

¹وَعَمِلَ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ الشَّرَّ فِي عَيْنَيِ الرَّبِّ، فَقَدَّعَهُمُ الرَّبُّ لِيَدِ مِدْيَانَ سَبْعَ سِنِينَ.² فَأَعْتَرَتْ يَدُ مِدْيَانَ عَلَى إِسْرَائِيلَ. يَسْتَبِ الْمِدْيَانِيُّونَ عَمِلَ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ لَأَنْفُسِهِمُ الْكُهُوفَ الَّتِي فِي الْجِبَالِ وَالْمَغَايِرَ وَالْخُصُوفَ.³ وَإِذَا زَرَغَ إِسْرَائِيلُ كَانَ الْمِدْيَانِيُّونَ وَالْعَمَالِيقَةُ وَبَنُو الْمَشْرِقِ يَصْعَدُونَ عَلَيْهِمْ⁴ وَيَبْزِلُونَ عَلَيْهِمْ وَيُثْلِفُونَ غَلَّةَ الْأَرْضِ إِلَى مَجِيئِكَ إِلَى عَرَّةَ، وَلَا يَبْزِلُونَ لِإِسْرَائِيلَ قُوتَ الْحَيَاةِ، وَلَا عَنَمًا وَلَا بَقَرًا وَلَا حَمِيرًا.⁵ لِأَنَّهُمْ كَانُوا يَصْعَدُونَ بِمَوَاشِيهِمْ وَخِبَائِهِمْ وَيَجِيئُونَ كَالْجَرَادِ فِي الْكَثْرَةِ وَلَيْسَ لَهُمْ وَلِجَمَالِهِمْ عَدَدٌ، وَدَخَلُوا الْأَرْضَ لِيُخْرِبُوهَا.⁶ فَقَدَّ إِسْرَائِيلُ جَدًّا مِنْ قِبَلِ الْمِدْيَانِيِّينَ. وَصَرَخَ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ إِلَى الرَّبِّ إِلَى الرَّبِّ. وَكَانَ لَهَا صَرَخَ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ إِلَى الرَّبِّ يَسْتَبِ الْمِدْيَانِيِّينَ⁸ أَنَّ الرَّبَّ أَرْسَلَ نَبِيًّا إِلَى بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ، فَقَالَ لَهُمْ، هَكَذَا قَالَ الرَّبُّ إِلَهُ إِسْرَائِيلَ، إِنِّي قَدْ أَصْعَدْتُكُمْ مِنْ مِصْرَ وَأَخْرَجْتُكُمْ مِنْ بَيْتِ الْعُبُودِيَّةِ⁹ وَأَنْقَذْتُكُمْ مِنْ يَدِ الْمِصْرِيِّينَ وَمِنْ يَدِ جَمِيعِ مُصَايِفِيكُمْ، وَطَرَدْتُهُمْ مِنْ أَمَامِكُمْ وَأَعْطَيْتُكُمْ أَرْضَهُمْ.¹⁰ وَفُلْتُ لَكُمْ، أَمَا الرَّبُّ إِلَهُكُمْ. لَا تَخَافُوا آلِهَةَ الْأُمُورِيِّينَ الَّذِينَ أَنْتُمْ سَاكِنُونَ أَرْضَهُمْ. وَلَمْ تَسْمِعُوا لِمَا نَبِيٌّ. وَأَتَى مَلَاكُ الرَّبِّ وَجَلَسَ تَحْتَ الْبُطْمَةِ الَّتِي فِي عَفْرَةَ الَّتِي لِيُوشَ الْأَيْعَرَرِيِّ. وَإِنَّهُ جِدْعُونُ كَانَ يَخْطِطُ جُنُطَةً فِي الْمِعْصَرَةِ لِيَهْرَبَهَا مِنْ الْمِدْيَانِيِّينَ¹² فَظَهَرَ لَهُ مَلَاكُ الرَّبِّ وَقَالَ لَهُ، الرَّبُّ مَعَكَ يَا جَبَّارَ النَّاسِ.¹³ فَقَالَ لَهُ جِدْعُونُ، أَسْأَلُكَ يَا سَيِّدِي، إِذَا كَانَ الرَّبُّ مَعَنَا فَلِمَاذَا أَصَابَنَا كُلُّ هَذِهِ، وَأَيْنَ كُلُّ عِجَابِيهِ الَّتِي أَحْبَبْنَا بِهَا آبَاؤُنَا قَائِلِينَ، أَلَمْ يُصْعِدْنَا الرَّبُّ مِنْ مِصْرَ. وَالْآنَ قَدْ رَفَضَنَا الرَّبُّ وَجَعَلَنَا فِي كَفِّ مِدْيَانَ.¹⁴ قَالَتْ لَهُ إِلَيْهِ الرَّبُّ وَقَالَ، اذْهَبْ بِقُوَّتِكَ هَذِهِ وَخَلِّصْ إِسْرَائِيلَ مِنْ كَفِّ مِدْيَانَ. أَمَا أَرْسَلْتُكَ.¹⁵ فَقَالَ لَهُ، أَسْأَلُكَ يَا سَيِّدِي، بِمَاذَا أَخْلَصُ إِسْرَائِيلَ. هَا عَشِيرَتِي هِيَ الذَّلِي فِي مَتَسَّى، وَأَنَا الْأَصْغَرُ فِي بَيْتِ أَبِي. فَقَالَ لَهُ الرَّبُّ، إِنِّي أَكُونُ مَعَكَ، وَسَتَصْرُبُ الْمِدْيَانِيِّينَ كَرَجُلٍ وَاحِدٍ.¹⁷ فَقَالَ لَهُ، إِنْ كُنْتُ قَدْ وَجَدْتُ نِعْمَةً فِي عَيْنِكَ فَاصْنَعْ لِي عَلَامَةً أَنَّكَ أَنْتَ تُكَلِّمُنِي.¹⁸ لَا تَبْرَحْ مِنْ هَهُنَا حَتَّى أَنْبِيَ إِلَيْكَ وَأُخْرِجَ تَقْدِمَتِي وَأَصْعَقُهَا أَمَامَكَ. فَقَالَ، إِنِّي أَبْقَى حَتَّى تَرْجِعَ. فَدَخَلَ جِدْعُونُ وَعَمِلَ جِدْيَ مِعْزَى وَابِغَةَ دَقِيقَ فَطِيرًا. أَمَا اللَّحْمُ فَوَضَعَهُ فِي سَلٍّ، وَأَمَا الْمَرْقُ فَوَضَعَهُ فِي قِدْرِ وَخَرَجَ بِهَا إِلَيْهِ إِلَى تَحْتِ

