

JEHOVAH-SHALOM THE LORD IS PEACE

HEALER

The book of Judges covers a turbulent time in the history of Israel. There was no king, and the people did what was right in their own eyes. They embraced the gods of the Canaanites and did not listen to the LORD or obey him. God gave them over to their enemies, and as they cried out in their distress, he raised up judges to direct them back to himself. Gideon was one of those judges, and his encounter with the LORD led to him declaring God to be Jehovah-Shalom.

Judges 6:1,6, 11-18

¹ The people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD gave them into the hand of Midian seven years.



⁶ And Israel was brought very low because of Midian. And the people of Israel cried out for help to the LORD.

¹¹ Now the angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the winepress to hide it from the Midianites. ¹² And the angel of the LORD appeared to him and said to him, "The LORD is with you, O mighty man of valor." ¹³ And Gideon said to him, "Please, my lord, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all his wonderful deeds that our fathers recounted to us, saying, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?' But now the LORD has forsaken us and given us into the hand of Midian." ¹⁴ And the LORD turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian; do not I send you?" ¹⁵ And he said to him, "Please, Lord, how can I save Israel? Behold, my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house." ¹⁶ And the LORD said to him, "But I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man." ¹⁷ And he said to him, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, then show me a sign that it is you who speak with me. ¹⁸ Please do not depart from here until I come to you and bring out my present and set it before you." And he said, "I will stay till you return."

Read Judges 6:1,6. Mark Israel with a 

V1,6 List all you learn about the people of Israel.

How would you describe their situation?

Read Judges 6:11-18. Mark Gideon with a  and mark "the angel of the LORD" with a 

V11 What is Gideon doing and why?

V12 How does the angel of the LORD address him?

V13 What do Gideon's questions tell us about his state of mind?

V14-16 What does the Lord ask him to do and how does Gideon respond?

What is Gideon's focus as he answers?

What does the Lord promise?

V17-18 What does he request and how does the Lord respond?

What do we learn about the LORD from v18?

It is amazing how easily this conversation seems to flow between Gideon and the angel of the Lord, and how patient the Lord is with Gideon as he sits and awaits his return.

Judges 6:19-24

¹⁹ So Gideon went into his house and prepared a young goat and unleavened cakes from an ephah of flour. The meat he put in a basket, and the broth he put in a pot, and brought them to him under the terebinth and presented them. ²⁰ And the angel of God said to him, "Take the meat and the unleavened cakes, and put them on this rock, and pour the broth over them." And he did so. ²¹ Then the angel of the LORD reached out the tip of the staff that was in his hand and touched the meat and the unleavened cakes. And fire sprang up from the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened cakes. And the angel of the LORD vanished from his sight. ²² Then Gideon perceived that he was the angel of the LORD. And Gideon said, "Alas, O Lord GOD! For now I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face." ²³ But the LORD said to him, "Peace be to you. Do not fear; you shall not die." ²⁴ Then Gideon built an altar there to the Lord and called it, The LORD Is Peace. To this day it still stands at Ophrah, which belongs to the Abiezrites.

Exodus 34:6



⁶ The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,

Numbers 6:22-27

²² The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²³ "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them, ²⁴ The LORD bless you and keep you; ²⁵ the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; ²⁶ the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. ²⁷ "So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.

Isaiah 26:3

³ You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

Read Judges 6:19-24. Mark Gideon with a  and mark the angel of the Lord with a .

V19-21 List what happens to the meat and cakes?

Focus on the detail of v21. How was this the sign that Gideon asked for?

V22 How did Gideon react when the angel of the Lord vanished from his sight? Who was his guest?

V23 How does the Lord comfort him?

V24 What is Gideon's response? Note the detail.

The Hebrew word Shalom, refers to an inward sense of completeness and wholeness in mind, body and soul.

Read Exodus 34:6 where Jehovah describes his character.

From all you have studied, what do you learn about the name Jehovah-Shalom?

Read Numbers 6:22-27. Mark the LORD with a .

