

May 9, 2010 – Sermon Outline

“My Name is Deborah”

Judges 4:1-10

By: Rev. John D. Pollard

When you're really hurting you need Mom—

*Village life in Israel ceased,
ceased, until I, Deborah, arose,
arose, a mother in Israel* (Judges 5:7 NIV).

How can I break free?

When *Israel again did evil* God placed them under *Jabin king of Canaan who reigned in Hazor; and the commander of his army was Sisera* (vv. 1-2). The people cried to the LORD because Sisera *had nine hundred iron chariots, and had oppressed the sons of Israel severely for twenty years* (v. 3).

Each time the people cried out, God called a judge to lead them in battle. Israel already had a judge: *Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel at that time* (v. 4).

Deborah was not a warrior. She *held court under the Palm of Deborah where many came to her to have their disputes decided* (v. 5, NIV).

Breaking free requires an evaluation of my **RELATIONSHIPS**. I may need to:

- Set some **BOUNDARIES**.
- End some relationships and begin **NEW** ones.
- **FORGIVE** someone.
- Make **AMENDS**.
- **SEEK** a mediator, a peacemaker.

God selected a peacemaker to lead Israel into battle. Why?

Every real victory is a **SPIRITUAL** victory.

Deborah the peacemaker, declared **WAR** (vv. 6-7): *she . . . summoned Barak . . . and said to him, “Behold, the LORD, the God of Israel, has commanded, ‘Go and march to Mount Tabor, and take with you ten thousand men I will draw out to you Sisera, the commander of Jabin’s army, with his chariots and his many troops to the river Kishon, and I will give him into your hand.’ ”*

Breaking free means acting on God's **PROMISES**.

8 Then Barak said to her, “If you will go with me, then I will go; but if you will not go with me, I will not go.”

9 She said, “I will surely go with you; nevertheless, the honor shall not be yours on the journey that you are about to take, for the LORD will sell Sisera into the hands of a woman.” Then Deborah arose and went with Barak to Kedesh.

10 Barak called Zebulun and Naphtali together to Kedesh, and ten thousand men went up with him; Deborah also went up with him.

Breaking free is a continuing process carried out with **HUMILITY**.

©Rev. John D. Pollard, Pastor Richland Baptist Church