

~JOASH 3 (91)
(Jo'ash)

- The father of Judge Gideon, an Abi-ezrite of the tribe of Manasseh.
- Later Yehowah's angel came and sat under the big tree that was in Ophrah, which belonged to **Joash** the Abi-ezrite, while Gideon his son was beating out wheat in the winepress so as to get it quickly out of the sight of Midian. (**Judges 6:11**)
- In turn he said to him; Excuse me, Yehowah. With what shall I save Israel? Look! My thousand is the least in Manasseh, and I am the smallest in my father's house. (**Judges 6:15**)
- At this his companion answered and said; This is nothing else but the sword of Gideon the son of **Joash**, a man of Israel. The true God has given Midian and all the camp into his hand. (**Judges 7:14**)
- And Gideon the son of **Joash** began his return from the war by the pass that goes up to Heres. (**Judges 8:13**)
- Eventually Gideon the son of **Joash** died at a good old age and was buried in the burial place of Joash his father in Ophrah of the Abi-ezrites. (**Judges 8:32**)
- **Joash** was evidently a man of considerable means and influence in the community, possessing an altar dedicated to Baal, also a sacred pole, and having a household of servants.
- When his son Gideon secretly tore down this altar and sacred pole, and in their place built an altar to Yehowah upon which he sacrificed a seven-year-old bull, the citizens of the place demanded that Joash hand over his son to be put to death.
- **Joash's** answer was; If Baal is God, let him make a legal defense for himself. And with that **Joash** began calling his son Jerubbaal.
- And it came about during that night that Yehowah went on to say to him; Take the young bull, the bull that belongs to your father, that is, the second young bull of seven years, and you must tear

- down the altar of Baal that is your fathers, and the sacred pole that is by it you should cut down. (**Judges 6:25**)
- And you must build an altar to Yehowah your God at the head of this stronghold, with the row of stones, and you must take the second young bull and offer it up as a burnt offering on the pieces of wood of the sacred pole that you will cut down. (**Judges 6:26**)
 - Accordingly Gideon took ten men of his servants and went doing just as Yehowah had spoken to him, but it came about that, as he feared the household of his father and the men of the city too much to do it by day, he went doing it by night. (**Judges 6:27**)
 - When the men of the city got up early in the morning as usual, why, look! The altar of Baal had been pulled down and the sacred pole that was beside it had been cut down, and the second young bull had been offered up on the altar that had been built. (**Judges 6:28**)
 - And they began to say one to another; Who has done this thing? And they went inquiring and seeking. Finally they said; Gideon the son of **Joash** is the one that has done this thing. (**Judges 6:29**)
 - So the men of the city said to **Joash**; Bring your son out that he may die, because he has pulled down the altar of Baal, and because he has cut down the sacred pole that was by it. (**Judges 6:30**)
 - At this **Joash** said to all those who stood against him; Will you be the ones to make a legal defense for Baal to see whether you yourselves may save him? Whoever makes a legal defense for him ought to be put to death even this morning. If he is God, let him make a legal defense for himself, because someone has pulled down his altar. (**Judges 6:31**)
 - And he began to call him Jerubbaal on that day, saying; Let Baal make a legal defense in his own behalf, because someone has pulled down his altar. (**Judges 6:32**)
 - And Jerubbaal the son of **Joash** went his way and continued to dwell in his house. (**Judges 8:29**)

