

**A STRONG WOMAN**  
**JUDGES 4-5 / 10-22-17 / PM**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. The period of the judges was not a good time in the life of Israel—Jud. 2:10.
2. After the deaths of Moses and Joshua, Israel left their worship of Yahweh and worshipped the idols of their neighbors, especially the god known as Baal—Jud. 2:11-12a.
3. God punished Israel by allowing neighboring nations to invade and rule over them—Jud 2:12B-15.
4. After Israel repented God sent them Judges or military leaders to deliver them from foreign oppression—2:16 and 18.
5. When the judge died Israel once again forsook God and returned to idolatry—Jud. 2:19.
6. Then the cycle repeated itself.
7. Israel had twelve Judges so they went through 12 cycles of disobedience.
8. This cycle was only broken when Israel insisted they needed a King and Saul was selected.
9. Deborah was one of those twelve judges.

**I. DEBORAH'S LIFE.**

- A. Her name means "bee".
- B. The only family record is the name of her husband—Jud. 4:4.
- C. She was a judge who settled disputes between people—4:5.
- D. She was a military leader—4:6-7.
- E. She was a prophetess—4:4.
- F. She inspired others—4:6-9, 14-15.
- G. She was a poetess.
- H. She was a mother figure for Israel—5:7.

**II. DEBORAH'S LESSONS.**

- A. God uses people, both men and women.
- B. God uses people of courage—4:9a
- C. God uses people of faith—4:9b.