

CRYSTALLIZATION-STUDY OUTLINES JOSHUA, JUDGES, RUTH, Week 7**God's Raising Up of Deborah as a Judge of Israel and as a Mother in Israel
Who Practiced the Female Submission to the Man in Order to Keep God's Ordination
and Bring All of Israel into a Proper Order under God's Kingship and Headship**

Scripture Reading: Judg. 4—5

- Judges 4:1 - Then the children of Israel again did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah after Ehud died.
- Judges 4:2 - And Jehovah sold them into the hand of Jabin the king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. And the captain of his army was Sisera, who dwelt at Harosheth-hagoyim.
- Judges 4:3 - And the children of Israel cried out to Jehovah, for he had nine hundred iron chariots, and he oppressed the children of Israel severely twenty years.
- Judges 4:4 - Now Deborah was a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth. She judged Israel at that time.
- Judges 4:5 - And she would sit under the palm of Deborah, between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim. And the children of Israel went up to her for judgment.
- Judges 4:6 - And she sent word and called to Barak the son of Abinoam from Kedesh-naphtali and said to him, Jehovah the God of Israel has indeed commanded: Go and deploy your forces on Mount Tabor; and take with you ten thousand men from the children of Naphtali and from the children of Zebulun.
- Judges 4:7 - And I will draw out Sisera, the captain of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his throng, toward you at the river Kishon; and I will deliver him into your hand.
- Judges 4:8 - And Barak said to her, If you will go with me, I will go; but if you do not go with me, I will not go.
- Judges 4:9 - And she said, I will surely go with you. However there will be no glory for you on the journey you are taking, for Jehovah will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman. And Deborah rose up and went with Barak to Kedesh.
- Judges 4:10 - And Barak called Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh, and ten thousand men went up behind him; and Deborah went up with him.
- Judges 4:11 - Now Heber the Kenite had separated himself from the Kenites, from the children of Hobab the father-in-law of Moses. And he pitched his tent at the terebinth in Zaanannim, which is near Kedesh.
- Judges 4:12 - And they told Sisera that Barak the son of Abinoam went up to Mount Tabor.
- Judges 4:13 - And Sisera called all his chariots — nine hundred iron chariots — and all the people who were with him from Harosheth-hagoyim to the river Kishon.
- Judges 4:14 - And Deborah said to Barak, Rise up, for this is the day when Jehovah will deliver Sisera into your hand. Jehovah has indeed gone out before you. So Barak went down from Mount Tabor with ten thousand men after him.
- Judges 4:15 - And Jehovah threw Sisera and all his chariots and all his army into confusion with the edge of the sword before Barak, and Sisera got down from his chariot and fled on foot.
- Judges 4:16 - But Barak pursued after the chariots and the army as far as Harosheth-hagoyim. And all the army of Sisera fell by the edge of the sword; not even one was left.
- Judges 4:17 - Meanwhile, Sisera had fled on foot to the tent of Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite; for there had been peace between Jabin the king of Hazor and the house of Heber the Kenite.
- Judges 4:18 - And Jael went out to meet Sisera; and she said to him, Turn here, my lord; turn here to me; do not be afraid. So he turned to her into her tent, and she covered him with a rug.
- Judges 4:19 - And he said to her, Give me please a little water to drink, for I am thirsty. And she opened a skin of milk and gave him a drink; then she covered him.
- Judges 4:20 - And he said to her, Stand at the entrance of the tent; and if anyone comes and asks you, saying, Is there a man here? you shall say, No.
- Judges 4:21 - Then Jael the wife of Heber took a tent peg and put a hammer in her hand and went quietly to him. And she drove the peg into his temple, and it pierced through to the ground; for he was sound asleep and exhausted. And he died.
- Judges 4:22 - And Barak was at that moment pursuing Sisera when Jael came out to meet him. And she said to him, Come, and I will show you the man you are seeking. And he went with her; and there was Sisera, fallen dead with the peg in his temple.
- Judges 4:23 - So on that day God subdued Jabin the king of Canaan before the children of Israel.
- Judges 4:24 - And the hand of the children of Israel became heavier and heavier upon Jabin the king of Canaan until they destroyed Jabin the king of Canaan.
- Judges 5:1 - Then Deborah and Barak the son of Abinoam sang on that day, saying:
- Judges 5:2 - That the leaders took the lead in Israel, / That the people have willingly offered themselves, / Bless Jehovah.
- Judges 5:3 - Hear, O kings; give ear, O princes! / I will sing; I, to Jehovah. / I will sing praise to Jehovah / The God of Israel.
- Judges 5:4 - O Jehovah, when You went forth from Seir, / When You marched from the field of Edom, / The earth trembled, the heavens also dripped, / Indeed the clouds dripped water.
- Judges 5:5 - The mountains quaked at the presence of Jehovah, / Sinai there, at the presence of Jehovah the God of Israel.
- Judges 5:6 - In the days of Shamgar the son of Anath, / In the days of Jael, the highways were not used; / And travelers went / On