¹And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD: and the LORD delivered them into the hand of Midian seven years.²And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel: and because of the Midianites the children of Israel made them the dens which are in the mountains, and caves, and strong holds.³And so it was, when Israel had sown, that the Midianites came up, and the Amalekites, and the children of the east, even they came up against them;⁴And they encamped against them, and destroyed the increase of the earth, till thou come unto Gaza, and left no sustenance for Israel, neither sheep, nor ox, nor ass.⁵For they came up with their cattle and their tents, and they came as grasshoppers for multitude; for both they and their camels were without number: and they entered into the land to destroy it.⁶And Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites; and the children of Israel cried unto the LORD.⁷And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD because of the Midianites,⁸That the LORD sent a prophet unto the children of Israel, which said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I brought you up from Egypt, and brought you forth out of the house of bondage;⁹And I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all that oppressed you, and drave them out from before you, and gave you their land;¹⁰And I said unto you, I am the LORD your God; fear not the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but ye have not obeyed my voice.¹¹And there came an angel of the LORD, and sat under

الْبُطْمَةِ وَقَدَّمَهَا.²⁰ فَقَالَ لَهُ مَلَاكُ اللَّهِ، خُذِ اللَّحْمَ وَالْفَطِيرَ وَصَعْهُمَا عَلَى تِلْكَ الصَّخْرَةِ وَاسْكُبِ الْمَرَقَ. فَقَعَلَ كَذَلِكَ.²¹ قَمَدَّ مَلَاكُ الرَّبِّ طَرَفَ الْعُكَّارِ الَّذِي بِيَدِهِ وَمَسَّ اللَّحْمَ وَالْفَطِيرَ، فَصَعِدَتْ نَارٌ مِنَ الصَّخْرَةِ وَأَكَلَتِ اللَّحْمَ وَالْفَطِيرَ. وَذَهَبَ مَلَاكُ الرَّبِّ عَنْ عَيْتِيهِ.²² فَرَأَى جِدْعُونُ أَنَّهُ مَلَاكُ الرَّبِّ، فَقَالَ جِدْعُونُ، أِهْ يَا سَيِّدِي الرَّبِّ. لَأَنِّي قَدْ رَأَيْتُ مَلَاكُ الرَّبِّ وَجْهًا لَوْجِيهِ.²³ فَقَالَ لَهُ الرَّبُّ، السَّلَامُ لَكَ. لَا تَخَفْ. لَا تَمُوتُ.²⁴ قَبَتِي جِدْعُونُ هُنَاكَ مَذْبَحًا لِلرَّبِّ وَدَعَاهُ يَهُوَهَ شَلُومَ. إِلَى هَذَا الْيَوْمِ لَمْ يَزَلْ فِي عَفْرَةِ الْأَبْعَرِيِّينَ.