January 22 Judges 4

٩.

Gideon and Angel, c. 1651 by Constantijn van Renesse

ervants

ASHER

Mith

ZEBULU

Acco Cabul

Medido

EPHRAIM

"Estitate

shemes

Mateshah

JDAH

Kahnewith

EON

see

Taamach .

WEST

MANASSEH

eartm elerusalem

Hebron

Juttah

. Arad

Estitemoa

. Hormah

Baslan

Filmlad

FBC Woodville

Sunday School Class Michael G. Maness

PreciousHeart.net/SS

BENJAMIN

En-gedi

NAPHTALI

ISSACHAR

En gannim

EAST

MANASSEH

AMMON

besh gilrad

GAD

· Medeba

Kedemoth

REUBEN

Olben

MOAB

Kirdinsett

Samson and Delilah, c. 1609 by Peter Paul Rubens

Deborah and Barak, c. 1690, Luca Giordano

Conquest and Challenges of Israel's Settlement

1.	Dec 4	Commissioned	Joshua 1	Lord Calls Joshua
2.	Dec 11	Conquest	Joshua 6	Jericho Walls Down
3.	Dec 18	Savior Announced	Luke 1	Angel Gabriel to Mary
4.	Dec 25	Merry Ch	ristmas .	
5.	Jan 1	Settled	Joshua 22	Heart, Honor, Home
6.	Jan 15	Value All Prov.	24 & Mark 10	Sanctity of Life Sunday
۲.	Jan 22	Rebellion's Cycle	Judges 2	Return to God to Live
×	Jan 29	Willing Servants	Judges 4	Deborah Lifts Barak
9.	Feb 5	Timid Warrior	Judges 6	Angel Charges Gideon
10.	Feb 12	Compromised Poter	ntial Judges	5 16 Samson & Delilah
11.	Feb 19	Faith Through Trials	s Ruth 1	Ruth Helps Naomi
12.	Feb 13	Redeemed & Secure	e Ruth 3-4	Noble Ruth Wins



Lesson Author's Theme

God restores His people to freedom using faithful and willing servants

Judges

- 3:7-11 Othniel vs. Cushan THEN 40 Years of Peace until Othniel Died
- 3:12-31 Ehud vs. Eglon THEN 80 Years of Peace until Ehud Died
- 4:1-7 An Update Requested Debra Summons Barak
- 4:8-10 A Deal Struck I will go ... IF you go 🙂
- 4:12-14 The Orders Issued Deborah Orders Charge
- 4:15-16 Barak Devastates Sisera
- 4:17-24 Sisera's Assassination by Jael
- 5:1-31 Deborah's Song



Alternate Title ... the First Friend in Need Is a Friend Indeed



Alternate Title ... the Second Courageous Women Rock!

Deborah and Barak, c. 1690, Luca Giordano

and her Hammer!

Jael and Sisera, c. 1739, by Jacopo Amigoni

Recall 1 Sam. 24-25 8-14-16

Wise Women Rock

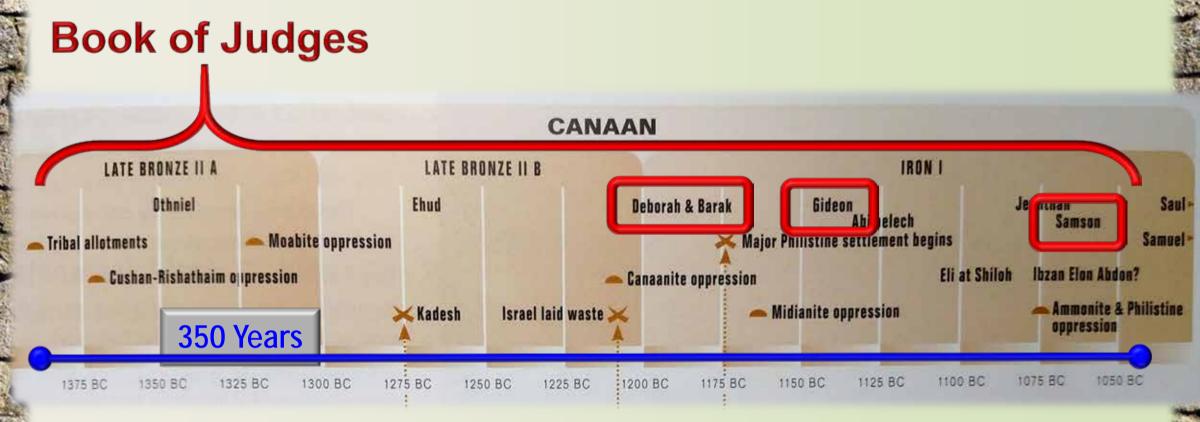
David Saw Abigail's Self-Sacrifice context of David sparing Saul's Life then sparing the Toad Nabal's Life

PDF Version — includes active links, no dynamics

PowerPoint Show — PowerPoint Show includes all dynamic elements, longer download

> *David and Abigail* by Antonio Molinari (1655-1704





Deborah & Barak ... an Odd Couple with Twin Values
 Roughly 200 years from Joshua & Jericho to Deborah
 Moabite King Jabin of Canaan now oppressing ...
 Homemaker Jael gives General Sisera a Hammering

Jabin – "Discerner"?

