

## Heroic Women and a Hesitant General Judges 4,5

### *Deborah and Barak team up to save Israel. chapter 4*

- ❖ No surprise to see sin/oppression/crying out, but look who's a judge!
- ❖ Recall Joshua had defeated an earlier Jabin of Hazor, Josh. 11:1-15.  
As in 1:19, Israel struggles to deal with iron chariots.
- ❖ Deborah's prophetic rebuke will cost Barak some glory and fame.
- ❖ Heber betrays Israel (1:16), yet Jael betrays Sisera. Why?

What should we make of Jael's actions? Recall Ehud's actions.

### *Deborah and Barak team up for a song. chapter 5*

- ❖ This emotional song offers theological insight after the victory, as in Ex. 14,15. God is praised; Jael is blessed; but note the contrasts!
  - ❖ Contrast: helpful vs. non-helpful tribes, 13-18, cf. 8:15-17, 21:5-10  
helpful Jael vs. non-helpful Meroz (blessed vs. cursed)  
implications for us?
- ❖ Barak lose some prestige but is still in Heb. 11:32 (see 2 Jn. 8).

