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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A1464 ~ Deborah and Barak.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

For many years, the Children of Israel had followed great leaders – men who fully trusted and obeyed the only True God. God had sent Moses to lead them out of slavery in Egypt and to teach them His laws for right living. After Moses, He had given Joshua to lead them to victory and to settle them in the Promised Land. There were also numbers of other good leaders under Joshua and during their lifetime Israel faithfully followed the Lord. But these men had all passed away.

Life had become easier and the Israelites were living safely in the areas they had conquered. The new generation had not gone through troubles and battles like their parents and grandparents. Joshua's victories and God's mighty miracles were only stories to them, and they turned away from God. There were still some idol-worshipping people in the land, but the children of Israel no longer cared about getting rid of their evil gods. The Israelites disobeyed the True God and joined in with pagan worship. Soon these other tribes started fighting them and everything was going wrong for the Israelites.

What do you think they did then? Yes, they cried to God for help – and God listened! Even though they had disobeyed and had turned their backs on Him, He still loved them. He appointed new leaders to win their battles and to bring the people back to Himself. They would obey for a little while but over and over again they rebelled.

The Bible book Nehemiah, chapter 9, says this, “Year after year, You (God) patiently warned them...but Your people were deaf, so you let them be conquered by other nations, and yet, because your mercy is great, you did not forsake or destroy them. You are a gracious and merciful God!”

Once more the Israelites were struggling under the punishment of a foreign king. Jabin of Canaan with his army and commander in chief, Sisera, made their lives a misery for twenty years.

Today’s story is about one of the leaders God gave to Israel – and **this** leader was a woman!

DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound](#).

Deborah was a married woman and a mother. She had great faith and her heart was right with God. She judged the Israelite people and God gave her great wisdom to settle their disputes.

It is clear that Barak thought very highly of Deborah. He obeyed her call to come to her. He believed God’s message through her but he was afraid to do anything on his own. He was only willing to go into battle if she went with him! Deborah made a prophecy that the battle honours would go to a woman. Deborah and Barak went off to do battle against a much larger army.

Even though Sisera had many chariots available to him, he could see the Israelites were winning this lopsided battle. When he fled on foot he was offered refuge by a woman called Jael. She pretended to be friendly towards him until he was no longer a threat to anyone.

Sometimes a person will pretend to be helpful in order to gain an advantage for themselves. Sadly even in some churches there are fake Christians who will try to do this. In the Bible book of Nahum, Chapter 1, we are assured that the Lord knows those who trust in Him. No one can fool God. A person may say he or she is a Christian and outwardly appear to follow the Lord.

How can we know if a person really is a believer in Christ or not? In Matthew Chapter 7 the Lord Jesus said we will know them by their fruit. Each person who has called on the Lord to save him or her, has the Holy Spirit living within. The book of Galatians Chapter 5 says the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in a person's life: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility and self-control.

In the Old Testament section of the Bible from the time of the Israelites settling in God's Promised Land, every generation seemed to have some king grow powerful and conquer the surrounding cities and towns. The conquering king tried to extend his kingdom's borders and take the plunder he won in each battle. Whole books of the Old Testament are filled with the plots of weak nations fearing a powerful army and trying to make alliances with other nations. Israel was supposed to depend entirely on her Creator God but time and again the people failed. God was still very gracious to them.

The New Testament begins with the birth in exceptional circumstances of the Christ Child. The Lord Jesus laid aside His majesty in heaven to become a helpless human baby. The difference between Him and all other human babies was He was not born with a sin nature. His mother's husband was not His father, only his step-father. Everyone of the rest of us inherited our sin nature from Adam the first man.

When the Lord Jesus went back to heaven after He had completed the work of reclaiming humankind, He sent the promised Comforter, the Holy Spirit to earth. That was the beginning of the church and God's spiritual kingdom.

Many of the New Testament books focus on living holy lives in this kingdom to please God and extend His Good News about the forgiveness of sins to everyone around the world. It was a big task and has not been completed yet.

When a person does decide to hand his or her life over to God and live for Him each day, that person needs some training in Bible study and worship of God, encouragement to be in prayer continually and help to learn the lessons of Christian experience.

A businessman sent his son to the other side of the world to do some transactions for him. The father bought his son's plane ticket and sent him off with instructions. The young man duly arrived at his destination and set about earnestly promoting his father's business.

After a few days of good work, he met some old friends. They wanted him to go partying with them and doing activities to enjoy themselves. He did join in and wasted many days when he should have been working. One day he realized it was time to use his return ticket and fly back home. Do you think the businessman would have been pleased with his son?

It is the same with our Heavenly Father. Some believers fritter away their time doing things to please themselves. In the Bible book of First Corinthians Chapter 3, believers are warned that the work they have done for God's Kingdom here on earth will be tested in heaven. If their works are good, they will receive a reward. But if not, they will suffer loss.

Every day ask the Lord Jesus to help and guide you.

MUSIC - [Integrity Music](#).

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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