Two King Jabins

- 1. King Jabin of Hazor ...
- Joshua 11, he led a coalition against Joshua
- Israel saw iron chariots for the 1st time
- ✓ Israel destroys Hazor
- 2. King Jabin of Canaan ...
 - ✓ Judges 5, oppresses 20 yrs
 - ✓ King of Canaan ... far reach
 - Israel battles Jabin's
 General Sisera in Jezreel Valley

King Jabin of Hazor

Letter:

o lbr

Jabin

www.bible.ca

Cuneiform from Hazor confirms Jabin was a dynastic name used for 500 years. Archeology now has 3 references to Jabin.

> Bronze Jabin Hazor Exhibit Israel Museum

Deborah & Barak

- 3:7-11 Othniel vs. Cushan-Rishathaim King of Aram
- Israel did evil >> Oppression comes
- Israel cried out >> Othniel comes
- 40 Years Peace until Othniel Died

3:12-30 Ehud vs. King Eglon
> Israel did evil >> Oppression comes
> Israel cried out >> Ehud comes
> 80 Years Peace until Ehud Died
Through deception, southpaw Ehud gained a private meeting ...



Stabbed OBESE King Eglon ... buried sword into his belly ... fat closed.

Preface to Deborah & Barak

3:31 BRIEF note on Shamgar who kills 600 Philistines

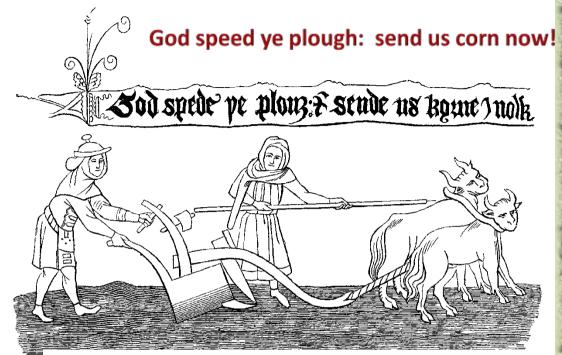
uses ox goad ... killed 600

Ox goad often had a point ... at times a hook

NOT a Spear, but perhaps pointed

In Martial Arts, there are experts with the "staff," a straight pole like a mop or rake handle about 6' long





Miniature from an early-16th-century manuscript held at the British Museum. The ploughman on the right appears to carry a goad. The ox on his left appears to react to it. Note the spike or prod at the end of this goad.

Elephant goad of India

Preface to Deborah & Barak

4:1, Israel did evil *AGAIN* >> Oppression

4:2-3,

"Lord SOLD them into the hands of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor....

Sisera ... had 900 chariots fitted with iron and had cruelly oppressed the Israelites for TWENTY YEARS!!!

Israel cried to the LORD for help



Assyrian Chariot Wall Carving

4:1-7 An Update Requested – Deboral

⁴ Deborah, a woman who was a prophet and the wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel at that time.
Deborah – means Bee
"Bee" can mean *industrious*Matthew Henry said her name suggests the work of the Bee:

- ✓ Industrious
- ✓ Sharp Perception, Discernment
- ✓ Great Usefulness
- ✓ Sweetness to her Friends
- ✓ Sharpness to her Enemies

4:1-7 An Update Requested – Deboral

⁴ Deborah, a woman who was a prophet and the wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel at that time.

Deborah – the Bee ...

Lappidoth – means "Torches"

For some, "Torches" is part of Deborah's name

Meaning woman of "fiery spirit" or of a "torch-like spirit"

Larger consensus is that she was the wife of the man Lappidoth ... She held a NORMAL place in Israel Then God LIFTED her to JUDGE



4:1-7 An Update Requested – Deborah Summons Barak

Word "prophetess" suggests that she received direct revelation from the Lord and shared that word with His people

Other Women Prophets include:

- ✓ Miriam, Ex. 15:20, Moses' sister
- Huldah, 2 Kings 22:14, kept wardrobe
- Anna, Luke 2:36, prophesy about Jesus
- Philip's Four daughters, Acts 21:9
- Some include Sarah, Abigail & Esther



