

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 drove 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

¹وَعَمِلَ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ الشَّرَّ فِي عَيْنَيِ الرَّبِّ، فَدَفَعَهُمُ الرَّبُّ لِيَدِ مِدْيَانَ سَبْعَ سِنِينَ.²فَاعْتَزَّتْ يَدُ مِدْيَانَ عَلَى إِسْرَائِيلَ. يَسْتَبِ الْمِدْيَانِيُّونَ عَمَلَ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ لَأَنْفُسِهِمُ الْكُهُوفَ الَّتِي فِي الْجِبَالِ وَالْمَغَايِرِ وَالْحُصُونِ. وَإِذَا زَرَعَ إِسْرَائِيلُ كَانَ الْمِدْيَانِيُّونَ وَالْعَمَالِقَةُ وَبَنُو الْمَشْرِقِ يَصْعَدُونَ عَلَيْهِمْ وَيَنْزِلُونَ عَلَيْهِمْ وَيُلْفُونَ غَلَّةَ الْأَرْضِ إِلَى مَجِيئِكَ إِلَى عَزَّةَ، وَلَا يَتْرَكُونَ لِإِسْرَائِيلَ قُوتَ الْحَيَاةِ، وَلَا عَتَمًا وَلَا بَقْرًا وَلَا حَمِيرًا.⁵لَأَنَّهُمْ كَانُوا يَصْعَدُونَ بِمَوَاشِيهِمْ وَخِيَامِهِمْ وَيَجِبُونُ كَالْجَرَادِ فِي الْكَثْرَةِ وَلَيْسَ لَهُمْ وَلِجَمَالِهِمْ عَدَدٌ، وَدَخَلُوا الْأَرْضَ لِيُخْرِبُوهَا.⁶فَذَلَّ إِسْرَائِيلُ جَدًّا مِنْ قِبَلِ الْمِدْيَانِيِّينَ. وَصَرَخَ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ إِلَى الرَّبِّ إِلَى الرَّبِّ. وَكَانَ لَمَّا صَرَخَ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ إِلَى الرَّبِّ يَسْتَبِ الْمِدْيَانِيِّينَ أَنَّ الرَّبَّ أَرْسَلَ نَبِيًّا إِلَى بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ، فَقَالَ لَهُمْ، هَكَذَا قَالَ الرَّبُّ إِلَهُ إِسْرَائِيلَ، إِنِّي قَدْ أَصْعَدْتُكُمْ مِنْ مِصْرَ وَأَخْرَجْتُكُمْ مِنْ بَيْتِ الْعُبُودِيَّةِ وَأَنْقَذْتُكُمْ مِنْ يَدِ الْمِصْرِيِّينَ وَمِنْ يَدِ جَمِيعِ مُصَايِقِكُمْ، وَطَرَدْتُكُمْ مِنْ أَمَامِكُمْ وَأَعْطَيْتُكُمْ أَرْضَهُمْ.¹⁰وَقُلْتُ لَكُمْ، أَنَا الرَّبُّ إِلَهُكُمْ. لَا تَخَافُوا إِلَهَةَ الْأُمُورِيِّينَ الَّذِينَ أَنْتُمْ سَاكِنُونَ أَرْضَهُمْ. وَلَمْ تَسْمَعُوا لِحُصُونِي. وَأَتَى مَلَاكُ الرَّبِّ وَجَلَسَ تَحْتَ الْبُطْمَةِ الَّتِي فِي عَفْرَةَ الَّتِي لِيُوشَ الْأَبِعِزَّرِيِّ. وَابْنُهُ جَدْعُونُ كَانَ يَخْبِطُ جَنْطَةً فِي الْمِعْصَرَةِ لِيُهَرَّبَهَا مِنَ الْمِدْيَانِيِّينَ؛ فَظَهَرَ لَهُ مَلَاكُ الرَّبِّ وَقَالَ لَهُ، الرَّبُّ مَعَكَ يَا جَبَّارَ الْبَاسِ.¹³فَقَالَ لَهُ جَدْعُونُ، أَسْأَلُكَ يَا سَيِّدِي، إِذَا كَانَ الرَّبُّ مَعَنَا فَلِمَاذَا أَصَابْنَا كُلَّ هَذِهِ، وَأَيْنَ كُلُّ عِجَائِبِهِ الَّتِي أَحْبَرْتَنَا بِهَا آبَاؤُنَا قَائِلِينَ، أَلَمْ يُصْعِدْنَا الرَّبُّ مِنْ مِصْرَ. وَالْآنَ قَدْ رَفَضَنَا الرَّبُّ وَجَعَلَنَا فِي كَفِّ مِدْيَانَ.¹⁴فَالْتَقَتْ إِلَيْهِ الرَّبُّ وَقَالَ، أَذْهَبَ بِقُوَّتِكَ هَذِهِ وَخَلَّصْ إِسْرَائِيلَ مِنْ كَفِّ مِدْيَانَ. أَمَّا أَرْسَلْتُكَ.¹⁵فَقَالَ لَهُ، أَسْأَلُكَ يَا سَيِّدِي، بِمَاذَا أَخْلَصُ إِسْرَائِيلَ. هَا عَشِيرَتِي هِيَ الذَّلَى فِي مَتَسَى، وَأَنَا الْأَصْغَرُ فِي بَيْتِ أَبِي. فَقَالَ لَهُ الرَّبُّ، إِنِّي أَكُونُ مَعَكَ، وَسَتَضْرِبُ الْمِدْيَانِيُّونَ كَرَّجُلٍ وَاحِدٍ.¹⁷فَقَالَ لَهُ، إِنْ كُنْتُ قَدْ وَجَدْتُ نِعْمَةً فِي عَيْنِكَ قَاصِنُ لِي عَلَامَةً أَنَّكَ أَنْتَ تُكَلِّمُنِي.¹⁸لَا يَتَرَخَّ مِنْ هَهُنَا حَتَّى آتِيَ إِلَيْكَ وَأُخْرِجَ تَقْدِمَتِي وَأَضَعَهَا أَمَامَكَ. فَقَالَ، إِنِّي أَبْقَى حَتَّى تَرْجِعَ.¹⁹فَدَخَلَ جَدْعُونُ وَعَمِلَ جَدِي مَغْرَزٍ وَإِعْمَةً ذَقِيقٍ قَطِيرًا. أَمَّا اللَّحْمُ فَوَضَعَهُ فِي سَلٍّ، وَأَمَّا الْمَرْقُ فَوَضَعَهُ فِي قِدْرٍِ وَحَرَجَ بِهَا إِلَيْهِ إِلَى تَحْتِ

