

STRONG WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

DEBORAH

PART 2

The Woman Judge

READ JUDGES 4:1-10

INTRODUCTION

How did Deborah do it? She was a prophet, a wife, and a leader of Israel. A Biblical version of today's "Wonder Woman!" What was her secret? How did she keep her priorities in line while doing something so bold for God as leading an army into battle?

Deborah prioritized her relationship with God- She was a "prophet", someone who walked so closely with the Lord that she would often have messages from Him for the people. She adjusted her heart to listen for His voice. Deborah was full of biblical wisdom, grace, and justice. She was an instrument of peace and people came to her with their problems and she settled them. All this happened because Deborah made her relationship with God the most important thing in her life.

Deborah was ready to be used by God- There was a problem that developed in her country and the Lord gave her a burden to do something about it. She was sensitive to his prompting and acted on what He was telling her to do. She was able to bring assurance to the commander of the army in such a way that he went into battle when he didn't want to by going with him. Everything about the way she loved and led made her someone God could use.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. From Judges 4:1 and 5:6 we know this story happens after the time of Ehud and at the same time as Shamgar (3:31). According to 4:2-3 what challenging situation does Israel find themselves in now?
2. Deborah looms large in this portion of Scripture as easily one of the most respectable characters in the entire book of Judges. What is her role according to 4:4-7 and 5:6-7?
3. Why do you think Barak wanted Deborah with him? What repercussions did Deborah say this would have for Barak?
4. What steps can you take to make sure you are spending time with Jesus, prioritizing hearing from Him?
5. What's holding you back from being used by God? Is there something He wants you to do for Him?

WRAP UP

Following Deborah's example seems intimidating at first. But with simple steps to make sure we are walking with Jesus, knowing his word and hearing His voice, we will grow in biblical wisdom, grace, love, and justice! We will be instruments of peace for those who know us and come to us with problems. We will also have the opportunity to help bring assurance to those who are in need of it. Ultimately, by prioritizing our relationship with God, we will be ready to be used by Him.