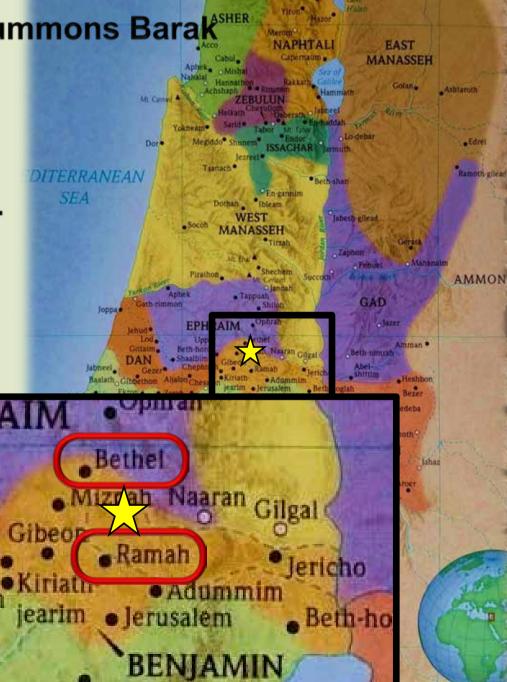
4:1-7 An Update Requested – Deborah Summons Barak

⁵ It was her custom to sit under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites went up to her for judgment.

Unlike today ... all the more outstanding, she was NOT *elected* or *appointed* God RAISED her up ...

Her CHARACTER and INTEGRITY led to a CONFIDENCE the people had in her

God BLESSED ... experts note that the Hebrew language goes to great lengths to emphasize her *WOMANHOOD* No mistaking ... **Deborah Rocked**



4:1-7 An Update Requested – Deboral

⁵ It was her CUSTOM to sit under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites went up to her for judgment.

Trees held a prominent place ... some make a big deal about it ...

Trees provide shade ...

Better shade than under the hot sun Lived *BETWEEN* Ramah and Bethel That means ... she was a **Country Girl**



4:1-7 An Update Requested – Deboral Kind of reminds me of an old 1968 country song by Dottie West I Was Born a Country Girl Dottie was born in 1932 Tennessee FIRST of 10 children ... to William & Pelina Marsh Family was poor ... father—an alcoholic, beat & abused Dottie for years At 17, she told sheriff ... father got 40 yrs Mother started a restaurant ... Dottie helped Mother & 10 kids move to McMinnville, TN Dottie music scholarship to TN Tech. Univ.



4:1-7 An Update Requested – Deboral Country song by Dottie West, 1968 I Was Born a Country Girl I was born a country girl; I will die a country girl My world is made of blue skies and sunshine ... Green fields & butterflies I'm so glad I'm a country girl Birds sing good morning to a country girl And I sleep to the sounds of whip-o-wills My day is made with puppies and kittens meadows and daisies I'm so glad I'm a country girl



4:1-7 An Update Requested – Deboral Running over hills ... playing in the woods ... free breezes blowing Honey bees are swarming, black birds are flying, wonder where they're going Picking stick-me-tights off my gingham dress ... darkness is falling Firewood to carry ... eggs to gather and supper's ready ... mamma's calling I was born a country girl and I will die a country girl My world is made of blue skies and sunshine Green fields and butterflies ... I'm so GLAD I'm a country girl

- 4:1-7 An Update Requested Deboral Yes, Country ... and notice, she was
- ✓ NOT in one of the places of worship
- ✓ DID establish a tradition of her own

It was her CUSTOM to be: AVAILABLE

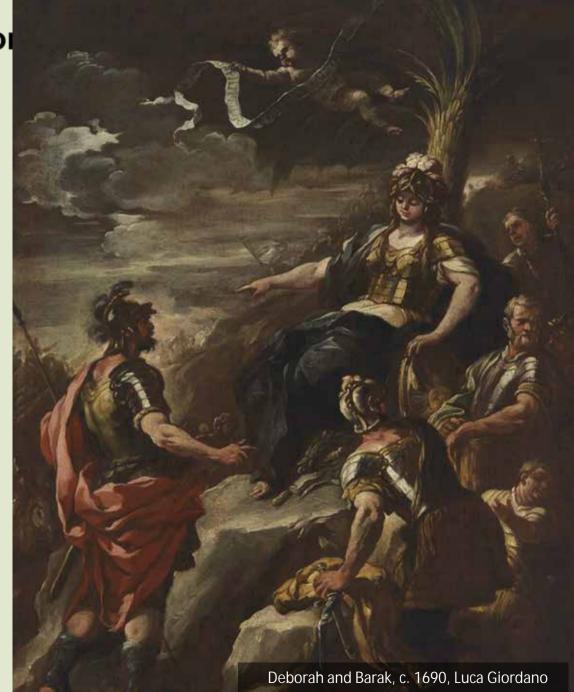
Not all are called to Minister or Lead

But if you are, one GREAT leadership skill to acquire and refine is to

Be Available



4:1-7 An Update Requested – Debor **GREATEST LEADERS** ... Meet People ... Love People ... Great Families ... usually have **Traditions** Christmas ... Thanksgiving ... etc A Prophet ... dispensed WISDOM A Prophet ... Spoke for God ... While some showed fear from time to time, like Isaiah with Jezebel ... Prophets were always Courageous Yet, most importantly, they were : AVAILABLE



4:1-7 An Update Requested – Deborah Summons Barak I know a pastor in Tyler County Been pastoring for 50+ years No matter where you meet him No matter what HE is doing No matter how FRAZZLED Nonissianouse or in a rush I, myself, may be Reall-earn At his church, a café, or Walmart or Brookshire's He will stop and chat ... Like most of us do ...

