-.001.tiff

-.002.tiff

-.003.tiff

So Midian was subdued before the people of Israel, and they raised their heads no more. And the land had rest forty years in the days of Gideon.

—Judges 8:28 ESV

-.004.tiff

22Then the men of Israel said to Gideon, "Rule over us, you and your son and your grandson also, for you have saved us from the hand of Midian." 23Gideon said to them, "I will not rule over you, and my son will not rule over you; the Lord will rule over you."

-.005.tiff

24And Gideon said to them, "Let me make a request of you: every one of you give me the earrings from his spoil." (For they had golden earrings, because they were Ishmaelites.) 25And they answered, "We will willingly give them." And they spread a cloak, and every man threw in it the earrings of his spoil.
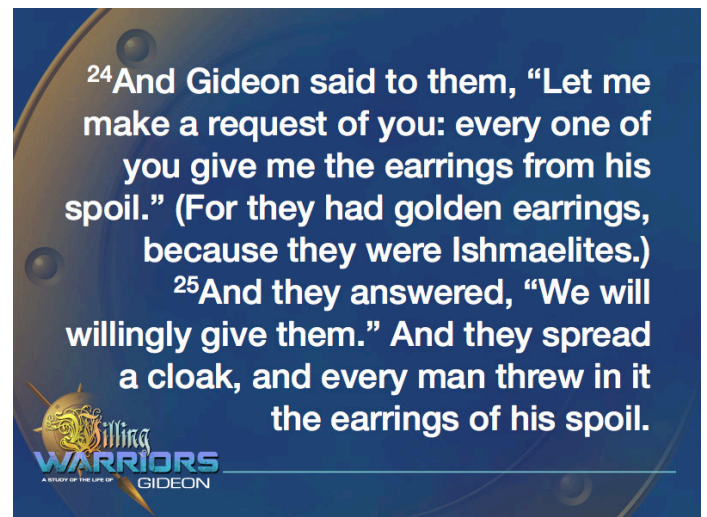
-.006.tiff

1

26And the weight of the golden earrings that he requested was 1,700 shekels of gold, besides the crescent ornaments and the pendants and the purple garments worn by the kings of Midian, and besides the collars that were around the necks of their camels.

-.007.tiff

27And Gideon made an ephod of it and put it in his city, in Ophrah. And all Israel whored after it there, and it became a snare to Gideon and to his family. 28So Midian was subdued before the people of Israel, and they raised their heads no more. And the land had rest forty years in the days of Gideon. —Judges 8:22-28 ESV

-.008.tiff

32And Gideon the son of Joash died in a good old age and was buried in the tomb of Joash his father, at Ophrah of the Abiezrites. 33As soon as Gideon died, the people of Israel turned again and whored after the Baals and made Baal-berith their god.

-.009.tiff

34And the people of Israel did not remember the Lord their God, who had delivered them from the hand of all their enemies on every side, 35and they did not show steadfast love to the family of Jerubbaal (that is, Gideon) in return for all the good that he had done to Israel. —Judges 8:32-35 ESV

-.010.tiff

-.011.tiff

"Great success is a great temptation."

—Theodore Parker

-.012.tiff

2

"Failure is hard, but success is far more dangerous. If you're successful at the wrong thing, the mix of praise and money and opportunity can lock you in forever. —Po Bronson

-.013.tiff

Hebrews 11:32

-.014.tiff

"Only one in a hundred passes the test of prosperity."

—Thomas Carlyle

-.015.tiff

Independence

-.016.tiff

6But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." 7Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