the roundabout paths.

Judges 5:7 - The villages ceased to act; / They ceased in Israel; / Until I, Deborah, rose up; / Until I rose up as a mother in Israel.

Judges 5:8 - They chose new gods; / Then there was war in their gates. / Was a shield or a spear seen / Among forty thousand in Israel?

Judges 5:9 - My heart is with the commanders of Israel, / Those who offered themselves willingly among the people. / Bless Jehovah!

Judges 5:10 - Tell of it, you who ride on white donkeys, / You who sit on rich carpets, / And you who go upon the way.

Judges 5:11 - Louder than the voice of those who distribute water among the watering places, / There they recount the righteous deeds of Jehovah, / His righteous acts toward His villages in Israel. / Then the people of Jehovah went down to the gates.

Judges 5:12 - Awake! Awake, Deborah! / Awake! Awake, speak forth a song! / Arise, Barak; / And lead captive your captives, son of Abinoam.

Judges 5:13 - Then a remnant of the nobles went down; / The people of Jehovah went down with me against the mighty:

Judges 5:14 - From Ephraim, those who took root in Amalek; / Following you, Benjamin, with your peoples; / From Machir commanders came down, / And from Zebulun those who wielded the staff of him who marshals.

Judges 5:15 - And the princes in Issachar were with Deborah; / And Issachar was true to Barak; / Into the valley they were sent behind him. / Among the divisions of Reuben / There were great resolutions in heart.

Judges 5:16 - Why did you sit among the sheepfolds / Listening to the pipings for the flocks? / In the divisions of Reuben / There were great searchings of heart.

Judges 5:17 - Gilead stayed across the Jordan. / And as for Dan, why did he remain with the ships? / Asher sat at the shore of the sea / And stayed at his landings.

Judges 5:18 - Zebulun was a people that despised their own lives even unto death; / And Naphtali, on the heights of the field.

Judges 5:19 - The kings came; they fought. / At that time the kings of Canaan fought / In Taanach by the waters of Megiddo; / They took no gain of silver.

Judges 5:20 - From heaven the stars fought; / From their courses they fought with Sisera.

Judges 5:21 - The river Kishon swept them away, / The ancient river, the river Kishon. / March on, O my soul, with strength!

Judges 5:22 - At that time the horse hooves stamped / With the prancing, the prancing of their mighty steeds.

Judges 5:23 - Curse Meroz, says the Angel of Jehovah; / Bitterly curse its inhabitants. / For they did not come to the aid of Jehovah, / To the aid of Jehovah against the mighty.

Judges 5:24 - Blessed among women shall Jael be, / The wife of Heber the Kenite; / Blessed among the women in the tent shall she be.

Judges 5:25 - He asked for water; she gave him milk. / In a bowl for nobles she presented him with cream.

Judges 5:26 - She put her hand to the tent peg, / And her right hand to the workman's hammer; / Then she struck Sisera; she smashed his head; / Indeed she shattered and pierced his temples.

Judges 5:27 - At her feet he bowed; he fell; he lay down. / At her feet he bowed; he fell. / Where he bowed, there he fell, destroyed.

Judges 5:28 - Through the window one looks forth and cries shrilly; / The mother of Sisera, through the lattice: / Why is his chariot so long in coming? / Why do the tracks of his chariots delay?

