

JUDGES CHAPTER 5

¹ And Deborah and Barak son of Abinoam sang in that day, saying, ² “A revelation was made in Israel when the people were made willing: Bless the Lord! ³ Hear, O kings, and give ear, O you rulers: I will sing, it is I *who will sing* to the Lord, it is I, I will sing a psalm to the Lord God of Israel. ⁴ O Lord, in Your going forth on Seir, when You went forth out of the land of Edom, the earth quaked and the heaven dropped the dew, and the clouds dropped water. ⁵ The mountains were shaken before the face of the Lord Eloi, this Sinai, before the face of the Lord God of Israel. ⁶ In the days of Shamgar son of Anath, in the days of Jael, they deserted the *right* ways, and went in *through the* byways; they went in crooked paths. ⁷ The mighty men in Israel failed, they failed until I, Deborah arose, until *there* arose a mother in Israel. ⁸ They chose new gods; then the cities of rulers fought; there was not a shield or spear seen among forty thousand in Israel. ⁹ My heart inclines to the orders given in Israel; you that are willing among the people, bless the Lord. ¹⁰ You that mount a donkey at noonday, you that sit on the judgment seat, and walk by the roads of them that sit in judgment by the way. Declare, ¹¹ *you that are delivered* from the noise of disturbers among those that draw water; there shall they relate righteous acts: O Lord, increase righteous acts in Israel. Then the people of the Lord went down to the cities. ¹² Awake, awake, Deborah; awake, awake, utter a song. Arise, Barak, and lead your captivity captive, O son of Abinoam. ¹³ Then the remnant went down to the strong, the people of the Lord went down for him among the mighty ones from me. ¹⁴ Ephraim rooted them out in Amalek, behind you was Benjamin among your people: the inhabitants of Machir came down with me searching out the enemy, and from Zebulun came those that draw with the scribe’s pen of record. ¹⁵ And princes in Issachar were with Deborah and Barak, thus she sent Barak on his feet in the valleys into the portions of Reuben; great *pangs* reached to the heart. ¹⁶ Why did they sit between the sheep folds to hear the bleating of flocks for the divisions of Reuben? *There were* great searchings of heart. ¹⁷ Gilead is on the other side of the Jordan where he pitched his tents; and why does Dan remain in ships? Asher sat down on the sea coasts, and he will dwell at his ports. ¹⁸ Zebulun risked their lives to the death, and Nephtali came to the high places of their land. ¹⁹ Kings set themselves in array, then the kings of Canaan fought in Taanach at the water of Megiddo; they took no gift of money. ²⁰ The stars from heaven set themselves in array, they set themselves *to fight* with Sisera out of their paths. ²¹ The brook of Kishon swept them away, the ancient brook, the brook Kishon: my mighty soul will trample him down. ²² When the hoofs of the horse were entangled, his mighty ones earnestly hastened ²³ to curse Meroz: ‘Curse *it*,’ said the angel of the Lord; cursed *is* everyone that dwells in it, because they came not to the help of the Lord, to His help among the mighty. ²⁴ Blessed among women is Jael wife of Heber the Kenite; let her be blessed above women in tents. ²⁵ He asked for water, she gave him milk in a dish; she brought the butter of princes. ²⁶ She stretched forth her left hand to the nail, and her right hand to the workman’s hammer, and she struck Sisera with it, she nailed through his head and killed him; she nailed through his temples. ²⁷ He rolled down between her feet; he fell and lay between her feet; he bowed and fell: where he bowed, there he fell dead. ²⁸ The mother of Sisera looked down through the window out of the loophole, saying, ‘Why

was his chariot ashamed? Why did the wheels of his chariots tarry?' ²⁹ Her wise ladies answered her, and she returned answers to herself, *saying*, ³⁰ 'Will they not find him dividing the spoil? He will surely be gracious to every man.' *There are* spoils of dyed garments for Sisera, spoils of various dyed garments, dyed embroidered garments, they are the spoils for his neck. ³¹ Thus let all Your enemies perish, O Lord: and they that love Him shall be as the going forth of the sun in his strength." And the land had rest forty years.