-.017.tiff

Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. 10Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.
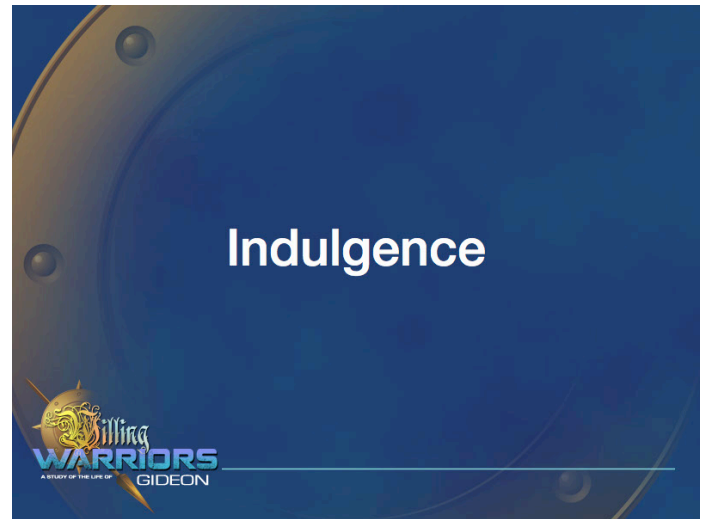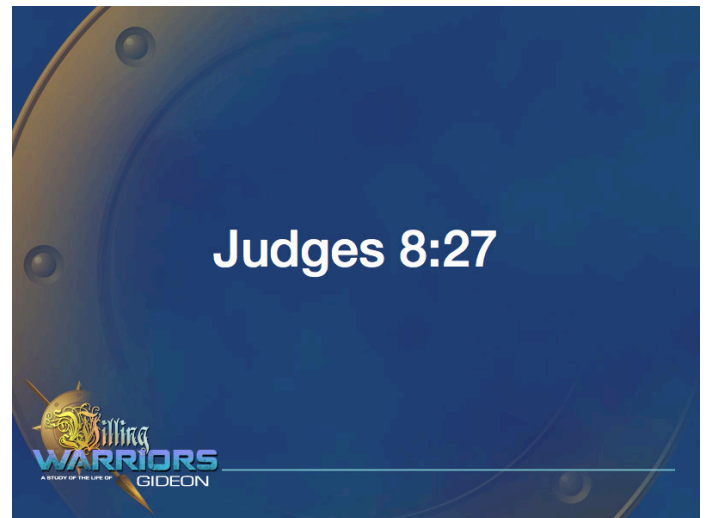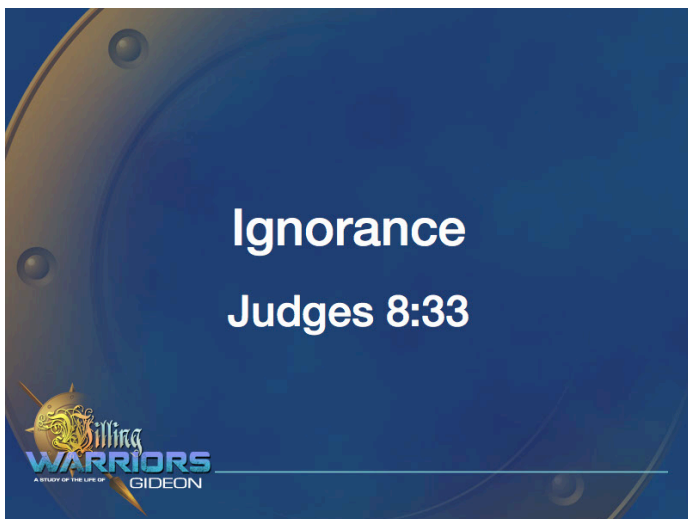
—James 4:6-10 ESV

-.018.tiff

"The devil after the dove"

-.019.tiff

Indulgence

-.020.tiff

Judges 8:24-26

-.021.tiff

Judges 8:27

-.022.tiff

Ignorance

Judges 8:33

-.023.tiff

The Deliverance Principle

"Suzerain" — a greater people
(wanted loyalty)
"Vassal" — a smaller people
(needed protection)
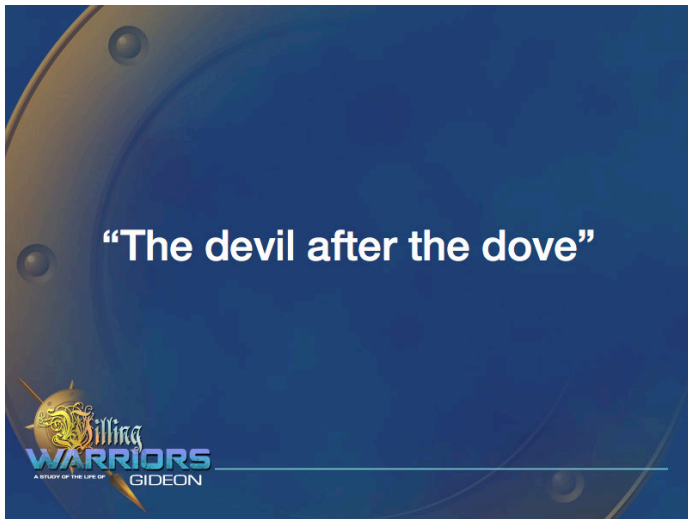
-.024.tiff

9"And I delivered you from the hand of the Egyptians and from the hand of all who oppressed you, and drove them out before you and gave you their land. 10And I said to you, 'I am the Lord your God; you shall not fear the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell.' But you have not obeyed my voice." —Judges 6:9-10 ESV

-.025.tiff

10"And when the Lord your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you— with great and good cities that you did not build, 11and houses full of all good things that you did not fill,

-.026.tiff

…and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant—and when you eat and are full, 12then take care lest you forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery."

—Deuteronomy 6:10-12 ESV

-.027.tiff

11"Take care lest you forget the Lord your God by not keeping his commandments and his rules and his statutes, which I command you today, 12lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them,
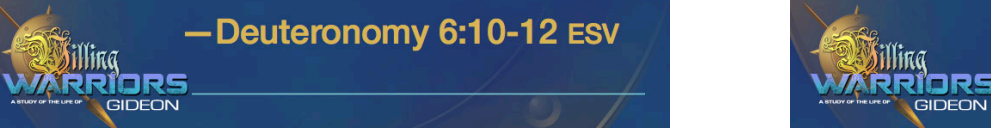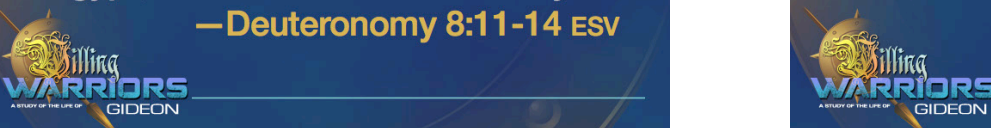
-.028.tiff

13and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, 14then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery"…

—Deuteronomy 8:11-14 ESV

-.029.tiff

"We won't be holy on the outside if we are hollow on the inside."

-.030.tiff

-.031.tiff

-.032.tiff

-.033.tiff