



Repentance Tabernacle Church

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God Brings Victory

Focus Verses: Judges 4:22-24 - ²²And, behold, as Barak pursued Sisera, Jael came out to meet him, and said unto him, Come, and I will shew thee the man whom thou seekest. And when he came into her tent, behold, Sisera lay dead, and the nail was in his temples. ²³So God subdued on that day Jabin the king of Canaan before the children of Israel. ²⁴And the hand of the children of Israel prospered, and prevailed against Jabin the king of Canaan, until they had destroyed Jabin king of Canaan.

Lesson Text: Judges 4:1-24

Truth About God: God will bring victory even if He has to choose a new deliverer.

Truth For My Life: I will experience victory when I accept and follow God's call.

Throughout the Book of Judges, this repetitious cycle of rebellion, repression, repentance, and restoration continued. Each time, the tribes of Israel sank lower into immorality and became more depraved in their conduct like the pagan people living around them. God's desire to be in covenant relationship with His people was not realized. However, God revealed His prevailing mercy through His continual love for His people, and that love moved Him to respond to their repentance and bring deliverance from their oppression.

Among the northern tribes, King Jabin served as God's judgment when Deborah became a judge in Ephraim. The commander of Jabin's army, Sisera, had been Jabin's strong arm for two decades and had gained an infamous reputation for cruelty. After twenty years of intense oppression, Israel again cried out in repentance and pled for deliverance. God heard their prayers and initiated His plan for victory.

Barak received God's call through the prophecy of Deborah, a judge and prophetess in Israel. She sent Barak a direct message as a commandment from God. *"Go and draw toward mount Tabor, and take with thee ten thousand men of the children of Naphtali and of the children of Zebulun. . . I will draw unto thee to the river Kishon Sisera, the captain of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his multitude; and I will deliver him into thine hand"* (Judges 4:6-7). **When God declares victory, there is no need for doubt or despair.** The conclusion has been determined.

Barak refused to fight without Deborah, so she agreed to accompany him, but she warned him that the honor for the victory would be given to a woman. Victory was so complete, *"All the host of Sisera fell upon the edge of the sword; and there was not a man left"* (Judged 4:16). The Lord fought for Barak, and Barak and his army destroy all their enemies. Sisera fled and was subdued by Jael, who achieved complete victory. As Sisera slept, Jael stealthily raised a tent peg and mallet, aimed for his temple, and drove the peg through his head and into the ground. Sisera never awakened from his sleep; this cruel oppressor died at the hands of a woman.

When God gives us His word and confirms His calling, our response should be faith and courage rather than doubt and timidity. In humility we may never feel adequate for the task to which we are called. We may feel ill-equipped and underqualified for the responsibilities we have been given. However, God always qualifies the called. He will never task us with an impossible calling, but He will enable us to achieve the goals He given us and accomplish His call. Paul wrote, *"For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance"* (Romans 11:29).

While our battles are often more mental, emotional, or spiritual, we can have the same confidence in God's ability to bring us through to victorious deliverance. Jesus Christ fights our battle and pushed back against every effort of the enemy. **Our faith is in God. No power can resist Him. No foe can defeat Him.** With the Holy Spirit operating in our lives, we are a powerful force for good. Answering the call of God becomes a natural response, and all things become possible through faith in Him.

Over and over God has assured us of His great love. God has promised victory and an overcoming life to everyone who submits to Him and desires to become His disciple. How many times has He told us, **"I love you"** and *"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee"*? (Hebrews 13:5). We have the assurance of His love and the promise of a victorious outcome.