

# GIDEON ANOINTED AS SHOPHET

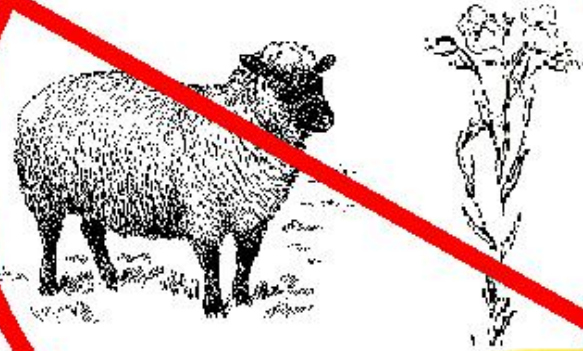
- Mysterious traveler was the Lord
- Malach YHWH
- Jesus: *“If you’ve seen me you’ve seen the Father”*
- Yet, Jesus prays to the Father and says he is subservient to the Father
- Gideon did NOT see a direct revelation of the Father
- *“No man can see God and live....”*



# SHA'ATNEZ

## ILLICIT MIXTURES

Wool + Linen



Happy  
Easter!



- Religious syncretism blended Torah with Mystery Babylon Religion customs
- Whether people, animals, seeds, food, or relationships there is to be NO IMPROPER MIXING!
- Christianity and Judaism have been severely compromised with pagan syncretism





# GIDEON DESTROYS BA'AL'S ALTAR

- The first thing that had to be done was for the Altar of Ba'al to be removed
- It is impossible that the sanctuary of YHWH can co-exist next to the sanctuary of a false-god
- It will NEVER be accepted by God that a new Temple be built next to the Dome of the Rock

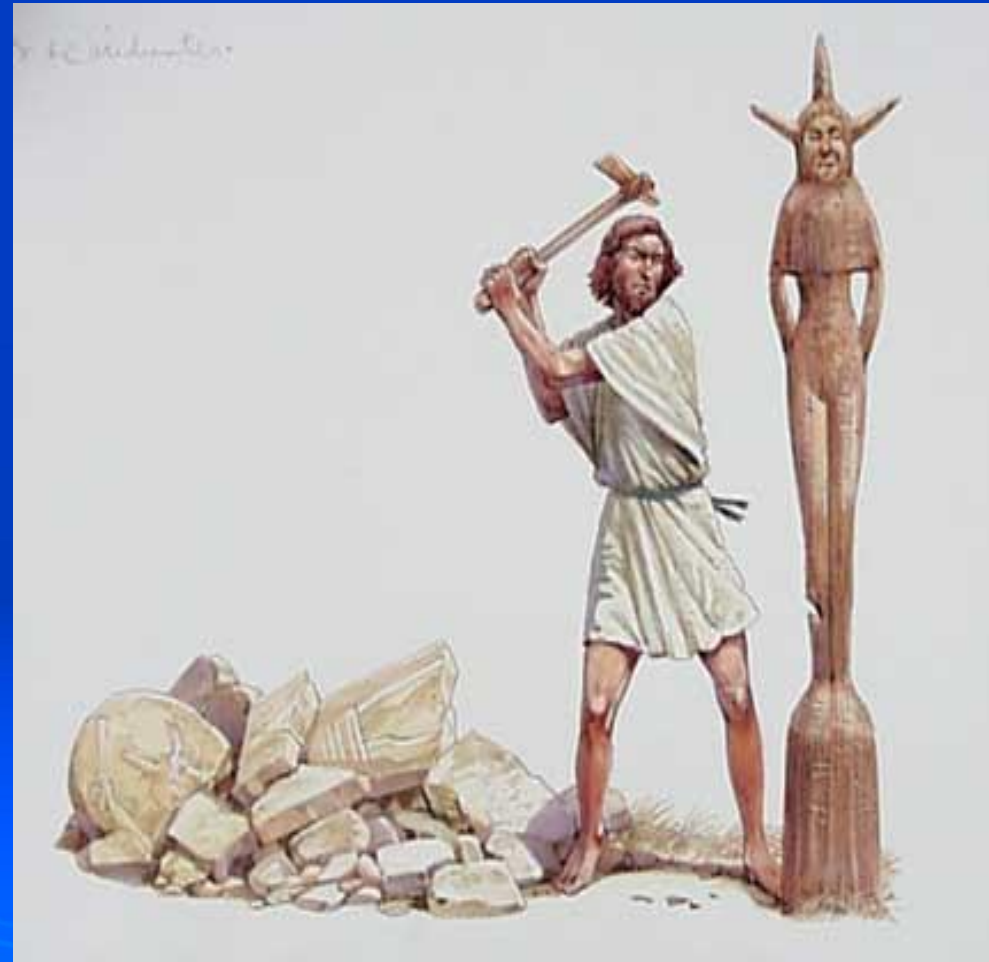
# THE “EXALTED” BULL

- Gideon is take his father’s bull with him for a sacrifice
- This was a 7-year old bull
- One year of age for each year of the Midianite oppression due to Israelite idolatry
- Sacred pole = Asherah
- Asherah the wife of Ba’al
- The sacred pole is chopped up for firewood for the altar fire!



