

Scripture reading: Judges 4:1-24

Deborah and Barak

As usual, the Israelites once again did that which displeased God. God gives them up over to their desires and as a result they were enslaved by the king of Canaan. This king had 900 chariots of iron. The Israelites with a small army could not go against him. After being oppressed by that king for 20 years the Israelites repented and sought after God for help. God had compassion over them and raised up a prophetess called Deborah. She was the fourth and the only women judge of Israel. She calls Barak, the commander of the army and asks him why he has not responded to Gods command to go against the Canaanites. Barak answered saying that he would go to war only if Deborah will come along. Deborah accepted his plea and said that there will be no glory for Barak in the victory. They went against the Canaanites and utterly defeated them.

Question:

Did not Barak have the audacity that a woman had?

Answer:

1) Barak never said that he would not go to the battle.

2) He never backed off looking at the iron chariots of the enemy. His desire was just to have Debora alongside in the battle. It could be that he considered Debora mightier than himself as she prophesied by the spirit of God. Children, what do you learn from this incident? Are not we terrified by darkness, insects, snakes, etc? Have you seen the daring tendency of Deborah though she was a woman? She goes to the battle. Did you observe Barak's broad mindedness? In spite of being said that he would not have any glory in the victory he still goes forth because, destroying the enemies and having the victory was his prime objective. Yes dear children, we too should live with the bold assurance that God is by our side. Just like Barak, will you unite yourselves with brothers, sister and friends to do good despising the urge to have fame and glory all for yourself? This Barak was the fifth judge.

"Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe." Proverbs 29:25

Prayer:

Father, we will never consider our weakness and back-off looking at situations. We will boldly go forth and live for Jesus alone. Amen.