

Women's Bible Study
Judges 4:1-5:31

1. Review:

- a. Othniel-the model- 8 years of oppression-40 years rest
- b. Ehud- left-handed man- 18 years of oppression- 80 years of rest

2. Judges 4- ---*And the people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord----*

A. **The Expected Enemy** – 20 years of oppression

- a. Canaanites- if Israel would have trusted and obeyed God fully in Chapter 1...
- b. Jabin- (devil) The unseen
 - thought to be destroyed by Joshua ch. 11
 - we will always fight evil in this world
- c. Sisera- The tool of evil
 - 900 Iron Chariots

B. The Hero (3)??

a. Barak

- **Positive view** (4:8) Prophetic statement not a statement of fact-----Moses
- Barak shows us that faith is listening to God every stage of life, and in every circumstance.
- Faith is showing courage in the face of humanly overwhelming odds.
- Faith is humble and not honor-seeking

- **Negative view** --- punishment

b. Jael- Kenite

- v. 11??
- Woman's job
- Hospitality v. 18-21
- Death at the hand of a woman

c. Unexpected Leader- Deborah-

- leads Israel in a courtroom
- wise counselor/judge-led by wisdom and character rather than sheer might.
- Deborah and Barak's song of chapter 5 -Who is the hero?

3. Judges 5- This is the same story told in poetic form

- v. 4 (rain)
- v. 20-21 God is victor---chariots useless—must have been a dry season.
- V. 28-30 Mother's feelings/treatment of women

"After making the lives of many women hellish nightmares, it is two women who bring him down."-Timothy Keller