4:1-7 An Update Requested – Deborah Summons Barak Only ... he has the GIFT ... When he stops ... No matter where ... He **NEVER** appears in a hurry He **ALWAYS** appears to be Nonitalitionings genuinely GLAD to see you Reall-earn He **ALWAYS** appears to be AVAILABLE As if YOU are the most important at least for that moment!

4:1-7 An Update Requested – Deborah Summons Barak

⁶ She summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali [about 80 miles north]

They of Har-Meggido

Said to him, "Hasn't the Lord, the God of Israel, Difference on SEA Commanded you: 'Go, deploy the troops on Mount Tabor, and take with you 10,000 men from the Naphtalites and Zebulunites?



EAST

Golani

abesb-gilead

MANASSEH

Ashtaroth

.Edre

AMMON

Mt. Tabor, eastern edge of Valley of Jezreel, or Har-Meggido

Jezreel Valley or Valley of Har-Meggido

If you look close ... at Mt. Tabor I think you can see a church Back then ... EVERYONE knew where Mt. Tabor was Lot of "Country Folk"

Mt. Tabor by Catherine Tobin, 1855

1912 Mt. Tabor, viewed from Mt. Carmel in northwest corner of eastern edge of Valley of Jezreel, or Har-Meggido

- By the 12th century,
 Mt. Tabor was believed to be the Mount of Transfiguration
- Top is almost 1900 feet above the Jezreel Valley, or Valley of Har-Meggido
- During 2nd Temple 516 B.C. A.D. 70 a light beacon on top notified northern tribes of feast days and new months
- ✓ You can drive to the top …
- ✓ There's a Church on top ... was not back then ☺



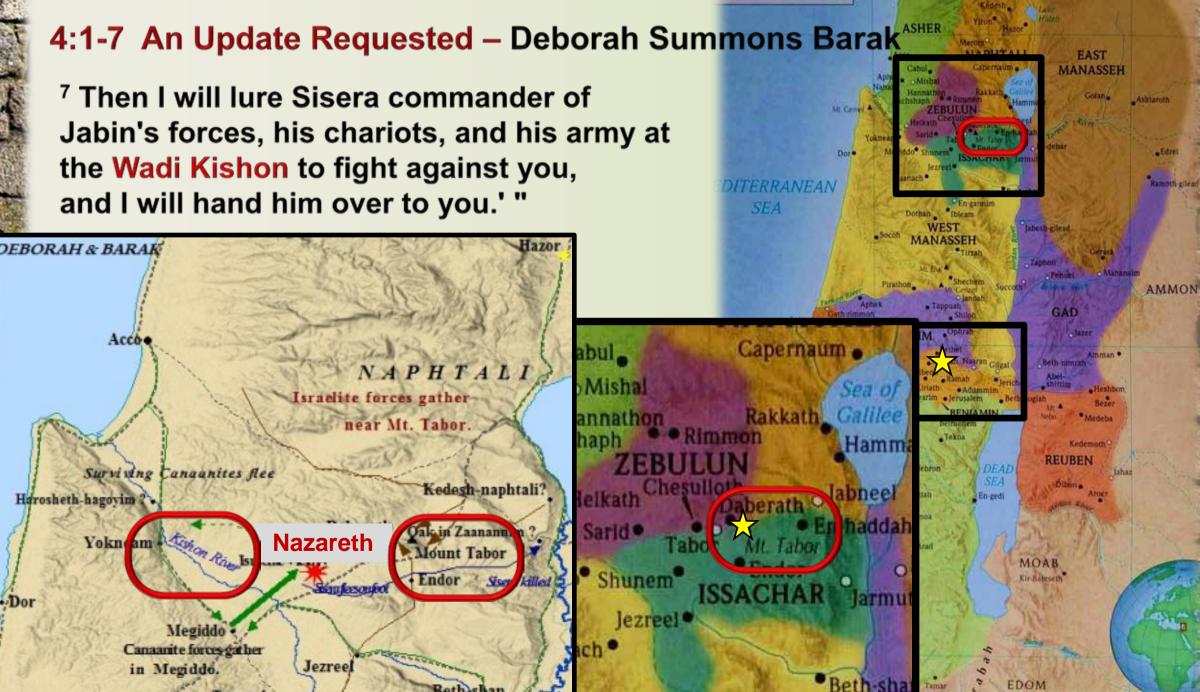
Nazareth about 7 miles from Mt. Tabor do west over this hill ...

Eastern edge of Valley of Jezreel, or Valley of Har-Meggido

Roman Catholic

Eastern Orthodox

Mt. Tabor summit with Church of Transfiguration divided into Eastern Orthodox (northeast) and Roman Catholic



⁸ Barak said to her, "If you will go with me, I will go. But if you will not go with me, I will not go."

