

# Deborah

## "Deborah Arose a Mother in Israel"

### Lesson 23

*And she dwelt under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in mount Ephraim: and the children of Israel came up to her for judgment. - Judges 4:5*

Begin each day with prayer to the Lord to understand these passages and to be able to apply their lessons to your life according to His will.

#### Day One - Overview

Deborah was the only woman judge of Israel. Her story includes some very unusual events. To understand it fully, read Chapters 4 and 5 of Judges. Keep in mind that Chapter 4 is historical narrative and Chapter 5 is poetry about the events of Chapter 4. Read quickly, but notice Deborah as you read.

1. What was Deborah's reaction to the victory? (5:2)
  
2. What was the result of the events? (5:31)

#### Day Two-Deborah Introduced

1. Read Judges 4:4-5. Write how this describes Deborah:
  - a. Her calling:
  
  - b. Wife of:
  
  - c. Where she lived:
  
  - d. Who came to her and why:
  
2. Read Judges 2:16-18. Why did the Lord give Israel judges?
  - a. How does this reveal God's mercy and grace?

*Challenge: Read Judges 4:1-3 and 4:6-8. What do you see here that shows why God called Deborah, a woman instead of a man, to judge Israel at this time?*

### **Day Three - God's Plan**

1. Read Judges 4:6. What commandment did God give and for whom?
  - a. Why do you suppose God did not give this assignment to Deborah?
  - b. What lesson do you see for yourself concerning God's calling on your life and the types of "assignments" He gives to you?
2. Read Judges 4:8-9. What was Barak's request for Deborah?
  - a. What did Deborah say and do?
3. Read Judges 4:2-3. Describe the enemy.
  - a. Read Judges 4:11-13. Who helped Sisera and what was the result?

### **Day Four - The Battle**

1. Read Judges 4:14. How did Barak know when to go to battle?
2. Read Judges 4:15 and 5:20-22. What did the Lord do to assure victory for Israel?
  - a. Why did God do it this way?
  - b. How does this help you to face difficulties in your life?
3. Read Judges 4:15-22. What did Sisera do (v.15)?
  - a. (v.17) Where did he go and why?

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b. (v.18-20) What happened next?

c. (v.21-22) What did Jael do?

4. Read Judges 4:23-24. Because of Sisera's death and the victory recorded in verse 16, what was the result?

a. Who caused this?

b. Read Isaiah 40:31. How does this encourage you when faced with great difficulties?

### **Day Five - The Song**

1. Read Judges 5:1-3. Who sang the song?

a. Who was given the praise and glory?

b. How is this an example for you?

2. Some of this poem is symbolic and unclear, but it gives beautiful glory to God. Write anything you noticed in particular and why it stood out for you.

3. Read Judges 5:31. What did Deborah ask of the Lord for those that loved Him?

a. How many years did it last (when the land had rest)?

b. Deborah was strength and light for her people, and led them to be the same. How does this description inspire you for your life and, through you, for the lives of those around you?

## Day Six - Review and Application

1. Deborah was the only woman Judge of Israel. Why did God use a woman leader at this time? See Judges 4:8 for a hint.

a. Give some examples of her obedience to God in leading Israel.

b. How does this inspire you to answer God's call on your life to serve Him in whatever way He chooses, great or small?

2. In what ways was Deborah "a mother in Israel"? See Judges 4:4-5,9, 14

a. In what ways is the Lord showing you to be a "mother" in ministry?

3. Although Deborah was the leader of Israel, she did not "let it go to her head." Read Judges 4:6- 9 & 14, and 5:12. How do you see her humbleness and submission to God's will in these verses?

4. Read Ecclesiastes 8:5. What did Deborah do that shows she had this kind of wisdom?

5. List any practical principles you learned from this story. How are you going to apply them to your life?

*But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. - Isaiah 40:31*