

DEBORAH and Barak

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By Jill Kemp

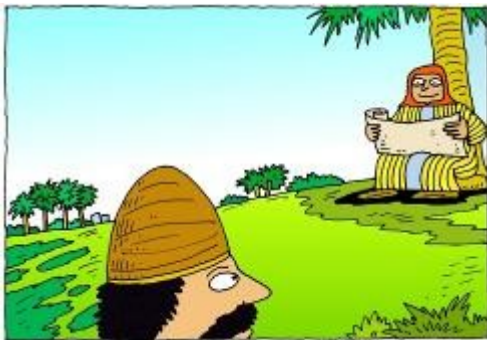
Illustrated by Richard Gunther



Deborah understood the 10 Commandments and the laws God gave to Moses. Whenever people had a problem she knew the right thing to do.



After bad king Jabin invaded the land of Israel, his captain, Sisera, was mean and treated the people like slaves. "What can we do to be free?" the people asked wise Deborah.



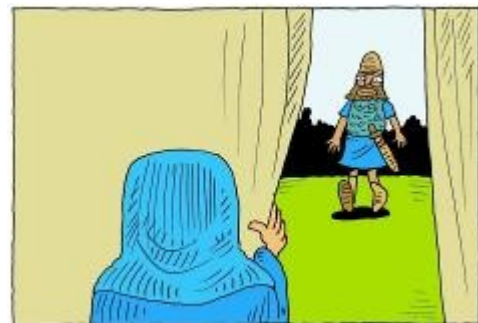
Deborah prayed, asking God for help. "Take 10 thousand men to fight Sisera," she told Barak, "God will help you to win." But Barak was scared and didn't trust God.



"Sisera has 900 strong war chariots and he hasn't even lost a war for 20 years! I will only go if you come too," Barak replied. "God said a woman to defeat Sisera," said Deborah.



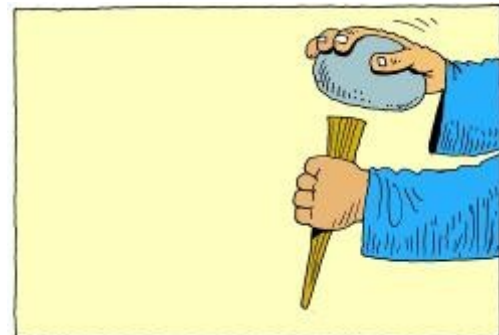
Barak and the people of Israel fought Sisera's army, all day and were winning. But before they could catch Sisera, he quietly sneaked away and escaped.



While Jael was alone in her tent nearby, she saw Sisera coming and prayed for help. Then she invited Sisera inside to hide. He was tired and thirsty after fighting hard.



"I will make a bed for you to rest," Jael said. Sisera didn't know that Jael was tricking him. After drinking a nice glass of milk, he lay down and went to sleep.



Jael crept over to sleeping Sisera and drove a tent peg into his head. God did use a woman to save the people of Israel. God did not need a strong and mighty army.