

**I. Israel's Sin and Judgment (vv 1-3).****A. The People Sin — After Ehud died**

- 1) It is easy for prosperity to tempt our hearts to wander (Pr 1:32)
- 2) Our piety needs to be wedded to the eternal authority of the Lord's Word, not the fleeting tide of a man's life.

**B. Their Judgment from the Lord (Jsh 11:10-11)**

- 1) Why are we slow to repentance?
  - a) Practical Atheism:
  - b) Unexamined Conscience:
  - c) Fear:
  - d) Pride:
  - e) Despair:
- 2) Use, Let us be quick to repentance (including the sin of our slowness to repent).
- 3) The echoes of the Exodus in verses 2-3 (Ex 3:9)

**II. The Lord Raises Up Deborah and Barak (vv 4-10).****A. The Lord Uses the Foolishness of a Woman Judge and Prophet**

- 1) Deborah is not a proto-feminist
  - a) She is identified as a woman under authority
  - b) She does not go into combat (Dt 22:5)
  - c) She delights in being a mother of Israel (Jdg 5:7)
- 2) Deborah is an exceptional case (Ex 15:20; 2 Kgs 22:14; Isa 8:3; Lk 2:36; Acts 21:9)
- 3) Deborah is in an extraordinary office
- 4) Deborah is a prophetess
- 5) Deborah is a judge
- 6) Deborah is a mother of Israel (Jdg 5:7)
  - a) For she nurtured Israel with tender affection
  - b) Deborah is a godly example to Christian women.
  - c) Use, Women (and not just men) are called to be faithful to the Lord.

d) Use, Younger Christian women are to follow the godly examples of older Christian women (Titus 2:3-5)

**7) Deborah is figure for the Church:**

- a) In her own name
- b) In her title (Rev 12:17)
- c) In her husband (Jn 8:12)
- d) In her dwelling place (Song of Songs 7:7a, 8)
- 8) Deborah is a sign of God's judgment upon Israel (Isa 3:12)

**B. The Lord Uses the Foolishness of a Fearful Commander**

- 1) The irony of Barak's identity in the narrative (c.f. Jsh 20:7)
- 2) The contrast between Barak and Christ
- 3) Barak has faith, but is weak in his faith
- 4) As a result the glory will go to another (Ex 4:14-16)

**C. Uses from the Text**

- 1) We may have comfort that the Lord brings His repentant people through days of great judgment (Zech 1:3)
- 2) We are to be faithful to the Lord, not fearful of man
- 3) We are neither to think too much of ourselves, nor to think of ourselves too much (1 Cor 1:26-31)
- 4) We may be confident in the Word and will of God.
- 5) We may be comforted by the mercy of God (Heb 11:32-34)

**III. The Lord Gives Victory in Battle (vv 12-16).****A. The Word of God proclaims victory**

- 1) So the Gospel proclaims victory in Jesus Christ (Heb 2:14-17)
- 2) Use, This offer and promise must be laid hold of by faith.
- 3) Use, We are to draw strength from the Word of God (Jer 2:13)

**B. The LORD brings the victory**

- 1) The LORD routed Sisera
- 2) One more echo of Exodus (Ex 14:24-25)
- 3) The monergistic nature of salvation (Rev 7:9-12)

**C. The Principle of Pursuit**

- 1) This is what Christians are to do with their sins (Rom 6:9-14)
- 2) This is what Christ will do to His enemies (Psa 3:7-8)