

~ZEBAH (150)
(Ze'bah) [Sacrifice]

- **A king of Midian who shared in oppressing Israel. **Zebah** and Zalmunna were rulers presumably for the seven years that Midian made raids against Israel, ruining fields and bringing about poverty.**
- **Then the sons of Israel began to do what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah. So Yehowah gave them into the hand of Midian for seven years. (Judges 6:1)**
- **And the hand of Midian came to prevail over Israel. Due to Midian the sons of Israel made for themselves the underground store places that were in the mountains, and the caves and the places difficult to approach. (Judges 6:2)**
- **And it occurred that, if Israel sowed seed, Midian and Amalek and the Easterners came up, yes, they came up against them. (Judges 6:3)**
- **And they would camp against them and would ruin the yield of the earth all the way to Gaza, and they would not let any sustenance or sheep or bull or ass remain in Israel. (Judges 6:4)**
- **For they and their livestock would come up with their tents. They would come as numerous as the locusts, and they and their camels were without number, and they would come into the land to ruin it. (Judges 6:5)**
- **And Israel became greatly impoverished due to Midian, and the sons of Israel began to call to Yehowah for aid. (Judges 6:6)**
- **At some unspecified time they also killed members of Gideon's household.**
- **He now said to **Zebah** and Zalmunna; What sort of men were they whom you killed in Tabor? To this they said; As you are, so were they, each one, like the sons of a king in form. (Judges 8:18)**
- **At that he said; They were my brothers, the sons of my mother. As Yehowah lives, if you had preserved them alive, I would not**

have to kill you. (**Judges 8:19**)

- When Gideon defeated their army of 135,000, **Zebah**, Zalmunna, and 15,000 managed to escape under hot pursuit and made their way to Karkor, quite some distance, but there they were again defeated and finally captured.
- As Gideon was bringing **Zebah** and Zalmunna back as humiliated captives at least as far as Succoth, they must have been reminded of their boastful words, or at least the expression of their attitude, preserved in the psalm.
- As for their nobles, make these like Oreb and like Zeeb, and like **Zebah** and like Zalmunna all their dukes. (**Psalms 83:11**)
- Who have said; Let us take possession of the abiding places of God for ourselves. (**Psalms 83:12**)
- After they admitted to having killed his brothers, Gideon personally put to death the two Midianite kings.
- Eventually Gideon came to the Jordan, crossing it, he and the three hundred men that were with him, tired but keeping up the pursuit. (**Judges 8:4**)
- Later he said to the men of Succoth; Please give round loaves of bread to the people that are following my steps, for they are tired and I am chasing after **Zebah** and Zalmunna, the kings of Midian. (**Judges 8:5**)
- But the princes of Succoth said; Are the palms of **Zebah** and of Zalmunna already in your hand so that bread has to be given to your army? (**Judges 8:6**)
- At this Gideon said; That is why when Yehowah gives **Zebah** and Zalmunna into my hand, I shall certainly give your flesh a threshing with the thorns of the wilderness and the briers. (**Judges 8:7**)
- And he continued on his way up from there to Penuel and went speaking to them in this same manner, but the men of Penuel answered him just as the men of Succoth had answered. (**Judges 8:8**)

- Hence he said also to the men of Penuel; When I return in peace, I shall pull down this tower. (**Judges 8:9**)
- Now **Zebah** and Zalmunna were in Karkor, and their camps with them, about fifteen thousand being all who were left over out of the entire camp of the Easterners, and those already fallen were a hundred and twenty thousand men who used to draw the sword. (**Judges 8:10**)
- And Gideon continued on up by the way of those residing in tents to the east of Nobah and Jogbehah and began to strike the camp while the camp happened to be off guard. (**Judges 8:11**)
- When **Zebah** and Zalmunna took to flight, he at once went in pursuit of them and got to capture Midian's two kings, Zebah and Zalmunna, and he drove all the camp into trembling. (**Judges 8:12**)
- And Gideon the son of Joash began his return from the war by the pass that goes up to Heres. (**Judges 8:13**)
- En route he captured a young man of the men of Succoth and made inquiries of him. So he wrote out for him the names of the princes of Succoth and its older men, seventy-seven men. (**Judges 8:14**)
- With that he went to the men of Succoth and said; Here are **Zebah** and Zalmunna respecting whom you taunted me, saying; Are the palms of Zebah and of Zalmunna already in your hand so that bread has to be given to your tired-out men? (**Judges 8:15**)
- Then he took the older men of the city and thorns of the wilderness and briers, and with them he put the men of Succoth through an experience. (**Judges 8:16**)
- And the tower of Penuel he pulled down, and he proceeded to kill the men of the city. (**Judges 8:17**)
- He now said to **Zebah** and Zalmunna; What sort of men were they whom you killed in Tabor? To this they said; As you are, so were they, each one, like the sons of a king in form. (**Judges 8:18**)
- At that he said; They were my brothers, the sons of my mother.

As Yehowah lives, if you had preserved them alive, I would not have to kill you. (Judges 8:19)

- **Then he said to Jether his firstborn; Get up, kill them. And the young man did not draw his sword, because he was afraid, for he was yet a young man. (Judges 8:2)**
- **So Zebah and Zalmunna said; Get up yourself and assault us, for as a man is, so is his mightiness. Accordingly Gideon got up and killed Zebah and Zalmunna and took the moon-shaped ornaments that were on the necks of their camels. (Judges 8:21)**