Judges 5:29 - The wisest of her ladies answer her, / And she herself returns an answer to herself:

Judges 5:30 - Have they not found and divided the spoil? / A girl, two girls, to each mighty man. / The spoil of dyed garments to Sisera, / The spoil of dyed garments; / A dyed embroidery, two embroideries, / For the neck of the spoiler.

Judges 5:31 - May all Your enemies so perish, O Jehovah. / But may those who love Him be like the sun / When it rises in its might. And the land had rest forty years.

Day 1

Romans 14:9	For Christ died and lived again for this, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.
Matthew 1:1	The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham:
Galatians 3:14	In order that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

I. The book of Judges shows that Israel had offended God by **rejecting Him as their King; it is a **great wickedness**, a **great evil**, in the sight of God if we reject Him as our King, our Lord, our Head, and our Husband—1 Sam. 8:7; 12:17, 19; Judg. 21:25; 17:6; Luke 19:11-14; Jer. 11:13; Ezek. 16:24:**

- A. We should **continually take, experience, and enjoy Christ as our King, our Lord, our Head, and our Husband** so that He can be our blessing to make us a channel of blessing to the saints and all the churches—Matt. 2:2; John 1:49; Heb. 7:2; Isa. 32:1-2; 33:22; Phil. 2:9-11; Rom. 14:6-9; 2 Cor. 4:5; Col. 2:19; Eph. 1:22-23; 2 Cor. 11:2-3; Hosea 2:19-20; Num. 6:23-27; Psa. 128:5; 48:2.

- B. Matthew 1:1 speaks of Christ as “the son of David, the son of Abraham”:
1. Because we are rebels, we need to **repent** and **receive** Christ as the son of David, that is, as our **authority**, as our **Sovereign and King**, so that He may rule in us and over us in God’s kingdom.
 2. If we have Christ as the son of David, the greater Solomon, we will also have Him as the son of Abraham, the real Isaac; this means that the **more we take Christ as our King** (the son of David), the **more we are under His ruling**, and the more we are under His ruling, the **more we enjoy Him as our blessing** (the son of Abraham); this is the blessing of the processed Triune God consummated as the all-inclusive Spirit—v. 1; Gal. 3:14, 16, 29.
 3. This will cause us to become **channels of blessing for the saints’ progress** (their growth in life) and for their joy of the faith (their enjoyment of Christ); we have been called to bless others, so we, as a blessed people, should always bless others that we may inherit blessing—Phil. 1:25; 1 Pet. 3:9.

Day 2

- 1 Corinthians 11:3** But I want you to know that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of the woman, and God is the head of Christ.
- 1 Corinthians 11:10** Therefore the woman ought to have a sign of submission to authority on her head for the sake of the angels.

II. God raised up Deborah as a judge of Israel who practiced the female submission to the man in order to **keep God’s ordination** and bring all of Israel into a **proper order** under God’s kingship and headship—Judg. 4 —5:

