

THE SONG OF DEBORAH AND BARAK

Judges 4 - 5

The most outstanding literature of the era of the Judges was written in connection with the work of two who lived near the beginning of this era. Read below about their work, and the literature which grew out of it:

A. The Rise of Deborah and Barak: Read Judges 4:1-9

1. What had the people of Israel done at this time? Judges 4:1

2. What did the Lord do to them as a result? Judges 4:2

3. What did they do after this? Judges 4:3a

4. Who was the judge of Israel at this time? Judges 4:4

5. Whom did she say God had called to lead the forces of Israel against the enemy? Judges 4:6

6. What had God promised would be the outcome of this battle? Judges 4:7

1. On what condition did this man agree to lead Israel into battle? Judges 4:8

8. What did Deborah then tell him? Judges 4:9

B. The Battle With Sisera: Read Judges 4:10-24

1. Where did the two opposing armies pitch camps? Israel, Judges 4:12, Sisera, Judges 4:13. (Locate these places on the map, page 25)

2. Who began the battle and why? Judges 4:14

3. Who was winning the battle and why? Judges 4:15

4. What was the result of the battle? Judges 4:16b

5. Who alone escaped? Judges 4:17a

6. To whose tent did he go? Judges 4:17, 11

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7. What did she do for him? Judges 4:19b

8. After this, what did she do? Judges 4:21

C. The Song of Deborah and Barak: Read Judges 5:1-31

1. Who received the glory for this victory? Judges 5:2-3

2. What had been the people's part in winning this victory? Judges 5:2b, 9

1. What had been the conditions in Israel before Deborah became judge? Judges 5:6-8

2. Notice the account of what happened as the men were called to battle. Judges 5:20-21

5. Notice the account of Jael's part in the victory: Judges 5:24-27. What new detail is recorded here? Judges 5:25b

6. Notice how the singers pictured in their minds the mother of Sisera and how she would feel about his not returning from battle: Judges 5:28-30

2. What was their prayer as they concluded this song? Judges 5:32

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. With the leaders and equipment that Israel had, could she ever have hoped to win this battle herself? See Judges 4:4, 8, 5:8

2. What must I have if I am to gain the victory in the battle as of my life? See Judges 5:14, 15a, 23; II Corinthians 2:14.
