

## **Ruling as Kings (8:1-31)**

### **Teaching a Lesson**

*Judges 8:1-21*

*Why were the men of Ephraim upset with Gideon? How did Gideon respond?*

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*Why did Gideon become angry with the people of Succoth and Penuel?*

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*How did Gideon respond to them? Why is his response so different?*

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*Did Gideon keep the 'promise' that he made to Succoth and Penuel?*

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*What happened with Zebah and Zalmunna? What does this teach us about Gideon's character?*

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## **The Danger of Success**

“Gideon’s need for respect and honor—and his violent, bitter rage when he fails to be given what he thinks he deserves—shows that his success in battle has been the worst thing for him. He has become addicted to and dependent on his success.” (Keller 95)

*Why can it be spiritually dangerous to experience success or blessing?*

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## **King Gideon?**

*Judges 8:22-32*

*What did the men of Israel ask Gideon to do? Why?*

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*Do Gideon’s actions in verses 24-27 match with the attitude portrayed in verse 23?*

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*What was the result of Gideon’s hypocritical actions?*

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*How is it possible for Gideon to turn down being king and then immediately begin acting like one?*

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