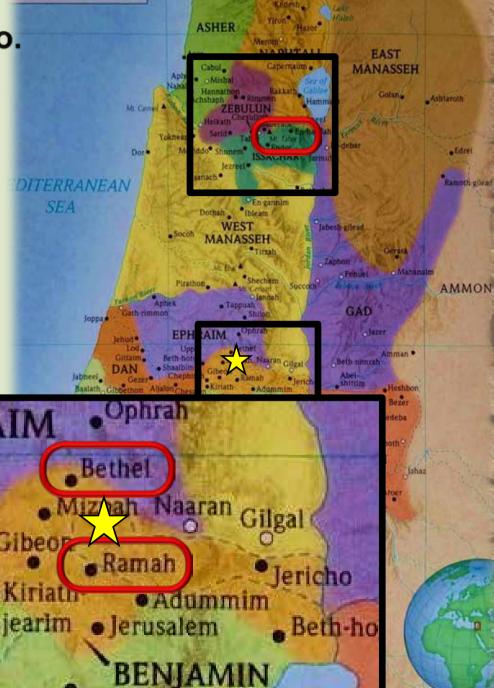
What happens here?

Barak, clearly a warrior ... yet, he also KNOWS that Sisera is MIGHTY ...

FEAR is a REAL issue ...

REALITY is what the WISE confront Barak ... would not go WITHOUT GOD This ALSO says a world of good about Deborah ... a WOLRD OF GOOD

If you will go with me, I will go.



⁸ Barak said to her, "If you will go with me, I will go. But if you will not go with me, I will not go."

Of ALL the people in Israel ... even 80 miles NORTH

Deborah's wisdom—known far away

- Barak, on his own, w/out God, facing the 20-year Mighty Menace
- Facing Sisera was a **Death Sentence**
- The ONLY one Barak knew who Spoke for God was Deborah ...

Then God reveals to Deborah ...

The FUTURE





Want to know the Mark of ... or the **Traits of Good Prophet?** SEEN in Deborah ... a Good Prophet 1. Is AVAILABLE to you 2. Knows & loves God 3. Gives solid, reliable COUNSEL 4. Is willing to go WITH you **5.** Is able to tell the FUTURE Deborah—people came FAR to her When she saw Israel in need, God guided her to Barak ... then God guided them to WAR



Virginia Haynes, in her notes, said:

The Book of Judges is a gritty, dirty book.... filled with sin, violence and the judgment of God. It is an action book that probably appeals more to men than it does to women.

A modern counterpart would be the action and war movies that men find far more appealing than the romantic comedies preferred by the ladies....

Book of Judges is a book that actually elevates the position of women in Israelite society



Then God reveals to Deborah ... The FUTURE

⁹ "I will go with you," she said, "but you will receive no honor on the road you are about to take, because the Lord will SELL Sisera into a WOMAN'S HAND."

We have no indication that Barak DOES or DOES NOT grasp this ...

It is possible that Barak does not care, as long as he & Israel LIVE

In that era, it was EXCEEDINGLY shameful to be BESTED by a Woman!



Then God reveals to Deborah ... The FUTURE ... into a WOMAN'S HAND." NOT ONLY THE FUTURE Deborah KNOWS about Jael 80 miles to the NORTH **Deborah INFLUENCE was far & wide** Moreover, so was Jael's reputation In a day with NO cell phones, TV, or CNN and MNBC ... that is **EXTRAORDINARY!**



Last in this chapter, we see another woman named Jael She *KILLS* General Sisera with a hammer & spike!





4:8-10 A Deal Struck – I will go ... IF you go.

⁹ So Deborah got up and went WITH Barak to Kedesh.

¹⁰ Barak summoned Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh; 10,000 men followed him, and Deborah also went with him.

I suppose they went around Lake Huleh to AVOID Hazor and King Jabin Rugged territory ... Ramah to Kadesh 80 Miles as the bird flies ... Maybe 150 miles on foot or donkey



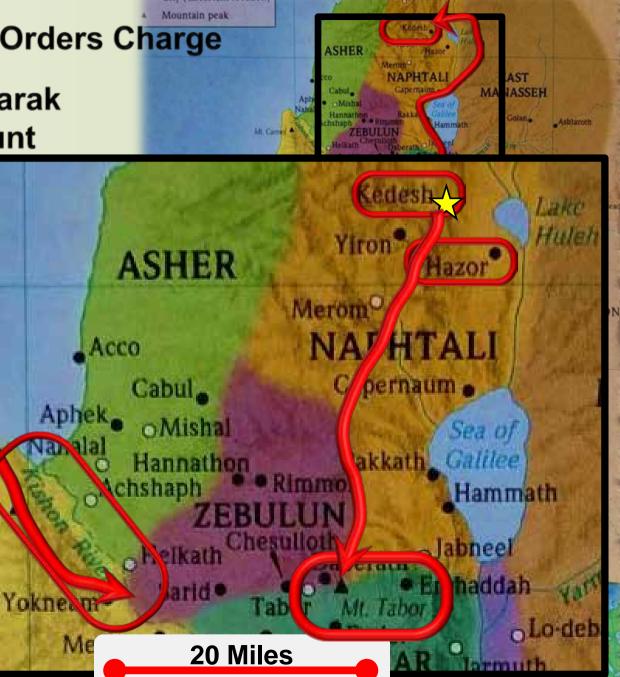
¹² It was reported to Sisera that Barak son of Abinoam had gone up Mount Tabor.