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

الْبَطْمَةَ وَقَدَّمَهَا.²⁰ فَقَالَ لَهُ مَلَكُ اللَّهِ، خُذِ اللَّحْمَ وَالْقَطِيرَ وَضَعْهُمَا عَلَى تِلْكَ الصَّخْرَةِ وَاسْكُبِ الْمَرْقَ. فَقَعَلَ كَذَلِكَ.²¹ قَمَدَ مَلَكُ الرَّبِّ طَرَفَ الْعُكَّارِ الَّذِي بِيَدِهِ وَمَسَّ اللَّحْمَ وَالْقَطِيرَ، فَصَعِدَتْ نَارٌ مِنَ الصَّخْرَةِ وَأَكَلَتِ اللَّحْمَ وَالْقَطِيرَ. وَذَهَبَ مَلَكُ الرَّبِّ عَنْ عَيْنَيْهِ.²² قَرَأَى جِدْعُونُ أَنَّهُ مَلَكُ الرَّبِّ، فَقَالَ جِدْعُونُ، آه يَا سَيِّدِي الرَّبِّ. لَأَنِّي قَدْ رَأَيْتُ مَلَكَ الرَّبِّ وَجْهًا لَوْجِي.²³ فَقَالَ لَهُ الرَّبُّ، السَّلَامُ لَكَ. لَا تَخَفْ. لَا تَمُوتُ. قَبَسَى جِدْعُونُ هُنَاكَ مَذْبَحًا لِلرَّبِّ وَدَعَاهُ يَهُوَهَ سَلُومَ. إِلَى هَذَا الْيَوْمِ لَمْ يَزَلْ فِي عَفْرَةِ الْأَبْعَزْرِيِّينَ.²⁵ وَكَانَ فِي تِلْكَ اللَّيْلَةِ أَنَّ الرَّبَّ قَالَ لَهُ، خُذْ تَوْرَ الْبَقَرِ الَّذِي لَأَيْبِكَ، وَتَوْرًا ثَانِيًا ابْنِ سَبْعِ سِنِينَ، وَاهْدِمِ مَذْبَحَ الْبَعْلِ الَّذِي لَأَيْبِكَ وَأَفْطِصِ السَّارِيَةَ الَّتِي عِنْدَهُ.²⁶ وَأَبْنِ مَذْبَحًا لِلرَّبِّ إِلَهِكَ عَلَى رَأْسِ هَذَا الْحِصْنِ يَتْرِيْبِ، وَخُذِ التَّوْرَ الثَّانِيَّ وَأَصْعِدْ مُحْرَقَةً عَلَى حَطَبِ السَّارِيَةِ الَّتِي تَقْطَعُهَا.²⁷ فَأَخَذَ جِدْعُونُ عَشْرَةَ رِجَالٍ مِنْ عِيِيدِهِ وَعَمِلَ كَمَا كَلَّمَهُ الرَّبُّ. وَإِذْ كَانَ يَخَافُ مِنْ بَيْتِ أَبِيهِ وَأَهْلِ الْمَدِينَةِ أَنْ يَفْعَلَ ذَلِكَ تَهَارًا فَعَمِلَهُ لَيْلًا.²⁸ فَتَكَرَّ أَهْلُ الْمَدِينَةِ فِي الْعَدِ وَإِذَا يَمْدِيحُ الْبَعْلَ قَدْ هُدِمَ وَالسَّارِيَةُ الَّتِي عِنْدَهُ قَدْ قُطِعَتْ، وَالتَّوْرُ الثَّانِي قَدْ أَصْعَدَ عَلَى الْمَذْبَحِ الَّذِي بَيْنِي. فَقَالُوا الْوَاجِدُ لِصَاحِبِهِ، مَنْ عَمِلَ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ. فَسَأَلُوا وَبَحَثُوا فَقَالُوا، إِنَّ جِدْعُونَ بْنَ يُوَاشَ قَدْ فَعَلَ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ.