

## Judges 4:1—5:31 **Deborah & Barak**

### Sin of Israel

<sup>1</sup> When Ehud was dead, the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD. <sup>2</sup> So the LORD sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. The commander of his army was Sisera, who dwelt in Harosheth Hagoyim.

<sup>3</sup> And the children of Israel cried out to the LORD; for Jabin had nine hundred chariots of iron, and for twenty years he harshly oppressed the children of Israel.

### Deborah & Barak

<sup>4</sup> Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, was judging Israel at that time. <sup>5</sup> And she would sit under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the mountains of Ephraim. And the children of Israel came up to her for judgment.

<sup>6</sup> Then she sent and called for Barak the son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "Has not the LORD God of Israel commanded, 'Go and deploy troops at Mount Tabor; take with you ten thousand men of the sons of Naphtali and of the sons of Zebulun; <sup>7</sup> and against you I will deploy Sisera, the commander of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his multitude at the River Kishon; and I will deliver him into your hand'?"

<sup>8</sup> And Barak said to her, "If you will go with me, then I will go; but if you will not go with me, I will not go!" <sup>9</sup> So she said, "I will surely go with you; nevertheless there will be no glory for you in the journey you are taking, for the LORD will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman." Then Deborah arose and went with Barak to Kedesh. <sup>10</sup> And Barak called Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh; he went up with ten thousand men under his command, and Deborah went up with him.

### Heber the Kenite – Children of Father-in-Law of Moses

<sup>11</sup> Now Heber the Kenite, of the children of Hobab the father-in-law of Moses, had separated himself from the Kenites and pitched his tent near the terebinth tree at Zaanaim, which is beside Kedesh.

### Army of Sisera defeated by Israel

<sup>12</sup> And they reported to Sisera that Barak the son of Abinoam had gone up to Mount Tabor. <sup>13</sup> So Sisera gathered together all his chariots, nine hundred chariots of iron, and all the people who were with him, from Harosheth Hagoyim to the River Kishon.

<sup>14</sup> Then Deborah said to Barak, "Up! For this is the day in which the LORD has delivered Sisera into your hand. Has not the LORD gone out before you?" So Barak went down from Mount Tabor with ten thousand men following him. <sup>15</sup> And the LORD routed Sisera and all his chariots and all his army with the edge of the sword before Barak; and Sisera alighted from his chariot and fled away on foot. <sup>16</sup> But Barak pursued the chariots and the army as far as Harosheth Hagoyim, and all the army of Sisera fell by the edge of the sword; not a man was left.

### Sisera & Jael

<sup>17</sup> However, Sisera had fled away on foot to the tent of Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite; for there was peace between Jabin king of Hazor and the house of Heber the Kenite. <sup>18</sup> And Jael went out to meet Sisera, and said to him, "Turn aside, my lord, turn aside to me; do not fear." And when he had turned aside with her into the tent, she covered him with a blanket. <sup>19</sup> Then he said to her, "Please

give me a little water to drink, for I am thirsty." So she opened a jug of milk, gave him a drink, and covered him. <sup>20</sup> And he said to her, "Stand at the door of the tent, and if any man comes and inquires of you, and says, 'Is there any man here?' you shall say, 'No.' "

<sup>21</sup> Then Jael, Heber's wife, took a tent peg and took a hammer in her hand, and went softly to him and drove the peg into his temple, and it went down into the ground; for he was fast asleep and weary. So he died. <sup>22</sup> And then, as Barak pursued Sisera, Jael came out to meet him, and said to him, "Come, I will show you the man whom you seek." And when he went into her tent, there lay Sisera, dead with the peg in his temple.

### God destroyed Jabin king of Canaan

<sup>23</sup> So on that day God subdued Jabin king of Canaan in the presence of the children of Israel. <sup>24</sup> And the hand of the children of Israel grew stronger and stronger against Jabin king of Canaan, until they had destroyed Jabin king of Canaan.

Judges 5:1-31

### Song of Deborah & Barak

<sup>1</sup> Then Deborah and Barak the son of Abinoam sang on that day, saying:

<sup>2</sup> "When leaders lead in Israel, When the people willingly offer themselves, Bless the LORD!

<sup>3</sup> "Hear, O kings! Give ear, O princes! I, even I, will sing to the LORD; I will sing praise to the LORD God of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> "LORD, when You went out from Seir, When You marched from the field of Edom, The earth trembled and the heavens poured, The clouds also poured water; <sup>5</sup> The mountains gushed before the LORD, This Sinai, before the LORD God of Israel.

<sup>6</sup> "In the days of Shamgar, son of Anath, In the days of Jael, The highways were deserted, And the travelers walked along the byways.

<sup>7</sup> Village life ceased, it ceased in Israel, Until I, Deborah, arose, Arose a mother in Israel.

<sup>8</sup> They chose new gods; Then there was war in the gates; Not a shield or spear was seen among forty thousand in Israel.

<sup>9</sup> My heart is with the rulers of Israel Who offered themselves willingly with the people. Bless the LORD!