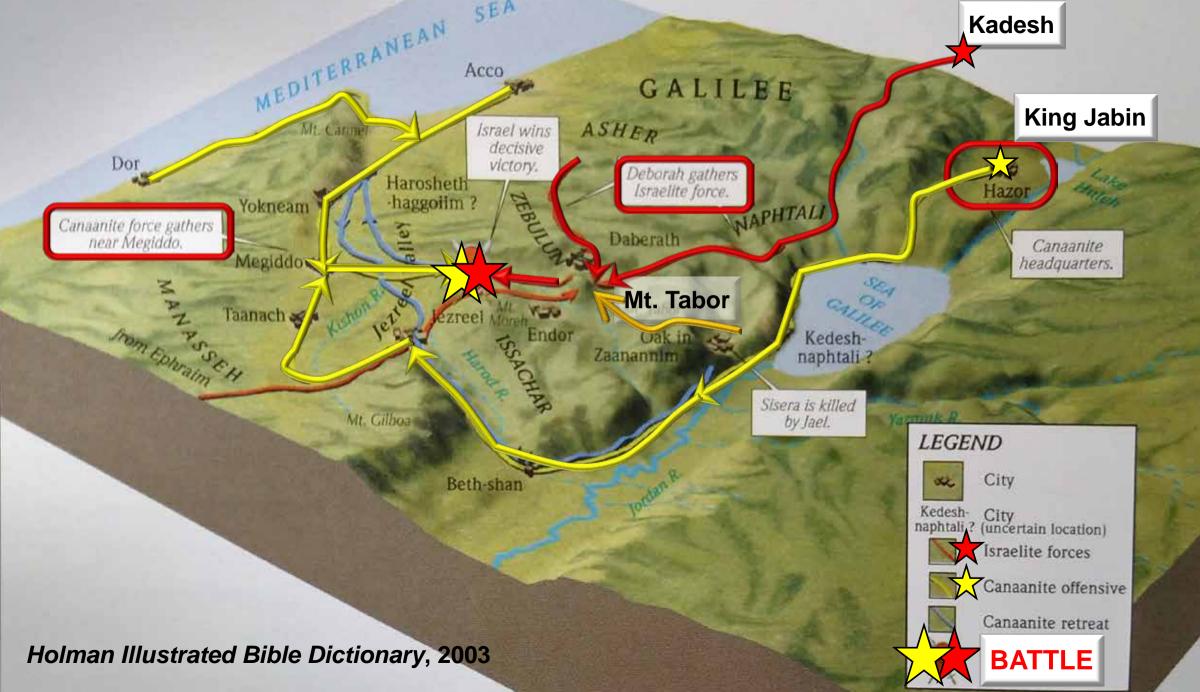
¹³ Sisera summoned all his 900 iron chariots and all the people who were with him from Harosheth of the Nations to the Wadi Kishon.

Or the Kishon River ...

"Wadi" is a river when it rains, but dry in dry seasons

Let's look closer ...





In verse 14, Deborah gives Barak the orders No question who is leading this army Barak appears to be the

Four Star General ...

"Though I may walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for I am the meanest ####### in the valley"

– Gen. George S. Patton

Deborah ... Commander in Chief

Deborah & Barak, by Luca Giordano (1634-1705)

Orders ... followed ...

Fear ... most powerful to those ALONE
If you will go with me, I will go.
The POWER of a Friend ...
The POWER of a Family ...
The POWER of a GOD ...
through Family and Friends ...

Ohh ... we are NOT meant to be

ALONE

If you will go with me, **I will go.**



Deborah & Barak, by Luca Giordano (1634-1705)

I will go.

We were never meant to be

ALONE

Most of all ... we don't want to go through **DANGER** alone ... be that

- ✓ Struggle ... Conflict
- ✓ Loss ... Divorce
- ✓ Surgery ... Sickness
- ✓ Terminal Illness
- ✓ War … Battle … esp. Death

If you will go with me,



Deborah & Barak, by Luca Giordano (1634-1705)

¹⁴ Then Deborah said to Barak, "Move on, for this is the day the Lord has handed Sisera over to you. Hasn't the Lord gone before you?"

So Barak came down from Mount Tabor with 10,000 men following him.

This is a FIGHT ...

