

## Thank God for a Good Fight

Judges 20:12-18

12 The tribes of Israel sent messengers throughout the tribe of Benjamin, saying, "What about this awful crime that was committed among you? 13 Now turn those wicked men of Gibeah over to us so that we may put them to death and purge the evil from Israel."

But the Benjamites would not listen to their fellow Israelites. 14 From their towns they came together at Gibeah to fight against the Israelites. 15 At once the Benjamites mobilized twenty-six thousand swordsmen from their towns, in addition to seven hundred able young men from those living in Gibeah. 16 Among all these soldiers there were seven hundred who were left-handed, each of whom could sling a stone at a hair and not miss.

17 Israel, apart from Benjamin, mustered four hundred thousand swordsmen, all of them fighting men.

18 The Israelites went up to Bethel and inquired of God. They said, "Who of us is to go up first to fight against the Benjamites?"

The LORD replied, "Judah shall go first."

## The Fight

What kind of fight (battle) was this?

Who was the one who was to go out into the fight first?

Who is your biggest fight with?

Who and what are you to the "front lines?"

## The Front Line

**SHIR** (Sheer) - Meaning a song, more specifically, vocal music. The term combined with others to indicate a choral group. Shir and zamar are used alternately in Psalms 21:4, 104:33, 57:8, 27:6, 13:6 and 33:2.

**SHAVACH** (Shav Ach) - To commend, to congratulate, to laud. This word parallels some of the words we have already looked at. Refer to Psalms 63:4, 117:1, 147:12 and 145:4. The idea of parallelism is often used in Hebrew poetry. This occurs when the same information or idea is stated in more than one way, one verse reinforcing the other.

**RUM** (Room) - The basic meaning is height and it is used to parallel many of the preceding words. Rum is used symbolically to express such lofty notions as glory, exaltation and to extol. See Psalms 30:2, 66:17, 149:6. We can also see the following parallels: rum to halal in Psalm 107:32; rum to barach in Psalm 145:1 and rum to gadal in Psalm 34:4.

**RANAN** (Rah Nahn) - To cry out, shout for joy or to give a ringing cry. It parallels joy, rejoicing, praise and jubilation in poetry. Found in Psalms 5:12, 67:5, 90:14 and 92:5, the usage indicates that the highest mood of the Hebrew religion is joy

**YADAH** (Yah Dah) - The literal root is to throw or to cast. When used in text, it means to confess or declare Who God is and what He does. See Psalms 105:1, 106:1 for public confession of God's attributes. When yadah is used in the context of praise, it means to confess or declare the attributes of God. When yadah is used in the context of prayer, it still retains the root meaning of confession. Instead of the confession of God's attributes, it becomes the confession of our sins to God. Yadah has a two-fold meaning: the confession of God's attributes and the confession of our shortcoming or sins. Judah comes from the root, yadah.

## Welcome to Paradox Church.

We want you to know that we are glad you are here today! At Paradox, we don't expect you to look or act a certain way. We want you to feel comfortable and challenged through teaching, music and video. So, don't worry about fitting in or asking the wrong questions. Here, families, singles and students around South Dayton have found a place to belong, and we hope you will too. Relax, have a cup of coffee or a bottle of water and enjoy your time with us. If you would like more information about Paradox or would like to chat with one of our Staff Pastors, please stop by the Information Table. We also have a free gift that should make your time at Paradox more comfortable.

### Today's Music

- No One Like You
- Everybody Praise the Lord
- Undignified
- Agnus Dei

# South Dayton S.O.S.

Dates:

12/1: Subs, wings, veggie trays, water (P.M.)

12/2: Cookies (P.M.)

12/3: Donuts and Coffee (A.M.)

12/4: Panera Bagels/Cream Cheese

12/5: Gift Baskets

12/6: Santa Breakfast

"Changing South Dayton one person at a time." Serving those who serve us. We still need more teams! Here is your chance to make a difference!!! See Debi Dennison or email ([debi.dennison@theparadoxchurch.org](mailto:debi.dennison@theparadoxchurch.org))

or Nate Helm ([nate.helm@theparadoxhchurch.org](mailto:nate.helm@theparadoxhchurch.org)) if you would like to serve on a team.

## VISION SUNDAY

What's next? Where are we going? Building? What is God dreaming about? What does the world in which we live in everyday need? How can we bring heaven to earth?

# PARADOX C H U R C H

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**TODAY'S MESSAGE:  
"THANK GOD FOR A FIGHT"**