<sup>10</sup> "Speak, you who ride on white donkeys, Who sit in judges' attire, And who walk along the road.

<sup>11</sup> Far from the noise of the archers, among the watering places, There they shall recount the righteous acts of the LORD, The righteous acts for His villagers in Israel; Then the people of the LORD shall go down to the gates.

<sup>12</sup> "Awake, awake, Deborah! Awake, awake, sing a song! Arise, Barak, and lead your captives away, O son of Abinoam!

<sup>13</sup> "Then the survivors came down, the people against the nobles; The LORD came down for me against the mighty.

<sup>14</sup> From Ephraim were those whose roots were in Amalek. After you, Benjamin, with your peoples, From Machir rulers came down, And from Zebulun those who bear the recruiter's staff.

<sup>15</sup> And the princes of Issachar were with Deborah; As Issachar, so was Barak Sent into the valley under his command; Among the divisions of Reuben There were great resolves of heart.

<sup>16</sup> Why did you sit among the sheepfolds, To hear the pipings for the flocks? The divisions of Reuben have great searchings of heart.

<sup>17</sup> Gilead stayed beyond the Jordan, And why did Dan remain on ships? Asher continued at the seashore, And stayed by his inlets.

18 Zebulun is a people who jeopardized their lives to the point of death, Naphtali also, on the heights of the battlefield.

19 "The kings came and fought, Then the kings of Canaan fought In Taanach, by the waters of Megiddo; They took no spoils of silver.

20 They fought from the heavens; The stars from their courses fought against Sisera.

21 The torrent of Kishon swept them away, That ancient torrent, the torrent of Kishon. O my soul, march on in strength!

22 Then the horses' hooves pounded, The galloping, galloping of his steeds.

23 'Curse Meroz,' said the angel of the LORD, 'Curse its inhabitants bitterly, Because they did not come to the help of the LORD, To the help of the LORD against the mighty.'

24 "Most blessed among women is Jael, The wife of Heber the Kenite; Blessed is she among women in tents.

25 He asked for water, she gave milk; She brought out cream in a lordly bowl. 26 She stretched her hand to the tent peg, Her right hand to the workmen's hammer; She pounded Sisera, she pierced his head, She split and struck through his temple. 27 At her feet he sank, he fell, he lay still; At her feet he sank, he fell; Where he sank, there he fell dead.

28 "The mother of Sisera looked through the window, And cried out through the lattice, 'Why is his chariot so long in coming? Why carries the clatter of his chariots?'

29 Her wisest ladies answered her, Yes, she answered herself, 30 'Are they not finding and dividing the spoil: To every man a girl or two; For Sisera, plunder of dyed garments, Plunder of garments embroidered and dyed, Two pieces of dyed embroidery for the neck of the looter?'

31 "Thus let all Your enemies perish, O LORD! But let those who love Him be like the sun When it comes out in full strength."

So the land had rest for forty years. NKJV

#### Facts Revealed:

As the Scripture said:

Judges 2:19

19 And it came to pass, **when the judge was dead, that they reverted and behaved more corruptly than their fathers, by following other gods, to serve them and bow down to them. They did not cease from their own doings nor from their stubborn way.** NKJV

- ✧ Yehowah used other nations to punish His people for their sins, in this case He used **Jabin** king of **Canaan** against Israel. [Judges 4:1-2]
- ✧ When Ehud was dead, the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD. So the LORD sold them into the hand of **Jabin king of Canaan**, who reigned in Hazor. The **commander of his army was Sisera**, who dwelt in Harosheth Hagoyim. [Judges 4:1-2]
- ✧ Jabin had **nine hundred chariots of iron**, and for **twenty years** he harshly oppressed the children of Israel. [Judges 4:3]
- ✧ And the Children of Israel cried out to the LORD; [Judges 4:3]

#### Deborah & Barak

- ✧ **Deborah** was a prophetess who sat under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the mountains of Ephraim. [Judges 4:4-5]
- ✧ The Children of Israel came to her for judgment. [Judges 4:5]
- ✧ At the command of Yehowah, Deborah called for Barak and instructed him to deploy 10,000 troops from Naphtali and Zebulun at Mount Tabor to go against Sisera the commander of

Jabin's army at the River Kishon. They had the promise that Yehowah would deliver the Canaanites with their iron chariots into the hands of Israel. [Judges 4:6-7]

- ✧ Barak agreed if Deborah would go with him. Sisera will be delivered into the hand of a woman. [Judges 4:8-10]

### Heber the Kenite – Children of Hobab the Father-in-Law of Moses

- ✧ Now **Heber** the Kenite, of the children of **Hobab the father-in-law of Moses**, had separated himself from the Kenites and pitched his tent near the terebinth tree at Zaanaim, which is beside Kedesh. [Judges 4:11]