- A. The children of Israel again did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah after Ehud died (4:1), so Jehovah sold Israel into the hand of Jabin the king of Canaan, the captain of whose army was Sisera; he had nine hundred iron chariots, and he oppressed Israel severely for twenty years—vv. 2, 3b.
- B. At the time of Judges 4, the men of Israel had failed in their God-ordained function of leadership; this forced God to do something extraordinary and unusual in **raising up a female, Deborah, as a judge of Israel**; the raising up of such a female changed the entire condition of Israel—vv. 4-5.
- C. The children of Israel cried out to Jehovah (v. 3a), and Deborah, a prophetess, was raised up as a judge of Israel; she would sit under the palm of Deborah, and the children of Israel went up to her for judgment (vv. 4-5).
- D. In the Bible a proper female indicates one who is **in submission to God, one who keeps God’s ordination**; this is the position that Israel should have taken before God as her King, her Lord, her Head, and her Husband, but Israel **violated** God’s ordination, **leaving** her position as God’s wife and **forsaking** Him for hundreds of idols; this brought Israel into a miserable situation and condition:
 1. Samson was a Nazarite from his mother’s womb for the full course of his life; the Nazarite was to let his hair grow long, signifying that he was to **remain in subjection to the Lord’s headship**, wherein is power—Num. 6:5; Judg. 16:17; 1 Cor. 11:3-6, 10, 15.
 2. But Delilah pressed him with her words every day and urged him to tell her the secret of his power until “his soul was tired to death” (Judg. 16:16); because of Satan’s wearing-out tactics, Samson fell into Satan’s snare, his hair was shaved by Delilah, and he was captured by the Philistines, losing his Nazarite consecration, his power, his testimony of sanctification, and God’s presence (Dan. 7:25).
 3. Those who accept the different and wrong teaching that the believers should not submit to deputy authorities appointed by God will be spoiled by this teaching; with us (especially with the married sisters—Eph. 5:22-24), there should be a **submissive spirit, standing, atmosphere, and intention**; if you are such a person, there will be a great blessing for you and for your future.
- E. By reading Deborah’s song in Judges 5, we can see that she was full of ability, capacity, insight, and foresight, but such an excellent and capable person was **very submissive**; God made her the leader, yet she kept the proper order and took Barak as her covering—4:6-9; cf. 1 Cor. 11:3-6, 10.
- F. Deborah realized that she needed a man to be her covering; as Paul says in 1 Corinthians 11:3: “Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of the woman, and God is the head of Christ.”
- G. When this excellent, extraordinary woman took the lead to practice the female submission to the man, the entire country came into an excellent and proper order; all the leaders took the lead, all the people followed, and the army was formed; **everyone returned to his or her proper position before Jehovah**.
- H. Thus, Deborah could say in her song, “That the leaders took the lead in Israel,/That the people have willingly offered themselves,/Bless Jehovah.../Then a remnant of the nobles went down;/The people of Jehovah went down with me against the mighty”—Judg. 5:2, 13.

Day 3

Philippians 2:8	And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient even unto death, and that the death of a cross.
Ephesians 5:22	Wives, be subject to your own husbands as to the Lord.
1 Peter 3:5	For in this manner formerly the holy women also, who hoped in God, adorned themselves, being subject to their own husbands.

- I. The first and greatest function of the sisters in the church is to be **submissive**; if the sisters can learn this lesson, the church will be **strong, enriched, and renewed**:
 1. To be submissive requires the **supply of life**, the **enjoyment of grace**, the **working of the cross**, and the **denial of the self**.
 2. **Those who are filled with Christ are filled with submission**; the Lord, who was submissive throughout His life, has given us His life of submission and obedience—Phil. 2:5-11; Heb. 5:7-9.
 3. For a sister to marry a brother means that she is willing to offer herself up and say, “I am willing to submit”; if a sister has never intended in her heart to submit to the one whom she intends to marry, she should not be his wife and should not marry him—Eph. 5:22-23; 1 Pet. 3:1-6.

First Corinthians 11:10 says, “*Therefore the woman ought to have a sign of submission to authority on her head for the sake of the angels.*” Sisters, the angels are watching; the angels are observing whether a proper order is being kept according to God’s ordination. First Peter 5:5 speaks of girding ourselves with humility toward one another, but the same verse also tells younger men to be subject to those who are older. **We all should have humility toward one another and also be in subjection to those older than us**, because age still exists in God’s creation, according to His ordination; this still means something. The younger must respect the older, according to God’s ordination. In Christ there is no distinction between male and female, but humanly, there is male and female, there is husband and wife, and there should be **submission and subjection according to God’s ordination**.

Head covering is a sign of authority. In the New Testament age, being the age of reality, Christ is the reality of everything in the Old Testament and the reality of every positive thing. For this reason, there are very few physical things that we are instructed to maintain. However, there are at least three physical matters that are specifically mentioned: water baptism, the Lord’s table with its physical elements, and head covering. In the churches we do not practice head covering in the way of an ordinance or regulation; instead, we allow the sisters to live by the arbitrating peace of Christ. It is interesting that the first two matters apply to all the believers. We all should be baptized, and we all should partake of the Lord’s table if we are in a proper condition. However, **concerning head covering as a sign of submission to authority, it is only the sisters who have the privilege to bear this sign**. The brothers do not have this privilege, because in this ordination the males, the brothers, represent Christ. However, in reality every brother is “a sister”; that is, every brother is a female and should take Christ as his Head. We all must take Christ as our Head, but only the sisters have the privilege of bearing a head covering as a sign of this submission. (*The Ministry of the Word, Vol. 25, No. 04: Crystallization-study of Joshua, Judges, Ruth*)

Day 4

Judges 5:7	The villages ceased to act; / They ceased in Israel; / Until I, Deborah, rose up; / Until I rose up as a mother in Israel.
Romans 16:13	Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother as well as mine.
Romans 16:1-2	I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a deaconess of the church which is in Cenchrea, That you receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints and assist her in whatever matter she may have need of you; for she herself has also been the patroness of many, of myself as well.

