

**~DEBORAH 2 (147)**  
**(Deb'o-rah) [Bee]**

- A prophetess in Israel, the wife of Lappidoth.
- Now **Deborah**, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel at that particular time. (**Judges 4:4**)
- There is no evidence that Lappidoth and Barak were the same person, as some suggest. The association of **Deborah** and Barak was purely because of their common interest in liberating Israel from Canaanite oppression.
- **Deborah** dwelt under a palm tree located in the mountainous region of Ephraim between Ramah and Bethel, the sons of Israel would go up to her for judgment.
- And she was dwelling under **Deborah's** palm tree between Ramah and Bethel in the mountainous region of Ephraim, and the sons of Israel would go up to her for judgment. (**Judges 4:5**)
- Yehowah used **Deborah** to summon Barak from Kedesh-naphtali and inform him of God's purpose to use 10,000 men in defeating the huge army of Canaanite King Jabin under his army chief Sisera. Barak had Yehowah's promise that He would give the enemy into his hand.
- But in addition, as he gathered the troops and led them to Mount Tabor, he insisted on the presence of **Deborah** as God's representative, even though **Deborah** was a woman.
- **Deborah** proved willing to leave her place of greater security and to join Barak. However, she prophesied that **the beautifying thing** of the victory would **go to a woman**. These words were fulfilled when the **woman Jael put Sisera to death**.
- And she proceeded to send and call Barak the son of Abinoam out of Kedesh-naphtali and to say to him; Has not Yehowah the God of Israel given the command? Go and you must spread yourself out on Mount Tabor, and you must take with you ten thousand men out of the sons of Naphtali and out of the sons of Zebulun. (**Judges 4:6**)

- **And I shall certainly draw to you at the torrent valley of Kishon Sisera the chief of Jabin's army and his war chariots and his crowd, and I shall indeed give him into your hand. (Judges 4:7)**
- **At this Barak said to her; If you will go with me, I also shall certainly go, but if you will not go with me, I shall not go. (Judges 4:8)**
- **To this she said; Without fail I shall go with you. Just the same, the beautifying thing will not become yours on the way that you are going, for it will be into the hand of a woman that Yehowah will sell Sisera. With that Deborah got up and went with Barak to Kedesh. (Judges 4:9)**
- **And Barak began to call Zebulun and Naphtali together to Kedesh, and ten thousand men went on up following his steps, and Deborah went on up with him. (Judges 4:10)**
- **As for Sisera, he fled on foot to the tent of Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite, for there was peace between Jabin the king of Hazor and the household of Heber the Kenite. (Judges 4:17)**
- **Then Jael came on out to meet Sisera and said to him; Turn this way, my lord, turn this way to me. Do not be afraid. So he turned aside to her into the tent. Later she covered him with a blanket. (Judges 4:18)**
- **In time he said to her; Give me, please, a little water to drink, for I am thirsty. Accordingly she opened a skin bottle of milk and gave him a drink, after which she covered him. (Judges 4:19)**
- **And he went on to say to her; Stand at the entrance of the tent, and it must occur that if anybody comes and does ask you and says; Is there a man here? You must then say; No! (Judges 4:20)**
- **And Jael the wife of Heber proceeded to take a pin of the tent and to put the hammer into her hand. Then she went to him stealthily and drove the pin into his temples and beat it into the earth, while he was fast asleep and weary. So he died. (Judges 4:21)**
- **And, look! There was Barak pursuing Sisera. Jael now came on out to meet him and said to him; Come and I shall show you the**

man you are looking for. So in he went to her, and, look! There was Sisera fallen dead, with the pin in his temples. (**Judges 4:22**)

- **Deborah** and Barak joined in singing a song on the day of victory. Part of the song is written in the first person, indicating that **Deborah** was its composer, in part, if not in its entirety.
- The dwellers in open country ceased, in Israel they ceased, until I, **Deborah**, rose up, until I rose up as a mother in Israel. (**Judges 5:7**)
- It was a custom for the women to celebrate victories with song and dance.
- And Miriam the prophetess, Aaron's sister, proceeded to take a tambourine in her hand, and all the women began going out with her with tambourines and in dances. (**Exodus 15:20**)
- And Miriam kept responding to the men; Sing to Yehowah, for he has become highly exalted. The horse and its rider he has pitched into the sea. (**Exodus 15:21**)
- Finally Jephthah came to Mizpah to his home, and, look! His daughter coming out to meet him with tambourine playing and dancing! Now she was absolutely the only child. Besides her he had neither son nor daughter. (**Judges 11:34**)
- And it came about that at their coming in, when David returned from striking the Philistines down, the women began coming out from all the cities of Israel with song and dances to meet Saul the king, with tambourines, with rejoicing and with lutes. (**1 Samuel 18:6**)
- And the women that were celebrating kept responding and saying; Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his tens of thousands. (**1 Samuel 18:7**)
- Yehowah himself gives the saying; the women telling the Good News are a large army. (**Psalms 68:11**)
- The song gives all credit and praise to Yehowah for the victory in behalf of his people. It adds considerably to the narrative that precedes it, and to get a full picture the two must be viewed side by side.

- **After describing Yehowah's might and majesty and recalling the condition of Israel prior to Barak's fight, it commends the tribes who responded to the call and inquires about others who did not. It graphically adds details concerning the battle and the rout of the Canaanites, the courageous act of Jael in killing Sisera, and the disappointment of Sisera's mother, who waited in vain for spoils and slaves of Israel to be brought back after the expected victory of her son Sisera. ([Judges Chapter 5](#))**