A battle ... hand to hand

The Defeat of Sisera - c. 1692 Giordano (1634-1705)

4:15-16 Barak Devastates Sisera

¹⁵ At Barak's advance, the LORD routed Sisera and all his chariots and army by the sword, and Sisera got down from his chariot and fled on foot.

¹⁶ Barak pursued the chariots and army as far as Harosheth Haggoyim, and all Sisera's troops fell by the sword; not a man was left.

Harosheth Haggoyim: "Smithy of Nations"

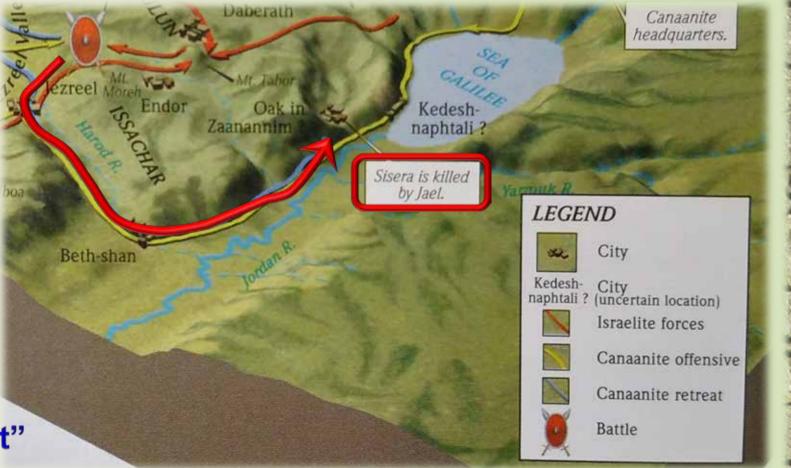
The Defeat of Sisera - c. 1692 Giordano (1634-1705)

4:17-24 Sisera's Assassination by Jael

¹⁷ Sisera, meanwhile, fled on foot to the tent of Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite, because there was an alliance between Jabin king of Hazor and ... Kenites.

Sisera is thirsty

Jael means "Mountain Goat"



Jael gave him a skin of milk and a BLANKEY Sleep well ... sweet dreams ... you nasty bully ...

4:17-24 Sisera's Assassination

²¹ But Jael, Heber's wife, picked up a tent peg and a hammer and went quietly to him while he lay fast asleep, exhausted.

She drove the peg through his temple into the ground, and he died.

Did you get that?

Through the head into the GROUND

Jael "Mountain Goat" then shows Barak the body of Sisera



Jael and Sisera, c. 1739, by Jacopo Amigoni (1682–1752) Museo del Settecento Veneziano, Ca' Rezzonico, Venice

4:17-24 Sisera's Assassination

The Bible gives us a vast variety of people ...

In Judges 4, we have two Mighty Women that appear FEARLESS

Without a second thought, WOMEN take up leadership

- Deborah for Barak & Israel
- ✓ Jael for Barak & Israel
- **Clear initiative & leadership**
- 4:24 Israel pressed harder & harder, destroying Jabin



Jael and Sisera, c. 1739, by Jacopo Amigoni (1682–1752) Museo del Settecento Veneziano, Ca' Rezzonico, Venice

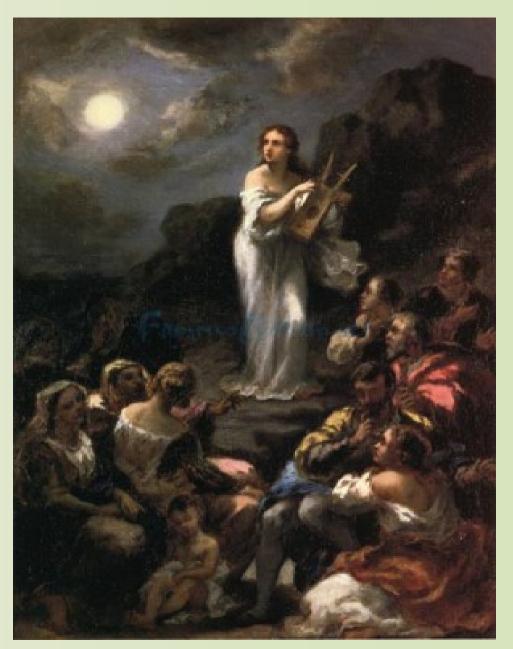
5:1-31 Deborah's Song

Just a clip ... she sings ...

⁷ Villagers in Israel would not fight; they held back until I, Deborah, arose, until I arose, a Mother in Israel.

⁸ God chose new leaders when war came to the city gates, not a ... spear was seen among 40,000 in Israel.

⁹ My heart is with Israel's princes, with the willing volunteers among the people. Praise the LORD!



Song-of-Deborah-artist-Narcisse-Diaz-de-la-Pena-1807-76

5:1-31 Deborah's Song

³¹ "So may all your enemies perish, LORD! But may all who love you be like the sun when it rises in its strength."

Then the land had peace 40 years. Peace at last ... for 40 years. Tale of Two Mighty Women

Who were **AVAILABLE**

At the right place ... right time ...