Context: the Children of Israel are camped in the wilderness on their way to take possession of the Promised Land.

V27 What was to be put upon the people?

How does Exodus 34:6 add to your understanding?

Reflect on each element of this blessing of Aaron.

How would each of these things promote peace?

Read Isaiah 26:3. Mark "peace" with a .

How can we experience and be kept in the shalom peace of God?

Stayed -5564- lean against, rest upon, support

Jehovah Jireh -Strong's 3070- Jehovah will see (to it)

Isaiah 26:3 reads "You keep him in shalom, shalom..." as this word is repeated in the text. It is God who keeps us there as we lean on him.

Isaiah 9:6-7

⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Luke 2:10-11, 14

¹⁰ And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

Colossians 1:19-20

¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Ephesians 2:14-17

¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵ by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. ¹⁷ And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

²³ Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

The prophet Isaiah laments that the people of God did not enjoy God's peace due to their sin, (Isaiah 48:18-19). He looked forward to a lasting peace that God himself was going to provide.

Read the following passages. Mark peace with a ☺ and walk through them one at a time.

Isaiah 9:6-7

What would the promise child to come be called?

How long will the peace he brings last for?

How will this be accomplished?

Zeal -7068- ardour, passion as of a jealous husband

Luke 2:10-11,14

Angels announce Jesus birth. Who is this news for?

How is this baby described?

V14 What is announced on earth?

Colossians 1:19-20

How is Jesus described?

How was peace made? What was accomplished?

Ephesians 2:14-17

How is Jesus "Jehovah-Shalom"? How does this relate to Gideon's fear, and naming of the altar?

Who has Jesus preached peace to?

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

What areas of our lives need sanctified by the God of peace? How does this tie in with the meaning of shalom?

V24 How will this peace be accomplished for us?

2 Thessalonians 3:16 says "Now may the Lord of peace give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all." In what way do you need to know Jehovah-Shalom?

About this study...

This resource has been designed to allow you to jump into God's Word and study it closely. It requires no preparation, and provides you with a structure to study a passage, with questions to help you think and reflect on it.

This study gives you a small insight into the world of inductive Bible study through three key parts:

Observe - What does the text say?

Understand - What does the text mean?

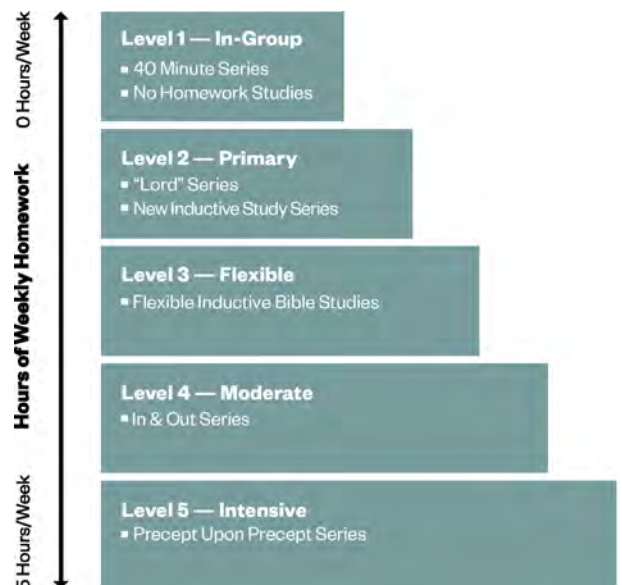
Apply - What does this mean for me?

By using this approach, we can study the Bible in a way that allows us to know God deeply, and to live differently.

About Precept Ireland...

Precept was founded in 1970 in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and now works in 160 countries, and has Bible study material translated in over 70 languages. In 2001 Precept was established in Ireland, and has grown through it's mission to engage people in relationship with God through knowing His Word. Precept Ireland seeks to resource and train Bible study leaders to help students like you discover God's truth for yourself and be transformed by it. With more than 250 unique titles ranging from zero to five hours of weekly homework, Precept has a Bible study that meets you where you are.

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