

JUDGES CHAPTER 5

JUDGES FEATURED IN THIS CHAPTER

OTHNIEL

ABIMELECH

ELON

EHUD

TOLA

ABDON

SHAMGAR

JAIR

SAMSON

DEBORAH

JEPHTHAH

ELI

GIDEON

IBZAN

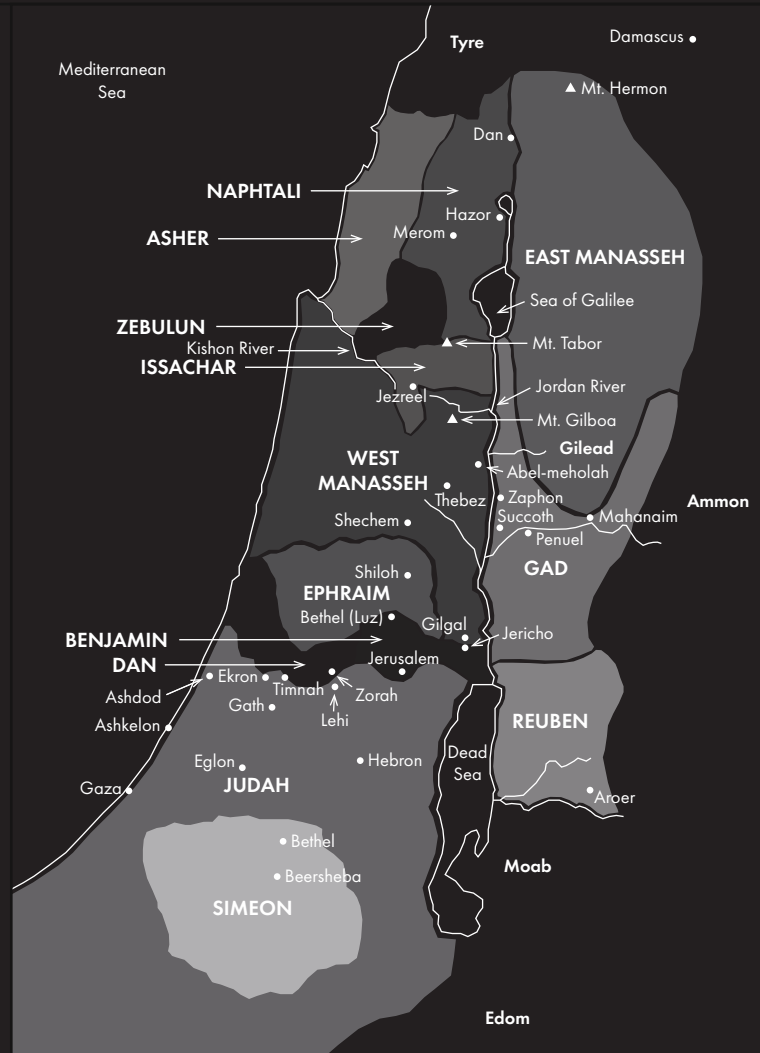
SAMUEL

WHEN

- Most scholars place the period of the Judges somewhere between 1450 B.C. and 1000 B.C.
- The song recorded in Judges 5 immediately followed the events of Judges 4.

WHERE

- Judges 5 is a song about the victory of Israel over the Canaanites in the battle of Barak and Sisera (Judges 4).
- Barak gathered the Israelite army at Mount Tabor and fought the Canaanites near the river Kishon. Jabin ruled over Canaan from the city of Hazor.



CHARACTERS

- **Deborah** – The 4th Judge of Israel. She was the wife of Lappidoth. She sat under a palm tree in the hill country of Ephraim and judged the people of Israel.
- **Barak** – A man from Kadesh- Naphtali. He led the Israelites army in their victory over the king of Canaan.
- **Jabin** – King of Canaan.
- **Sisera** – The commander of Jabin's army.
- **Jael** – A Kenite woman who killed the commander of the Canaanite army in her tent.

OUTLINE

- THE SONG OF DEBORAH AND BARAK (5:1-31):

- + Judges 5 is a record of a song sung by Deborah and Barak after the victory over the king Jabin and the Canaanites.
- + The song began by praising God for arriving with great power to save His people.
- + Deborah sang about God raising her up as a mother to Israel when they were helpless and oppressed by their enemies.
- + She praised the commanders who were willing to follow her and Barak in their fight for freedom.
- + The song praised the tribes that fought in the battle, notably Ephraim, Benjamin, Zebulun, Issachar, and part of Manasseh (Machir).
- + The bravery of the tribe of Zebulun was specifically mentioned.
- + Several tribes were rebuked for not participating in the battle, namely Reuben, part of Manasseh, Dan, and Asher.
- + Jdg 5:20-21 - From heaven the stars fought, from their courses they fought against Sisera. The torrent Kishon swept them away, the ancient torrent, the torrent Kishon. March on, my soul, with might!
- + The song praised Jael for outwitting Sisera and killing him with a tent peg.
- + Jdg 5:24 - "Most blessed of women be Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite, of tent-dwelling women most blessed."
- + One of the final sections of the song described the lament of Sisera's mother, who would never see her son return from the battle.
- + The song ended with a curse on all of God's enemies and a blessing on all His friends.
- + The land had rest for 40 years after the defeat of Jabin and Sisera.

APPLICATION

- Your legacy will be written in eternity, how do you want to be remembered?
- Do you want to be remembered as the tribe of Reuben, as someone who sat on the sideline as God's people went to war?
- Or do you want to be remembered like the men of Zebulun? As a soldier marked by bravery who fought for the freedom of his fellows.
- The scriptures tell us there is a war going on around us for the freedom of the souls of men.
- What will be your legacy in the conflict?

OTHN
EHUD
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DEBO
GIDEC
ABIM
TOLA
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ELI
SAMU