²⁵ وَكَانَ فِي تِلْكَ اللَّيْلَةِ أَنَّ الرَّبَّ قَالَ لَهُ، خُذْ ثَوْرَ الْبَقَرِ الَّذِي لَأَبِيكَ، وَثَوْرًا ثَانِيًا ابْنَ سَبْعِ سِنِينَ، وَاهْدِمِ مَذْبَحَ الْبَغْلِ الَّذِي لَأَبِيكَ وَاقْطِعِ السَّارِيَةَ الَّتِي عِنْدَهُ،²⁶ وَابْنِ مَذْبَحًا لِلرَّبِّ إِلَهُكَ عَلَى رَأْسِ هَذَا الْحَصْنِ بَتْرَتَيْبَ، وَخُذِ الثَّوْرَ الثَّانِيَّ وَأَضْعِدْ مُحْرَقَةً عَلَى حَطَبِ السَّارِيَةِ الَّتِي تَقْطَعُهَا.²⁷ فَأَخَذَ جِدْعُونُ عَشْرَةَ رِجَالٍ مِنْ عِبِيدِهِ وَعَمِلَ كَمَا كَلَّمَهُ الرَّبُّ. وَإِذْ كَانَ يَخَافُ مِنْ بَيْتِ أَبِيهِ وَأَهْلِ الْمَدِينَةِ أَنْ يَفْعَلَ ذَلِكَ تَهَارًا فَعَمِلَهُ لَيْلًا.²⁸ فَتَكَرَّرَ أَهْلُ الْمَدِينَةِ فِي الْعَدُوِّ وَإِذَا بِمَذْبَحِ الْبَغْلِ قَدْ هُدِمَ وَالسَّارِيَةَ الَّتِي عِنْدَهُ قَدْ قُطِعَتْ، وَالثَّوْرُ الثَّانِي قَدْ أَضْعَدَ عَلَى الْمَذْبَحِ الَّذِي بَيْنِي. فَقَالُوا الْوَاجِدُ لِصَاحِبِهِ، مَنْ عَمِلَ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ. فَسَأَلُوا وَبَحَثُوا فَقَالُوا، إِنَّ جِدْعُونَ بْنَ يُوَأَشَ قَدْ فَعَلَ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ.³⁰ فَقَالَ أَهْلُ الْمَدِينَةِ لِيُوَأَشَ، أَخْرِجِ ابْنَكَ لِنَقْلِهِ، لِأَنَّهُ هَدَمَ مَذْبَحَ الْبَغْلِ وَقَطَعَ السَّارِيَةَ الَّتِي عِنْدَهُ.³¹ فَقَالَ يُوَأَشُ لِكُلِّهِمْ الْقَائِمِينَ عَلَيْهِ، أَنْتُمْ تَقَاتِلُونَ لِلْبَغْلِ، أَمْ أَنْتُمْ تُخَلِّصُونَهُ. مَنْ يَقَاتِلُ لَهُ يُقَاتِلُ فِي هَذَا الصَّبَاحِ. إِنْ كَانَ إِلَهًا فَلْيَقَاتِلْ لِنَفْسِهِ لِأَنَّهُ مَذْبَحَهُ قَدْ هُدِمَ.³² قَدَعَاهُ فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ يَزْبَعْلُ قَائِلًا، لِيَقَاتِلَهُ الْبَغْلُ لِأَنَّهُ قَدْ هَدَمَ مَذْبَحَهُ.³³ وَاجْتَمَعَ جَمِيعُ الْمَدْيَانِيِّينَ وَالْعَمَالِقَةِ وَبَنِي الْمَشْرِيقِ مَعًا وَعَبَرُوا وَتَرَلُّوا فِي وَادِي بَزْرَعِيلَ.³⁴ وَلَيْسَ رُوحُ الرَّبِّ جِدْعُونَ فَصَرَبَ بِالْبُوقِ، فَاجْتَمَعَ أَبْعَرُورَ وَرَاءَهُ.³⁵ وَأُرْسِلَ رُسُلًا إِلَى جَمِيعِ مَتَسَّى، فَاجْتَمَعَ هُوَ أَيْضًا وَرَاءَهُ، وَأُرْسِلَ رُسُلًا إِلَى أَشِيرَ وَزَبُولُونَ وَتَفَالِي فَصَعِدُوا لِلْقَائِمِينَ.³⁶ وَقَالَ جِدْعُونُ لِلَّهِ، إِنْ كُنْتُ تُخَلِّصُ بِيَدِي إِسْرَائِيلَ كَمَا تَكَلَّمْتَ،³⁷ فَهِيَ إِنِّي وَاضِعُ جَرَّةِ الصُّوفِ فِي الْبَيْدَرِ. فَإِنْ كَانَ طَلٌّ عَلَى الْجَرَّةِ وَخَذَهَا، وَخَفَافٌ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ كُلِّهَا، عَلِمْتُ أَنَّكَ تُخَلِّصُ بِيَدِي إِسْرَائِيلَ كَمَا تَكَلَّمْتَ.³⁸ وَكَانَ كَذَلِكَ. فَتَكَرَّرَ فِي الْعَدُوِّ وَصَعَطَ الْجَرَّةَ وَعَصَرَ طَلًّا مِنَ الْجَرَّةِ، مِلءَ