Statue of Debrah at the at Monument Joseph Sec (1715-94) Aix en Provence, France



Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, Act 4, sc. 3 Brutus & Cassius discuss the Civil War between Octavian & Mark Antony That Octavian would eventually win at the Battle of Actium in 31 B.C. ... Shakespeare's Brutus said:

There is a tide in the affairs of men. Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; Omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in shallows and in miseries.

On such a full sea are we now afloat, And we must take the current when it serves, Or lose our ventures.

Let me rephrase that ...

There is a tide in the affairs of MEN. Which, taken at the flood, is better left to WOMEN to take the lead ...

There is, indeed, a time to be **AVAILABLE**

That, if missed, NEVER comes again ... There are opportunities to HELP or AID That ... if passed ... never return The tide leaves ... never to return



Deborah and Barak, c. 1690, Luca Giordano

Ah ... reminds me another woman ...

She has the distinction of being the ONLY person, man or woman, in history to hold

Supreme Command of a nation's military at the age of 17

Biography by a childhood friend Louis de Conte

Translator said HER story was the ONLY one that came under oath from the witness stand

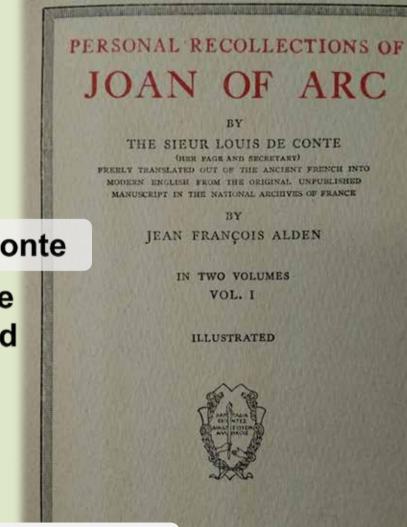
Great Trial of 1431, still in French archives

You know her as Joan of Arc

Hero of France during Hundred Years War

English BURNED her at the stake in 1431, 19 years old

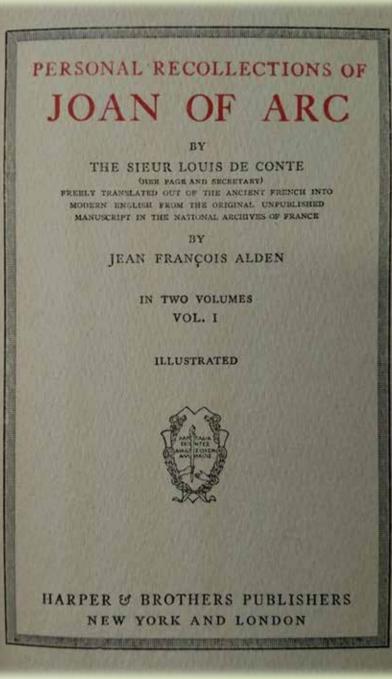
1456—Pope declared her innocent & a martyr



PUBLISHERS

YORK AND LONDON

The translator waxes poetic **Translator Jean Francois Alden opened:** When we reflect that her century was the brutalist, the wickedest, the rottenest in history since the darkest ages, we are lost in wonder at the miracle of such a product from such a soil. The contrast between her and her century is the contrast between day and night. She was truthful when lying was the common speech of men; She was honest when honesty was become a lost virtue;



She was a keeper of promises when the keeping of a promise was expected of no one;

She gave her great mind to great thoughts ... when other great minds wasted themselves ... upon poor ambitions;

She was modest, and fine, and delicate when to be loud and coarse might be said to be universal;

She was full of pity when a merciless cruelty was the rule;

She was steadfast when stability was unknown;



And honorable in an age which had forgotten what honor was;

She was a rock of convictions in a time when men believed in nothing and scoffed at all things;

She was unfailingly true in an age that was false to the core;

She maintained her personal dignity unimparied in an age of fawnings....

She was of a dauntless courage when hope and courage had perished in the hearts of her nation....

She was all these things in an age when crime was the common business of lords and princes....



Joan of Ark in A.D. 1400 ... aided France Two WOMEN came to the AID of Israel in circa 1200 B.C.

One, we know only a droplet about the "Mountain Goat" Jael and her HAMMER

The other, Deborah, gave COURAGE to General Barak who saved Israel

I doubtless say ...

To be as AVAILABLE as they were ... to God and Family ... is a noble, worthy aspiration

WOMEN—whose repute survived the ages WOMEN— AVAILABLE to the Will of God



Joan at the Coronation of Charles VII by Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres, 1854

> Jael and Sisera, c. 1739 by Jacopo Amigoni (1682–1752) Museo del Settecento Veneziano,

Deborah and Barak, c. 1690, Luca Giordano

Like those women may we Be Available to God & Family in

View from Mt. Nebo

FBC Woodville Sunday School Class Michael G. Maness



see PreciousHeart.net/SS