

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Law/Gospel

Sin always leads to slavery, and ultimately death, trapping me under its control. Christ rescues me from the oppression of sin so that in Him I might have ultimate freedom and eternal life.

Bible Words

Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you. Psalm 50:15

The Big Picture

The song of Deborah and Barak in Judges 5 thanks the Lord for victory He gave. Here are some of the lyrics:

"Hear, O kings; give ear, O princes; to the LORD I will sing; I will make melody to the LORD, the God of Israel" (v. 3).

Deborah

Judges 4-5

B efore Israel had kings, God led His people through judges who solved community problems and frequently served as military advisers, leaders, or even warriors. People did not elect judges. God equipped them to serve regionally by common consent and respect for their godly wisdom.

Deborah, a judge and prophetess, sat under a palm tree in the hill country of the tribe of Ephraim to adjudicate disputes. Deborah also fulfilled her vocation by advising military leader Barak about the Lord's plans to defeat the Canaanites. She told Barak to gather ten thousand soldiers at Mount Tabor. There, the Lord led the Israelites to defeat the Canaanites and their nine hundred chariots.

Deborah accompanied Barak onto the battlefield, and Jael, another woman, killed opposing general Sisera, testifying to God's willingness to use both men and women as His servants to accomplish His will.

The judges foreshadowed Jesus, God's Son, the promised deliverer who redeemed all who believe in Him from sin, death, and the devil.

A Family Became a Nation

Before Israel became a nation, it was a family. Abraham's grandson Jacob (Israel) moved seventy family members to Egypt to live with Joseph (Genesis 46:27). Jacob, as father, managed household affairs.

In the wilderness, God forged Israel into a nation He ruled through Moses. Struggling to lead the estimated one million people who left Egyptian slavery, Moses appointed chiefs of small units of people.

Six hundred thousand fighting men (age 20 or older) and their families entered the Promised Land about 1406 BC. The people settled in designated tribal areas, led by the heads of their respective clans and households. They formed alliances to battle their enemies.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, deliver us from our enemies and give us Your peace. In Your name we pray. Amen.

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