an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites.¹² And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour.¹³ And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, if the LORD be with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where be all his miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt? but now the LORD hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites.¹⁴ And the LORD looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?¹⁵ And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house.¹⁶ And the LORD said unto him, Surely I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man.¹⁷ And he said unto him, If now I have found grace in thy sight, then shew me a sign that thou talkest with me.¹⁸ Depart not hence, I pray thee, until I come unto thee, and bring forth my present, and set it before thee. And he said, I will tarry until thou come again.¹⁹ And Gideon went in, and made ready a kid, and unleavened cakes of an ephah of flour: the flesh he put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot, and brought it out unto him under the oak, and presented it.²⁰ And the angel of God said unto him, Take the flesh and the unleavened cakes, and lay them upon this rock, and pour out the broth. And he did

فَصَعَّ مَاءً. ³⁹ فَقَالَ جِدْعُونُ لِلَّهِ، لَا يَحْمَ عَصْبُكَ عَلَيَّ
فَأَتَكَلَّمُ هَذِهِ الْمَرَّةَ فَقَط. أَمْتَحِنُ هَذِهِ الْمَرَّةَ فَقَط
بِالْجَرَّةِ. فَلْيَكُنْ جَقَافٌ فِي الْجَرَّةِ وَحَدَّهَا وَعَلَى كُلِّ
الْأَرْضِ لِيَكُنْ طَلٌّ. ⁴⁰ فَقَعَلَ اللَّهُ كَذَلِكَ فِي تِلْكَ اللَّيْلَةِ.
فَكَانَ جَقَافٌ فِي الْجَرَّةِ وَحَدَّهَا وَعَلَى الْأَرْضِ كُلِّهَا كَانَ
طَلٌّ.

so. ²¹ Then the angel of the LORD put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and there rose up fire out of the rock, and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the LORD departed out of his sight. ²² And when Gideon perceived that he was an angel of the LORD, Gideon said, Alas, O Lord GOD! for because I have seen an angel of the LORD face to face. ²³ And the LORD said unto him, Peace be unto thee; fear not: thou shalt not die. ²⁴ Then Gideon built an altar there unto the LORD, and called it Jehovahshalom: unto this day it is yet in Ophrah of the Abiezrites. ²⁵ And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Take thy father's young bullock, even the second bullock of seven years old, and throw down the altar of Baal that thy father hath, and cut down the grove that is by it. ²⁶ And build an altar unto the LORD thy God upon the top of this rock, in the ordered place, and take the second bullock, and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the grove which thou shalt cut down. ²⁷ Then Gideon took ten men of his servants, and did as the LORD had said unto him: and so it was, because he feared his father's household, and the men of the city, that he could not do it by day, that he did it by night. ²⁸ And when the men of the city arose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was cast down, and the grove was cut down that was by it, and the second bullock was offered upon the altar that was built. ²⁹ And they said one to another, Who hath done this thing? And when they enquired and asked, they said,

Gideon the son of Joash hath done this thing.³⁰ Then the men of the city said unto Joash, Bring out thy son, that he may die: because he hath cast down the altar of Baal, and because he hath cut down the grove that was by it.³¹ And Joash said unto all that stood against him, Will ye plead for Baal? will ye save him? he that will plead for him, let him be put to death whilst it is yet morning: if he be a god, let him plead for himself, because one hath cast down his altar.³² Therefore on that day he called him Jerubbaal, saying, Let Baal plead against him, because he hath thrown down his altar.³³ Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the children of the east were gathered together, and went over, and pitched in the valley of Jezreel.³⁴ But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abiezer was gathered after him.³⁵ And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh; who also was gathered after him: and he sent messengers unto Asher, and unto Zebulun, and unto Naphtali; and they came up to meet them.³⁶ And Gideon said unto God, If thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said,³⁷ Behold, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor; and if the dew be on the fleece only, and it be dry upon all the earth beside, then shall I know that thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said.³⁸ And it was so: for he rose up early on the morrow, and thrust the fleece together, and wringed the dew out of the fleece, a bowl full of water.³⁹ And Gideon said unto God, Let not thine anger be hot against me, and I will speak but this once: let me prove, I pray thee, but this once

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with the fleece; let it now be dry only upon the fleece, and upon all the ground let there be dew.⁴⁰ And God did so that night: for it was dry upon the fleece only, and there was dew on all the ground.