

DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

Daily meditation on the Word of God is imperative to our growth. As the people of God, we should commit to reading Scripture every day. There are questions to help prompt your meditation. If you do not have a Bible, please contact the church office and one will be given to you. To locate the passages, use the Table of Contents to find the page number of the book. The number before the colon will tell you the chapter to find. The numbers after the colon are the superscript numbers in your Bible indicating the verses to read.

Monday, Nov. 18th – Judges 4:1-10

This week we look at our fourth judge. As we move forward, remember the pattern presented with each judge. How does this pattern start today (vss. 1-2)? Notice what Sisera has at his disposal and for how long Israel is oppressed (vs. 3). If you recall, much of Joshua and the beginning of Judges talked about these other nations having “iron chariots.” King Jabin made sure Sisera had enough to do the job and do it well. And it took Israel 20 years to cry out for help! Next we meet the judge. Who is the judge God raises up (vs. 4)? We have spoken about God raising up judges against the other nations to free Israel, but not so much about their being a judge of Israel. However, this is not the case with Deborah. What has Deborah’s role been in the life of Israel (vs. 5)? Note she is residing in the land of Ephraim. Who does the Lord have her send a message to and what is the message (vss. 6-7)? Did you notice where he is from and from whom he is to draw his army? What is Barak’s response to Deborah (vs. 7)? What does Deborah tell Barak (vs. 9)? So, Deborah will judge disputes in Israel AND be a warrior. What happens next (vs. 10)? What does this reveal to you about God (vs. 7)? Even with 900 iron chariots at Sisera’s disposal, God is still promising victory to Israel. What things do we learn about ourselves from Deborah and Barak? Whom are you more like? Do you hear God calling you or do you need someone to tell you what God wants? How does this point to our need for Jesus? How is our mounting sin much like the 900 iron chariots? How does God conquer our sin through Jesus? Does your life reflect this victory over sin? Spend some time in prayer today, asking God to help you be victorious over the sin that keeps trying to hold you down.

Tuesday, Nov. 19th – Judges 4:11-23

We continue our story today of Deborah and Barak with the great battle. We start today with a strange verse that doesn’t seem to fit the story. Who is it about and where is he located (vs. 11)? We will come back to him in a bit. Moving forward, it is time for the battle. What does Sisera do when he finds out Israel is gathering for war (vss. 12-13)? Now read verses 14-16. How does this battle go down? What does God do? What do Deborah, Barak and the Israelite army do? Who gets away? Where does he go (vs. 17)? Remember verse 11? This is why we needed to know he moved there. When Sisera arrives, whom does he meet and what does she offer (vss. 18-20)? What happens next (vss. 21-22)? This makes two women warriors in this era doesn’t it? What does the defeat of Sisera lead to (vs. 23)? What do we learn about God today? Consider how God helps win the battle. What does this text reveal about humanity and the roles of men and women in God’s people? Can God use women and call women to serve as leaders? How does this point to Jesus? Is salvation equally distributed to men and to women? Consider what this text teaches us about being one in Christ.

Wednesday, Nov. 20th – Judges 5:1-9

For the rest of the week, we will look at the celebration song commemorating what God did for Israel. With every major victory, there should be a celebration and commemoration of what God has done. Chapter 5 is usually titled, “The Song of Deborah.” It is a recap, reminder and celebration of what God has done. So, let’s begin. Verses 1-3 tell us who is singing and about what they are going to sing. Who is to be listening (vs. 3)? Since they are singing praise to God, what do they tell us about God (vs. 4-5)? What happened to Israel that led to the need for war (vss. 6-7)? How does this fit the pattern about which we have been speaking? There is a reason to praise. What is it (vs. 9)? Do you remember who volunteered (what tribes)? What does this reveal to us about God and His holiness? What does this reveal about us as humanity? How is the church like those who volunteer for battle? What is our battle? Who is our victor?

Thursday, Nov. 21st – Judges 5:10-23

We continue the song of Deborah and Barak today, beginning at verse 10. We start with an all-encompassing call of people to witness to what God has done. Who is included? To be on a donkey was to be wealthy. To walk along the road was to be poor. Everyone gathered at the watering hole. What were they to witness to (vs. 11b)? What is the call in verse 12? How does it resemble the call of God on each of these two? Now read verses 13-18 which describe the assembly of the warriors. Note who is all included (vss. 14-15a)? Who did not show up to help (vs. 15b - 17)? Why did they not come? What was each one doing? So not all of Israel entered this battle. Next we read about who showed up from the other side. Who was it (vs. 19)? And according to the song, how did the battle go down (vss. 20-23)? Notice that only God through the stars and river gets the victory over Jabin’s armies. All those chariots could do nothing against God. What does this song reveal to us about God and His holiness; His power; His command of creation? What does this reveal about us – humanity? Are we those who show up or do we make excuses and stay home? How does this all point to Jesus’ victory over sin and the grave?

Friday, Nov. 22nd – Judges 5:24-31

We close this week with the end of Deborah’s song. Who are the next four verses dedicated to (vss. 24-27)? She is not even an Israelite, but she is a hero worthy of song. As we move on, we read about another woman. Who is she (vs. 28)? It is interesting that the song points to the fact that though there is victory, there will also be heartbreak. How is the delay dealt with by this woman (vss. 29-30)? So many women today, when husbands, sons, brothers are off serving their countries, go through the same mental process as Sisera’s mother did. There is almost pity for her loss, even in the midst of a song of God’s victory. With that said, how does the song end (vs. 31)? So while they feel sorry for Sisera’s mother, the call is for all God’s enemies to die like her son! What does this reveal to you about God? Do you think that God cares for Sisera’s mother? Even though Sisera had to die to free Israel and let that freedom last, it does not mean that God discounts his mother or others who lost loved ones. For we are all God’s creation. We are all his beloved. What does this reveal about us and our ability to do God’s will? Could you be a Jael? Have you considered what might have happened if Jael let him live? How does this point to Jesus’ death and resurrection, which covers all sin and is readily available for all people? Who in your circles of influence might need to hear that today? Pray to God, asking for courage to share with someone dealing with sin that Jesus loves and forgives them, if they just turn to Him.

Saturday, Nov. 23rd – To prepare for tomorrow’s worship, please read Psalm 116. Also remember it is “Hanging of the Greens” tomorrow following worship!