

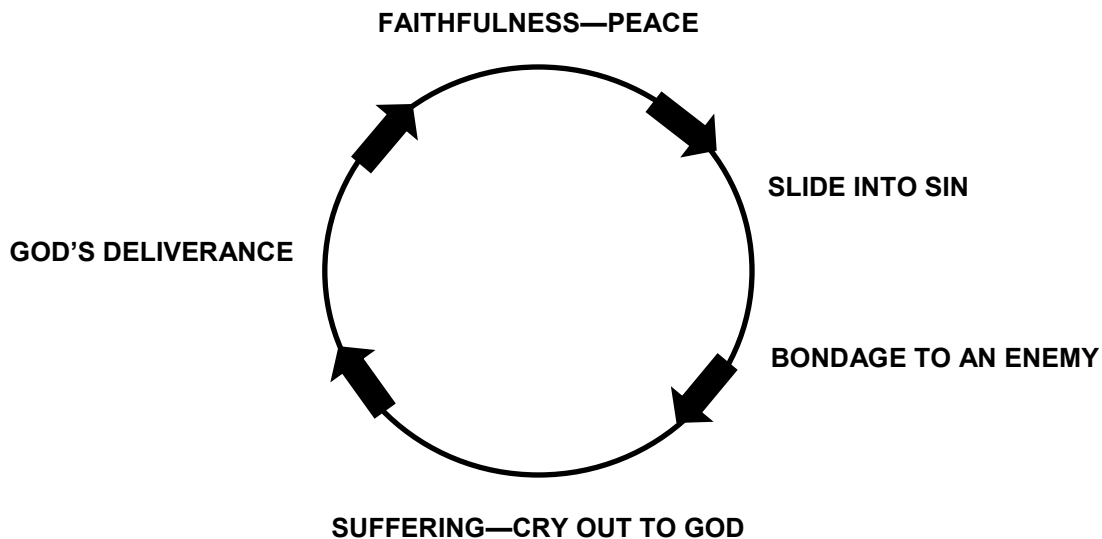
## REAL HEROES FOR DARK DAYS

### A STUDY OF JUDGES

#### #6: DON'T WIN THE BATTLE—BUT LOSE THE WAR JUDGES 7 AND 8

JIM HINTON

## I. THE DESTRUCTIVE CYCLE OF SIN CONTINUES



## II. REASONS GOD CAN USE THE ORDINARY TO DO THE EXTRAORDINARY— JUDGES 6-7

1. God uses tough times to get my attention (6:1-6)
2. God sees potential that I can't (v.7-12)
3. God provides the strength that I don't have (v.13-24)
4. God patiently waits for my faith to grow (v.25-40)

## **5. God gives me victory against overwhelming enemies (7:1-25)**

Each time he said, “My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.” So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. That’s why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (NLT)

## **III. WINNING THE BATTLE—BUT LOSING THE WAR—JUDGES 8**

**For every one hundred men who can stand adversity there is only one who can withstand prosperity**

**Thomas Carlyle**

- 1. Gideon tactfully responds to the Ephraimites (v.1-3)**
- 2. Gideon disciplines some doubters (v.4-17)**
- 3. Gideon takes revenge on the enemy kings (v.18-21)**
- 4. Gideon starts living like a king (v.22-23, 29-31)**
- 5. Gideon leads Israel into idolatry (v.24-28)**
- 6. Gideon leaves a tainted legacy (v.32-35)**