

Strong Like My Mother

JUDGES 4-5

- “To those who overcome and follow Me wholeheartedly I will give them the power and vision to serve, the strength to stand and fight even in this dark hour...”

Judges 4:6-8

6 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; **7** 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?’” **8** 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!”

God Wanted Barak to Trust in Him, not in Deborah

- Psalm 118:8-9 - ***8 It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man. 9 It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes.***

Judges 5:15-17

- **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.**
- ***there was great indecision** – Many did not join the fight

- **Disobedience is not just ignoring God's Laws but ignoring any of the Holy Spirit's commands.**
- **Fear and comfort are the great foes of work and victory.**

- **Amos 6:1 - Woe (judgment is coming) to those who are at ease and carefree in Zion (Judah) and to those on the mountain of Samaria who feel secure, the distinguished men of the foremost of nations, to whom the house of Israel comes. (AMP)**

- Psalm 78:9-11 - **9 The children of Ephraim, *being* armed *and* carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle.**
10 They did not keep the covenant of God; They refused to walk in His law,
11 and forgot His works and His wonders that He had shown them.

- **Isaiah 51:12-16** - “I, yes, I, am the one who comforts you. So why are you afraid of mere humans, who wither like the grass and disappear? ¹³ Yet you have forgotten the Lord, your Creator, the one who stretched out the sky like a canopy and laid the foundations of the earth. Will you remain in constant dread of human oppressors? Will you continue to fear the anger of your enemies? Where is their fury and anger now? It is gone! ¹⁴ Soon all you captives will be released! Imprisonment, starvation, and death will not be your fate! ¹⁵ For I am he Lord your God, who stirs up the sea, causing its waves to roar. My name is the Lord of Heaven’s Armies. ¹⁶ And I have put my words in your mouth and hidden you safely in my hand. I stretched out the sky like a canopy and laid the foundations of the earth. I am the one who says to Israel, ‘You are my people!’” (NLT)

Judges 5:13, 19-22 (NLT)

- 13 “Down from Tabor marched the few against the nobles. The people of the LORD marched down against mighty warriors.
- 19 “The kings of Canaan came and fought, at Taanach near Megiddo’s springs, but they carried off no silver treasures. 20 The stars fought from heaven. The stars in their orbits fought against Sisera. 21 The Kishon River swept them away—that ancient torrent, the Kishon. March on with courage, my soul!

- Barak was over-matched and so are you.
- Daniel's angelic messenger found himself at a stalemate with the Prince of Persia until Michael came – Daniel 10

- 1 John 4:1-4 - Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. ² By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, ³ and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the *spirit* of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world. ⁴ You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

- **Judges 4:14** - ¹⁴ Then Deborah said to Barak, “Get ready! This is the day the Lord will give you victory over Sisera, for the Lord is marching ahead of you.” So, Barak led his 10,000 warriors down the slopes of Mount Tabor into battle.
- **Psalm 27:3** - Though a mighty army surrounds me, my heart will not be afraid. Even if I am attacked, I will remain confident. (NLT)

- **Judges 4:21 - But when Sisera fell asleep from exhaustion, Jael quietly crept up to him with a hammer and tent peg in her hand. Then she drove the tent peg through his temple and into the ground, and so he died. (NLT)**
- **God uses the most unlikely people to do the greatest things for His glory.**

Judges 5:6-7, 24

- 6 “In the days of Shamgar son of Anath, and in the days of Jael, people avoided the main roads, and travelers stayed on winding pathways. 7 There were few people left in the villages of Israel—until Deborah arose as a mother for Israel.
- 24 “Most blessed among women is Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite; Blessed is she among women in tents.

- **Philippians 1:27-28** - ²⁷Above all, you must live as citizens of heaven, conducting yourselves in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ. Then, whether I come and see you again or only hear about you, I will know that you are standing together with one spirit and one purpose, fighting together for the faith, which is the Good News. ²⁸Don't be intimidated in any way by your enemies. This will be a sign to them that they are going to be destroyed, but that you are going to be saved, even by God himself. (NLT)

Exodus 32:25-27 - 25 Now when Moses saw that the people were unrestrained (for Aaron had not restrained them, to *their* shame among their enemies), 26 then Moses stood in the entrance of the camp, and said, “Whoever is on the LORD’s side—come to me!” And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together to him. 27 And he said to them, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel: ‘Let every man put his sword on his side, and go in and out from entrance to entrance throughout the camp, and let every man kill his brother, every man his companion, and every man his neighbor.’ ”