

Read Judges 6:25-32

**25** That same night the LORD said to him, “Take the second bull from your father’s herd, the one seven years old. Tear down your father’s altar to Baal and cut down the Asherah pole beside it.

**26** Then build a proper kind of altar to the LORD your God using the wood of the Asherah pole that you cut down and offer the second bull as a burnt offering.”

**27** So Gideon took ten of his servants and did as the LORD told him. But because he was afraid of his family and the townspeople, he did it at night rather than in the daytime.

**28** In the morning when the people of the town got up, there was Baal’s altar, demolished, with the Asherah pole beside it cut down and the second bull sacrificed on the newly built altar!

**29** They asked each other, “Who did this?” When they carefully investigated, they were told, “Gideon, son of Joash did it.”

**30** The people of the town demanded of Joash, “Bring out your son. He must die, because he has broken down Baal’s altar and cut down the Asherah pole beside it.”

**31** But Joash replied to the hostile crowd around him, “Are you saying Baal is a god? Are you trying to save him? Whoever fights for Baal will die by morning! If Baal really is a god, he can defend himself when someone breaks down his altar.”

**32** So because Gideon broke down Baal’s altar, they gave him the name Jerub-Baal that day, saying, “Let Baal contend with him.”

**The same night the angel left, what did the Lord tell Gideon to do (vv. 25-26)?** Destroy the altar his father built to honor Baal, a false god. And cut down the wooden idol pole beside it. Then build an altar that honors God, start a fire using the wood from the pole and offer a bull from your father’s herd as a sacrifice to God.

**Did Gideon obey the Lord’s order (v. 27)?** Yes

**Why did he do it at night?** He was afraid his family and the townspeople might see him doing it and he would get in trouble.

**In the morning what did the townspeople discover (v. 28)?** The destroyed altar and pole and the sacrificed bull.

**What did they find out when they investigated (v. 29)?** That Gideon had done it.

**Were they happy (v. 30)?** No. They worshipped Baal and they wanted to kill Gideon because of what he had done.

**What did Joash, Gideon’s dad, say to the crowd (v. 31)?** Joash ordered that anyone who fights for Baal would be killed. He said that if Baal was really a god, he could defend himself.

**How did the crowd respond (v. 32)?** They nicknamed Gideon “Jerub-Baal,” meaning “Let Baal take care of himself.”