# ISRAELITES VOLUNTARILY WORSHIPPED BA'AL

- Gideon leads his 10 servants to destroy the Ba'al altar at night
- Worried about the villagers catching him
- Yo'ash was the caretaker of the Ba'al sanctuary
- Village men demanded that Gideon be killed for defiling Ba'al

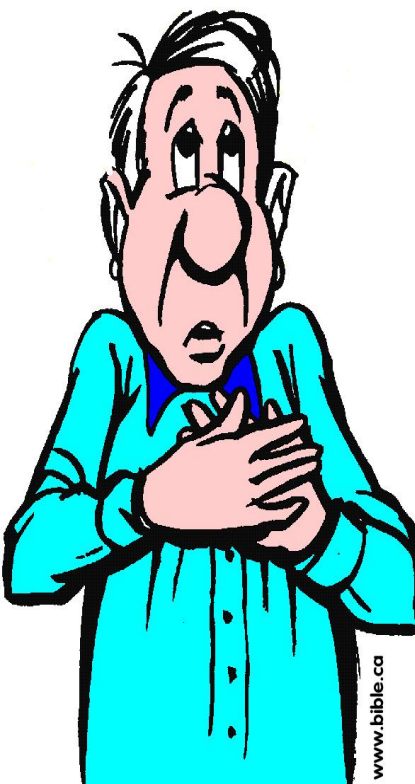


# GIDEON'S NEW NAME IS YERUBA'AL



- Yo'ash says that if Ba'al is real and powerful he is able to defend his own altar
- For any man to try and defend Ba'al was an demeaned Ba'al and that man would be executed
- Yeruba'al = Ba'al Fighter
- Bosheth = shame, and later nickname for Ba'al
- Yerubosheth, a later name for Gideon

# THE HOLY SPIRIT



- Midianites come and camp in the Valley of Jezreel
- OT has two basic interactions of the Ruach HaKodesh with men
- **Hayyah** = come upon
- **Labesh** = cover like a garment
- Gideon was **labesh** with the Holy Spirit

# THE TEST OF THE FLEECE

- Gideon immediately assumes leadership and uses a Shofar to call men to battle
- Avi'ezer was Gideon's clan
- Manessah was Gideon's tribe
- Asher, Naphtali and Zevulun also came
- Gideon seeks God's assurance with a fleece





# GIDEON'S FAITH IS SMALL



- The fleece is a test
- Gideon's flesh in violent conflict with his faith
- Gideon did nothing in this to be proud about
- The sheep's fleece would be laid on the threshing floor
- If it was wet and the ground around it dry, it was to be proof
- It was wet but Gideon **STILL** wasn't satisfied

# “LAYING A FLEECE” is NOT A GOOD INDICATION OF SPIRITUAL MATURITY



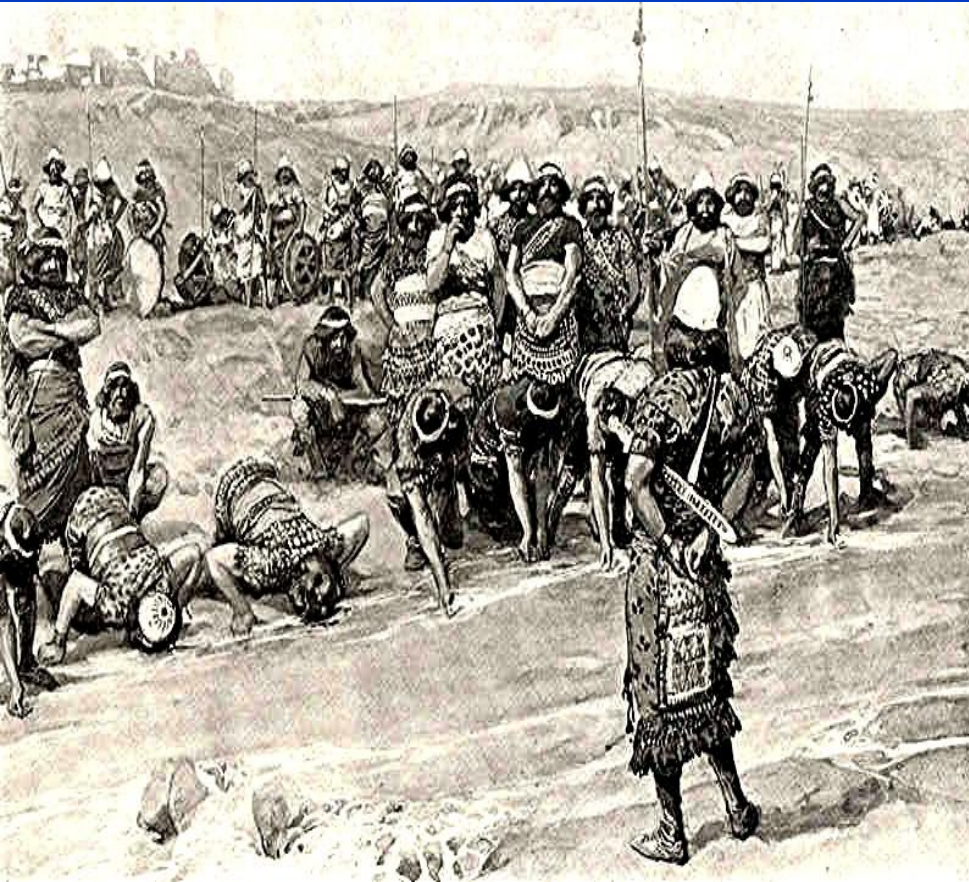
- Gideon did NOT use the sheep's fleece to seek God's will
- What kind of test can we devise that will convince our doubting minds?
- Gideon asks for ANOTHER test
- It again is answered and now Gideon is ready to go forth

# JUDGES CHAPTER 7: THE BATTLE AT EIN HAROD

- This is NOT like the battles of Joshua
- Israeli forces were a militia
- Midianites a nomadic force of bandits
- Midianites deployed by Mt. Moreh
- Israel at Ein Harod at the foot of Mt. Gilboa



# YHWH TESTS GIDEON



- The Lord says Gideon has too many troops!
- Lord tells Gideon to offer all the men who are fearful to go home
- 2 out of 3 departed
- 10,000 remained and God said this was still too many
- Those who drank by putting water in their hands would be chosen
- 300 men were selected