

Judges
Deborah's Song: God Our Champion, God Our Mother
Judges 5:1-31
Sermon Outline

Introduction: God tells us the story of Sisera's fall twice—once as narrative (Judges 4) and again as poetry (Judges 5). He repeats the story to rouse us—to get us to walk up and sing (v. 12)

I) Wake up! Look! See!

A) No problem is too big for God

B) God's cosmic victory is seen in every little one

C) God is a mother to us

II) Sing!

Why do we sing? Why do we evangelize?

Take away: Pray for your eyes and voice

Questions for Reflection this Week

- 1) "How do I love you? Let me count the ways" is a saying that reminds us of the importance of repeating in different ways the things we want people to know. Judges 5 is a repetition of judges 4—a retelling in a new form of the story told in chapter 4. List at least 3 ways in which the retelling is different from the original. Why the changes? What do they communicate?
- 2) How many times does God tell Deborah to rouse herself in v 12? Why the repetition? What does God want Deborah (and us) to wake up and see?
- 3) Deborah repeatedly describes the victory at the foot of Mt Tabor in much larger terms (vv 4-5, 19-22). Why?
- 4) Judges 5's way of retelling the events of Judge's 4 reminds us that the victory at Mt. Tabor belongs to God's bigger story and invites us to see God's big story in every story we encounter. What is God's story? List at least five ways in which we see that story in everyday life.
- 5) Three "mothers" are described in this poem: Deborah, Jael, and Sisera's mother. How are they different from each other? Compare God's 'mothering' of us to that of these three figures. We often speak of the 'mother bear' in human mothers and mean by it their fierce protectiveness of their children. How does the end of Sisera depict the fierceness of God's protective love?
- 6) Judges 5 is a song, and vv 1, 3, and 12 remind us of how important it is to sing (to celebrate) God's story. Why is this important? Why in other words is worship incomplete if it is just the sermon? Why must we tell the story to friends—that is, evangelize?