

Luke 10:39 “She had a sister named Mary, Which also sat at Jesus’ feet and heard his word.”

NEWSLETTER: “MOMENTS WITH MARY”

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“DEBORAH, A WISE WOMAN!”

Judges 4:4-5 “Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, was leading Israel at that time. She held court under the Palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites came to her to have their disputes decided.”

When we read the wonderful story of Deborah in the Book of Judges, she inspires us on to greater things! She was a wife, mother, prophetess, judge, military strategist and national Leader of Israel during the times when God set Judges over Israel to rule His people. Deborah was a person who made a difference to multitudes, inspiring them to turn back to God! A real woman of valor, was also a poet and singer!

Her name means “Honey Bee”. She was “sweet” for her Nation, but a real “stinger” against the enemies! First and foremost she was a God fearing woman who loved the Lord and boldly walked in obedience with Him on a daily basis! She used all her talents and gifts and assets to guide others in her counsel, as she judged them under her favorite palm tree!

Men were usually the Leaders of Nations in her culture, but sometimes God does some really unusual things in the lives of His people! Has God ever called *you* to do something out of the ordinary? Did you obey Him? Society often tries to pressure us to “conform” to their standards or they “reject” us! Are we bold enough, established in our beliefs enough to stand our ground? Will we give in and compromise our faith, or remain firmly on the Word of God? If we do hold fast, we will stand out and above the crowd!

Wise Leaders are quite rare! Most seek self-glory in some way to gain a “name” for their self. They want to be recognized now and remembered after their death for how “great” they were! Although some leaders use their positions for good, more lust after the power and money they will gain! Others are extremely harsh and misuse their power in harmful ways!

Deborah was not interested in these kinds of self glory! She was able to accomplish much by recognizing those with abilities to accomplish some part of the over all plan for her nation. A wise leader will soon know if the road they are following will lead to success! She had remarkable leadership skills that enabled her to plan, advise and communicate the needed information to the proper people!

Deborah also had a remarkable relationship with God! Her God-given wisdom gave her people clear guidance with every decision she made! What a woman! Many women have to hold full time jobs today! They wear many hats, and here we have an Old Testament lady who did the same but without all the modern conveniences we have today! Full time work at home and on the job! It takes a special person to be able to handle all those responsibilities well! She looked to the LORD early each day for the help she needed!

Do you seek the LORD early each day for His wisdom to flow through your mind? We'd save ourselves a lot of trouble if we did!

Matt.6:33 "But seek first his kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as you as well."

Deborah simply wanted to serve the LORD with the gifts and abilities He had given her. In every victory, she turned all the praise and glory back to God! Her willingness to be led by the LORD is still a great example for us to follow today!

Israel's enemies easily had them "out gunned!" Israel felt terrorized and helpless! In situations such as this, people certainly need the LORD on their side! It is vital we follow God's instructions when we are in battles, spiritual or otherwise! It means the difference between victory and defeat! Deborah followed God's instructions as she sent Commander Barak into battle. God accomplished much through her willingness to listen and obey! Deborah lead her people back to God!

Judges 4:14-15 "Then Deborah said to Barak, "Go! This is day the LORD has given Sisera [enemy] into your hands. Has not the LORD gone ahead of you? So Barak went down Mount Tabor, followed by ten thousand men. At Barak's advance, the LORD routed Sisera and all his chariots and army by the sword."

Read this amazing story in Judges 4 and 5 and see how God used this wise woman! Ask the LORD what He would want you to do and be willing to experience something new and wonderful in your life!

Judges 5:3 "Hear this, you kings! Listen, you rulers! I will sing to the LORD, I will sing; I will make music to the LORD, the God of Israel."

God bless you all! Honor your parents if you still have them! If not, show honor and respect to some one else whose children may be a long distance away this year on both Mother's day and Father's Day!

If you have questions, comments, or prayer requests, I can be reached at the above addresses.

In His Service, Mary Mayko