

Date: February 23, 2025

Series: Judges: Mankind Exposed

Title: The Providence, Power, and Poetry of Deliverance



INTRODUCTION

Cast of Characters:

- (1) JABIN: The King of Canaan... a bad guy!
- (2) SISERA: The Captain/General over Jabin's army... also a bad guy!
- (3) DEBORAH: A Prophetess, A Woman of Faith & Courage, like a Mother in Israel!
- (4) BARAK: Called to Lead the Armies of Israel; A Man of (hesitant) Faith.
- (5) HEBER: A Kenite; Kenites were Neutral (like Switzerland, at peace with everyone).
- (6) JAEL: Heber's Wife; Good? Bad? Let's let the text decide!
- (7) YAHWEH: The True King; Glorious & Sovereign Over ALL Things (War & Weather)!

I. THE PROVIDENCE, POWER, AND POETRY OF DELIVERANCE

A. Danger, Distress, Disobedience, Disaster (Judges 4:1-3 and 5:6-11)

Note: God desires wholeness, integrity, inward renewal, comprehensive love for Him!

(Proverbs 26:11; Micah 6:8; 1 Timothy 1:5)

B. The Wise Woman and The Hesitant Hero (Judges 5:7 and 4:4-9)

Note: It's not ultimately the presence of Deborah (or any godly person)
but the presence of God that is essential!

(1 Thessalonians 4:3-4; Hebrews 11:32; 2 Timothy 4:16-17)

C. The Tribes of Israel: Some Strong and Some Spineless (Judges 4:10 and 5:12-18)

Note: It's sad (a tragedy!) whenever love and mutual care/concern is lacking.

(1 Corinthians 12:26)

D. God Delivers His People and Destroys His Enemies (Judges 4:11-24 and 5:19-31)

Note: When the time came, Jael chose to “side” with God and His people, and she is blessed because of it! Sisera and Jabin, on the other hand, show the horrible destruction and the utter futility that comes from opposing God.

E. God: Worthy of Worship (Judges 5:1-5)

Note: This book wasn't written for the dead but for the living, to inspire faith, love, and worship.

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. What is so unique about Judges chapter 5? Why is this song included in Scripture?
2. According to Judges 4:1, Israel ran back to sin/idolatry once Ehud died. Why did they do that?
3. What good/godly character qualities do you see in Deborah and Barak? Anything that isn't good?
4. How did the different tribes respond to the call to come and assist in the battle?
5. How do these chapters illustrate the trustworthiness of God and the foolishness of opposing Him?