

JUDGES: LESSON FOUR

IV. THE JUDGESHIP OF DEBORAH AND BARAK'S DEFEAT OF THE CANAANITES (Chapter 5)

- A. A song of praise to Jehovah (5:1-5)
 - 1. Bless Jehovah – leaders lead and people willingly to follow to war.
 - 2. Praise Jehovah – worthy for all kings to hear.
 - 3. The awesome presence of Jehovah – remembrance in Seir and Sinai.
- B. A song of deliverance from misery (5:6-11).
 - 1. All traffic regulated to the byways in the days of Shamgar – overrun by the Philistines.
 - 2. Deborah arose as a mother to Israel to relieve Israel's misery.
 - 3. Cause of misery: idolatry.
 - 4. A blessing that should be told by nobles and people who walk by the way.
- C. A song of praise for the fighting remnant (5:12-18).
 - 1. Led by an awakened Deborah and an encouraged Barak.
 - 2. People from the tribes of Ephraim, Benjamin, Manasseh (Machir), Issachar and Zebulun all join in the fight.
 - 3. People from tribes of Reuben, Dan, Asher and Gad (people of Gilead) did not join in the fight.
- D. A song of praise for Jehovah fighting against the slaughter-minded kings of Canaan (5:19-23).
 - 1. The inhabitants of Meroz cursed for not helping Jehovah fight against the mighty.
- E. A song of blessing for Jael in killing Sisera (5:24-27)
- F. A song of woe for Sisera's anxious mother (5:28-30)
- G. A song of victory for God's people (5:31)
 - 1. Let Jehovah's enemies perish.
 - 2. Let them that love Jehovah shine forth as the might sun.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. What did the leaders and people do to cause Deborah to bless Jehovah?
- 2. What were the conditions in Israel before Deborah arose?
- 3. Why did some not join in the fight with Deborah and Barak?
- 4. What did the people of the tribe of Zebulun do that was praised?
- 5. What lesson do we learn from the inhabitants of Meroz?
- 6. How would Sisera's mother be answered when she questioned the lateness of Sisera's return home from the war with Israel?