

Savior Gideon, Between Abuse of Power and Abused Power

**Fr. PhD CONSTANTIN POGOR,
Institut de théologie orthodoxe «Apôtre Paul» – Bruxelles,
Centre Orthodoxe d'études et de recherches «Dumitru Stăniloae» - Paris
constantinos10@gmail.com**

Abstract

Gideon's cycle of storytelling from the Book of Judges describes, for the fourth time, an extremely difficult time in the history of the sons of Israel. After doing evil in YHWH's eyes, there follows suffering and loss of independence. In this context, YHWH intervenes, once again, to deliver His people by choosing and sending a new savior. The purpose of this study is to clarify how Gideon understands how to position himself both in relation to God and his people, and in relation to Israel and the idols of the pagan peoples. The power offered during his installation as savior-judge knows not only positive results but also harmful consequences. In this sense, the narrator seeks to bring out, through a careful narrative construction, the context and the consequences caused by the abuse of power, both at the collective level - Israel - and at the individual level - Gideon -, within the framework of the Alliance.