

## Judges 3:31 (Richard "Dick" Gorgas) 170281

The Christian Shepherd: 2004, Minority, The (3:31)

"Shamgar... slew... six hundred men with an oxgoad.... He... delivered Israel" (Judg. 3:31).

God often works His wonders through small numbers. By using minorities the Lord shows that the victories of His people are credited exclusively to the power and guidance of His Spirit. Joshua had predicted that in the strength of God one man in Israel would be able to put a thousand to flight. So Shamgar was not afraid when he had to face six hundred Philistine warriors with only an oxgoad as a weapon. He didn't shrink back and say that his tools were insufficient for what appeared to be an impossible job. Instead, he went forward relying upon God, and he single-handedly won a tremendous victory.

When Samson, blinded by the enemies of God, stood gripping the two middle pillars of the temple of Dagon, he seemed a pathetic, defeated man. Yet, with the power of God energizing him, he succeeded in pulling down the building, killing thousands of Philistines—thus he won. When Elijah prayed down fire from heaven and put the prophets of Baal to shame, he stood alone but he won. When David went out to meet Goliath, in size he was a notable minority—but he won!

Each believer is only an individual, but he or she can be a mighty power for good. You may not have an oxgoad or a sling, but what do you have in your hand? A pen? A needle? A shovel? God can use it, if yielded wholeheartedly to His will and spirit. One with God can be a mighty majority!

R. K. Gorgas (from "Selections")