

# EVERY MAN STOOD IN HIS PLACE

Judges 7:15-21

## INTRODUCTION:

- A. All should be concerned about success
- B. All want success in life, surely we want success spiritually
- C. Success depends on:
  - 1. Organization Jud 7:21
  - 2. Everyone knowing his part Eph 4:16
  - 3. Steadfastly doing his part Eph 4:16; 1Cor 15:58
- D. This is true in business as well as in the church
- E. For a man to be successful in business he must have a good organization, where everyone knows their part and each one is doing their part or carrying their part of the load.

## DISCUSSION:

### I. GIDEON AND THE MIDIANITES

- A. Midianites impoverished Israel wasted their substance; Gideon was selected to deliver Israel Jud 6:6
- B. Success depended on: organization; every man standing in place; Each man steadfastly performing his job
- C. Today God has given a pattern for the organization just as he did then - today it is the Lord's church

### II. THE LORD'S CHURCH NEEDS WORKERS WHO KNOW THEIR PLACE AND THAT THEY HAVE A PLACE!

- A. Members need to know they have a place.
  - 1. Importance shown in Old Testament
    - a. Josh 6:5,20 All must shout
    - b. Judges 7:15-21 stood every man in his place
  - 2. All members have a place (every joint) Eph 4:16
- B. Members need to know THEIR place
  - 1. Importance of principle established in examples and has not lessened in the Lord's army today - all do not have the same function 1Cor 12:14-25
  - 2. Elders are not followers, nor are they deacons 1Pet 5:2
  - 3. Deacons are not junior elders, not just men with a strong back and a weak mind 1Tim 3:8,9
  - 4. Evangelist not errand boy, nor pastor 2Tim 4:5
  - 5. All members have a function (every joint supplies) Eph 4:16; 1Cor 15:58

### III. CHURCH NEEDS MEMBERS WHO ARE WILLING TO STAND IN THEIR PLACE

- A. Needs elders willing to stand in their place Acts 20:28 1Pet 5:2; Heb 13:7,17
- B. Needs deacons willing to stand in their place be servants 1Tim 3:10-13
- C. Needs preachers willing to stand in their place - preach the word - not be pastors 2Tim 4:2-5

- D. Needs members willing to stand in their place
  - 1. Willing to submit to elders when there are elders Heb 13:17 - If not - submit to one another Eph 5:21
  - 2. Steadfast in life 1Cor 15:58
  - 3. Everyone willing to work Eph 4:16; Matt 25:14-30
    - a. Everyone has a part to do according to their ability
    - b. Both in the material and spiritual realm
    - c. Needs Bible teachers; song leaders, men to lead prayer, wait on table - also clean building, mow yard, maintenance work, etc
  - 4. Their place is in the local church
    - a. Local congregation the only unit God designed through which members can work collectively
    - b. Only way to fulfill your collective responsibility is in the local congregation. Example: Giving 1Cor 16:1,2; Lord's supper Acts 20:7
    - c. Certainly we have a work to do as an individual but just as much so, we have a collective work we can't fulfill if we are out of place.

### IV. SOME MEN STOOD IN THEIR PLACE SOME DID NOT

- A. Moses Heb 3:2; Heb 11:24-26; Stephen Acts 6:8-10; Paul Gal 2:5; Phil 1:17; 2Tim 4:6-8
- B. King Saul 1Sam 15:22,23; Judas Acts 1:25; Demas 2Tim 4:10

### V. WHY SOME DO NOT STAND IN THEIR PLACE

- A. Selfishness Phil 2:20,21
- B. Fear Matt 25:25-30
- C. Unbelief - simply do not believe God will do what he said he would do Matt 6:33 (Note Heb 11:6; Jhn 20:27)
- D. Ignorance, this is not acceptable Acts 17:30; (Paul was acting in ignorance but was lost 1Tim 1:13)
- E. Love for other things
  - 1. Love father or mother (family) more Matt 10:37
  - 2. Love for the world 2Tim 4:10; 1Jhn 2:15,16

## CONCLUSION:

- A. Everyone needs to know his place and needs to stay in it
- B. Success is assured if we stay in our place and do our job
- C. Everyone does not have the same place or the same work to do in a particular congregation Eph 4:11-16
- D. Are you standing in your place? Are you doing your work
- E. Do you have a place in the church? If not you cannot be saved, because all saved are placed in the church Acts 2:47