

Read Judges 7:16-25

16 Dividing his three hundred men into three companies, Gideon placed trumpets and empty jars in the hands of all of them, with torches inside.

17 “Watch me,” he told them. “Follow my lead. When I get to the edge of the camp, do exactly as I do.

18 When I and all who are with me blow our trumpets, then from all around the camp blow yours and shout, ‘For the LORD and for Gideon.’ ”

19 Gideon and the hundred men with him reached the edge of the Midianite camp at the beginning of the middle watch, just after they had changed the guard. They blew their trumpets and broke the jars that were in their hands.

20 The three companies blew the trumpets and smashed the jars. Grasping the torches in their left hands and holding in their right hands the trumpets they were to blow, they shouted, “A sword for the LORD and for Gideon!”

21 While each man held his position around the camp (they just stood where they were), all the Midianites ran, crying out as they fled.

22 When the three hundred trumpets sounded, the LORD caused the men throughout the camp to turn and fight each other with their swords. The army ran away to several cities.

23 Israelites from the Jewish tribes were called out and they chased after the Midianites.

24 Gideon sent messengers throughout the hill country of the Jewish tribe of Ephraim, saying, “Come down against the Midianites and seize the waters of the Jordan river ahead of them.” So all the men of Ephraim were called out and they seized the waters of the Jordan river far ahead of them.

25 They also captured two of the Midianite army leaders and they killed them. They brought back their heads to Gideon, who was waiting by the Jordan river.

What did Gideon do to get ready to go into battle against the Midianites (v. 16)? He divided his men into three companies of 100 each. He gave them trumpets and empty jars with torches inside.

What did he tell his men to do? What was his strategy (vv. 17-18)? Do what you see me doing. He was leading the charge. When you see me blowing my trumpet, blow your trumpets and shout “For the LORD and for Gideon.”

How did Gideon’s army begin the battle (vv. 19-20)? Read vv. 19-21a.

What did the Midianites do (v. 21)? They ran away. They were scared.

What happened when Gideon’s army blew their trumpets (v. 22)? The Lord made the Midianites fight against each other instead of Gideon. And they ran away to several cities.

How did Gideon increase the size of his army (vv. 23-24) He called out other Jewish tribes to come and help.

Which of the enemies were captured and what happened to them (v. 25)? Two of the Midianite army leaders. They were killed.