### Army of Sisera defeated by Israel

- ✧ Sisera learned that Barak had gathered his army at Mount Tabor, so Sisera gathered his 900 iron chariots and all his army to the River Kishon. [Judges 4:12-13]
- ✧ Deborah gave Barak the command: "Up! For **this is the day in which Yehowah has delivered Sisera into your hand. Has not Yehowah gone out before you?**" [Judges 4:14]
- ✧ Barak and his 10,000 men went down from Mount Tabor, and Yehowah routed Sisera, all his chariots, and all his army who fell with the edge of the sword before Israel. [Judges 4:14-15]
- ✧ Sisera fled on foot to the tent of Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite, because there was peace between Jabin and Heber the Kenite. [Judges 4:15-17]

### Sisera & Jael

- ✧ Jael went out to meet Sisera and invited him into her tent. Jael gave Sisera milk when he asked for a drink and covered him with a blanket. When he was asleep Jael drove a tent peg through his temple into the ground with a hammer. [Judges 4:21]
- ✧ When Barak came by in pursuit of Sisera, Jael met him and showed him Sisera, dead in her tent with a tent peg through his temple. [Judges 4:22]

### God destroyed Jabin king of Canaan

- ✧ So on that day **Elohiym (God) subdued Jabin king of Canaan in the presence of the children of Israel**. And the hand of the children of Israel grew stronger and stronger against Jabin king of Canaan, **until they had destroyed Jabin king of Canaan**. [Judges 4:23-24]

### Judges 5:1-31

#### Song of Deborah & Barak – Praising the mighty works of Yehowah

1 Then Deborah and Barak the son of Abinoam sang on that day, saying:

2 "When leaders lead in Israel, When the people willingly offer themselves, Bless the LORD!

3 "Hear, O kings! Give ear, O princes! I, even I, will sing to Yehowah (the LORD); I will sing praise to Yehowah Elohey (the LORD God of) Israel.

4 "Yehowah (LORD), when You went out from Seir, When You marched from the field of Edom, The earth trembled and the heavens poured, The clouds also poured water; 5 The mountains gushed before Yehowah (the LORD), This Sinai, before Yehowah Elohey (the LORD God of) Israel.

6 "In the days of Shamgar, son of Anath, In the days of Jael, The highways were deserted, And the travelers walked along the byways.

7 Village life ceased, it ceased in Israel, Until I, Deborah, arose, Arose a mother in Israel.

8 They chose new gods; Then there was war in the gates; Not a shield or spear was seen among forty thousand in Israel.

9 My heart is with the rulers of Israel Who offered themselves willingly with the people. Bless Yehowah (the LORD)!

10 "Speak, you who ride on white donkeys, Who sit in judges' attire, And who walk along the road.

11 Far from the noise of the archers, among the watering places, There they shall recount the righteous acts of Yehowah (the LORD), The righteous acts for His villagers in Israel; Then the people of Yehowah (the LORD) shall go down to the gates.

12 "Awake, awake, Deborah! Awake, awake, sing a song! Arise, Barak, and lead your captives away, O son of Abinoam!

13 "Then the survivors came down, the people against the nobles; Yehowah (The LORD) came down for me against the mighty.

14 From Ephraim were those whose roots were in Amalek. After you, Benjamin, with your peoples, From Machir rulers came down, And from Zebulun those who bear the recruiter's staff.

15 And the princes of Issachar were with Deborah; As Issachar, so was Barak Sent into the valley under his command; Among the divisions of Reuben There were great resolves of heart.

16 Why did you sit among the sheepfolds, To hear the pipings for the flocks? The divisions of Reuben have great searchings of heart.

17 Gilead stayed beyond the Jordan, And why did Dan remain on ships? Asher continued at the seashore, And stayed by his inlets.

18 Zebulun is a people who jeopardized their lives to the point of death, Naphtali also, on the heights of the battlefield.

19 "The kings came and fought, Then the kings of Canaan fought In Taanach, by the waters of Megiddo; They took no spoils of silver.

20 They fought from the heavens; The stars from their courses fought against Sisera.

21 The torrent of Kishon swept them away, That ancient torrent, the torrent of Kishon. O my soul, march on in strength!

22 Then the horses' hooves pounded, The galloping, galloping of his steeds.

23 'Curse Meroz,' said Malak Yehowah (the angel of the LORD), 'Curse its inhabitants bitterly, Because they did not come to the help of Yehowah (the LORD), To the help of Yehowah (the LORD) against the mighty.'

24 "Most blessed among women is Jael, The wife of Heber the Kenite; Blessed is she among women in tents.

25 He asked for water, she gave milk; She brought out cream in a lordly bowl. 26 She stretched her hand to the tent peg, Her right hand to the workmen's hammer; She pounded Sisera, she pierced his head, She split and struck through his temple. 27 At her feet he sank, he fell, he lay still; At her feet he sank, he fell; Where he sank, there he fell dead.

28 "The mother of Sisera looked through the window, And cried out through the lattice, 'Why is his chariot so long in coming? Why carries the clatter of his chariots?'

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31 "Thus let all Your enemies perish, O Yehowah (LORD)! But let those who love Him be like the sun When it comes out in full strength."

**So the land had rest for forty years.**