



Before Samuel was the last judge. Before Saul was the first king. Deborah, the prophetess, was one of the twelve judges over Israel.

Deborah would sit under the palm tree in the mountains of Ephraim. The children of Israel would go to her for judgement. Deborah judged with wisdom and fairness.

Judges 4:1 tells us, "Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord." So God sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan. Then the children of Israel cried out to the Lord. The Lord heard them.

Deborah called for Barak. He was a commander of Israel's army. The prophetess spoke for God. She told Barak to deploy ten thousand men against Sisera, a commander of Canaan's army.



Barak would not go unless Deborah fought beside him. Deborah agreed to go. She spoke for God throughout the battle against the Canaanites.

Barak did what Deborah, the prophetess, told him to do. Israel's army won the battle against Sisera's army. Jabin, king of Canaan, was destroyed.

Deborah knew God would keep His promise and deliver Israel. Her faith made her a woman of valor. Deborah was the wife of Lapidoth. In Judges 5:7 she sang, "Village life ceased, it ceased in Israel, until I, Deborah, arose, arose a mother in Israel."

Deborah and Barak sang a song to the Lord that day. They blessed the Lord. For He was with them in battle. Victory belonged to the Lord.

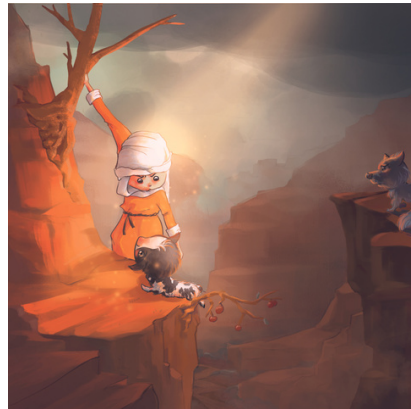


"Hear, oh kings! Give ear, oh princes! I, even I, will sing to the Lord; I will sing praise to the Lord God of Israel.

Let those who love Him be like the sun when it comes out in full strength."



Did you know palm leaves symbolize victory, peace, and eternal life? Join us for an adventure through Israel's landscape, where palm trees grow, in our children's picture book, *The Lamb*.



Parent Tip: Reread the story with your child. This time, ask them if they know what the following words mean: judge, deploy, and valor. Use the dictionary if needed, and explore the meaning of these words together.