³⁰ فَقَالَ أَهْلُ الْمَدِينَةِ لِيُوَاشَ، أَخْرِجِ ابْنَكَ لِنَقْلِهِ، لَأَنَّهُ هَدَمَ مَذْبَحَ الْبَعْلِ وَقَطَعَ السَّارِيَةَ الَّتِي عِنْدَهُ.³¹ فَقَالَ يُوَاشُ لِحَمِيعِ الْقَائِمِينَ عَلَيْهِ، أَنْتُمْ ثَقَاتِلُونَ لِلْبَعْلِ، أَمْ أَنْتُمْ تُخْلَصُونَهُ. مَنْ يَقَاتِلُ لَهُ يُقْتَلُ فِي هَذَا الصَّبَاحِ. إِنْ كَانَ إِلَهًا فَلْيَقَاتِلْ لِنَفْسِهِ لَأَنَّ مَذْبَحَهُ قَدْ هُدِمَ.³² فَدَعَاهُ فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ يَرْبَعَلُ قَائِلًا، لِيُقَاتِلَهُ الْبَعْلُ لَأَنَّهُ قَدْ هَدَمَ مَذْبَحَهُ.³³ وَاجْتَمَعَ جَمِيعُ الْمَدْيَانِيِّينَ وَالْعَمَالِقَةِ وَبَنِي الْمُسْرِقِ مَعًا وَعَبَّرُوا وَتَرَلُّوا فِي وَادِي بَرْزَعِيلَ.³⁴ وَلَيْسَ رُوحُ الرَّبِّ جِدْعُونَ قَصَرَبَ بِالْبُوقِ، فَاجْتَمَعَ أَبْعَزَرُ وَرَأَاهُ.³⁵ وَأَرْسَلَ رُسُلًا إِلَى جَمِيعِ مَتَسَّى، فَاجْتَمَعَ هُوَ أَيْضًا وَرَأَاهُ، وَأَرْسَلَ رُسُلًا إِلَى أَشِيرَ وَزَبُولُونَ وَثَقَاتِلِي فَصَعِدُوا لِلْقَائِمِهِمْ.³⁶ وَقَالَ جِدْعُونُ لِلَّهِ، إِنْ كُنْتُ تُخْلَصُ بِيَدِي إِسْرَائِيلَ كَمَا تَكَلَّمْتُ، فَهِيَ إِنِّي وَأَصِغُ جَرَّةَ الصُّوفِ فِي الْبَيْدَرِ. فَإِنْ كَانَ طَلٌّ عَلَى الْجَرَّةِ وَخَذَهَا، وَجَقَّافَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ كُلِّهَا، عَلِمْتُ أَنَّكَ تُخْلَصُ بِيَدِي إِسْرَائِيلَ كَمَا تَكَلَّمْتُ.³⁸ وَكَانَ كَذَلِكَ. فَتَكَرَّرَ فِي الْعَدِ وَصَغَطَ الْجَرَّةَ وَعَصَرَ طَلًّا مِنَ الْجَرَّةِ، مِلءَ

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,

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

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

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.