

**The Deborah/Barak
Cycle - Judges 4:1 - 5:31**

The Oppressor Jabin and the Prophetess Deborah - 4:1-11

- Deborah - a prophetess; told God's word
- Barak - did not object but did ask for insurance
- Heber the Kenite - sided with king Jabin



Mt. Tabor

The Battle in the Valley Led by Barak - 4:12-16

- Ten thousand footmen defeated superior military technology
- Why did Sisera flee on foot?



Kishon River

Assassination of Commander Sisera by Jael - 4:17-24

- Sisera was stupid for sex and it cost him his life
- Barak vainly pursues Sisera hoping to get the glory of defeating him
- Husband (Heber) was an ally of Sisera



Wooden Stakes

The Providence of God

- God caused it to rain in the Kishon Valley in order to bog chariots
- Stars fought for Israel (5:20) - there is evidence of an eclipse
- God will not give up on his people



**Winged god Ashur
accompanying king
into battle**

To Participate or Not to Participate

- Some stepped out in faith because Deborah told them
- Other tribes stayed home and failed to get involved
- Call to get off the fence
- Noninvolvement is self-centredness



Wooden Mallet

Needing Assurance

- God uses the weak things of the world to confound the wise
- Barak demanded proof before he believed
- James 1:5-8



Terra Cotta Flute Player

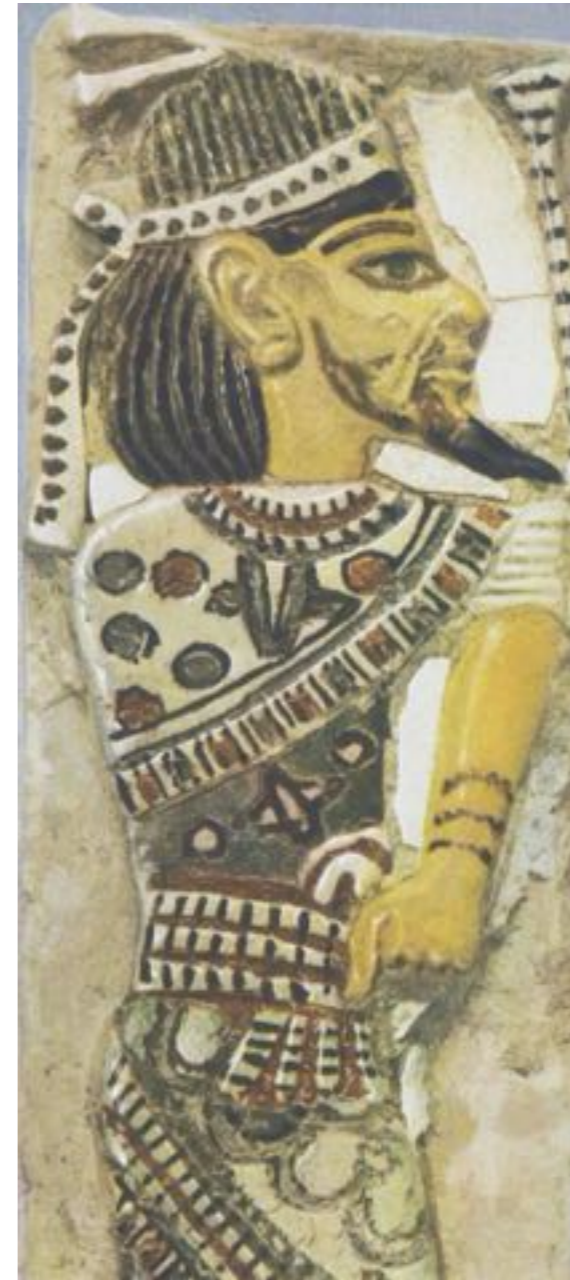
Responding to Jesus

- The book of Hebrews connects responding to the word of God from Deborah with hearing the gospel and believing (Heb 12:25)
- Matthew 11:20-24



Ultimate Justice

- Sisera was encouraged to commit war crimes by his mother
- Instead of humiliating women, a woman will humiliate him
- God will not allow the guilty to go unpunished




Embroidered Garment

Armor of God

1. Belt of Truth
2. Breastplate of Righteousness
3. Feet Fitted with the Gospel of Peace
4. Shield of Faith
5. Helmet of Salvation
6. Sword of the Spirit

Ephesians 6:10-18



For to us a Child is born, to us a
Son is given; and the government
shall be upon his shoulder,
and His name shall be called

Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God,
EVERLASTING FATHER,
Prince of Peace.

—Isaiah 9:6 ESV