III. Deborah rose up not only as a judge of Israel but also as a **mother in Israel**— Judg. 5:7:

- A. When the church life in practicality reaches a peak, there should be some **real mothers in every church**; in Romans 16:13 Paul says, “Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother as well as mine”:

1. The apostle Paul needed a mother; without a sister as a mother to take care of them, all of those who bear the burden for the Lord's service would be sorrowful; we all need the care of spiritual mothers, whose care is our [real nourishment and our real protection](#).
 2. Paul's having a spiritual mother indicates that the saints in the church life in Rome had a [life transfer through the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ](#); the best way to have a life transfer is by following the pattern of Paul, who did not determine to know anything but the all-inclusive Christ, and this One crucified—1 Cor. 2:2.
- B. The Gospel of John is a book on life, not on the natural life but on the [transferred and transformed life](#); originally, John was not Mary's son, and Mary was not John's mother, but by [Christ's life-releasing death](#), [by His life-dispensing resurrection](#), and [by His life union](#) with them, His beloved disciple could be one with Him and become the son of His mother, and she could become the mother of His beloved disciple—19:26-27.

Day 5

John 19:26-27	Then Jesus, seeing His mother and the disciple whom He loved standing by, said to His mother, Woman, behold, your son. Then He said to the disciple, Behold, your mother. And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.
John 3:6	That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

- C. Our first relationship is in the flesh, but the second is in the spirit, that is, in the transferred life; because we have the second birth (3:6), surely we have the second relationship, the second family relationship with the real sisters and the real mothers.
- D. If the sisters exercise their spirit of prayer and faith to be real mothers (2 Cor. 4:13), they will realize how selfish they are and how much they are in themselves; having good children in the spirit will expose them to the uttermost; furthermore, the sisters will [grow and mature in life by taking care of some spiritual children](#).
- E. If the sisters love the Lord and mean business to be for the church life in the Lord's recovery, they need to consider themselves as [serving nurses](#), as [church nurses, who give nursing care in the church as a true hospital](#); all the sisters need to be serving sisters by [prayer and loving mothers by the most excellent way of love](#) in order to help the needy ones and the younger ones in their spiritual life and church life; this is the best way to receive the blessing, the growth, the spirituality, and the real enjoyment of the Lord—Rom. 16:1-2, 13; Isa. 66:12-13; 1 Cor. 12:31b; 13:4-7.

Day 6

Judges 5:15-16	And the princes in Issachar were with Deborah; / And Issachar was true to Barak; / Into the valley they were sent behind him. / Among the divisions of Reuben / There were great resolutions in heart. Why did you sit among the sheepfolds / Listening to the pipings for the flocks? / In the divisions of Reuben / There were great searchings of heart.
Judges 5:31	May all Your enemies so perish, O Jehovah. / But may those who love Him be like the sun / When it rises in its might. And the land had rest forty years.

IV. The Bible says that at that time among God's people, there were "[great resolutions in heart](#)," and there were "[great searchings of heart](#)"—Judg. 5:15-16:

- A. To have a **great resolve** is to [make a firm decision](#), and to have a **great searching** is to [devise a plan to live to the Lord and to live out the Lord](#) for His up-to-date recovery in the building up of His Body, the preparation of His bride, and the ushering in of His kingdom in its manifestation—2 Cor. 5:14-15; Rom. 14:7-9; Rev. 19:7-9.
- B. As Brother Lee was in the process of being oppressed by the Japanese military police in 1943, the Lord gave him a dream in which he saw the [day dawn](#), like the dawning in the morning, with a [broad highway](#), [very bright](#), [very straight](#), and [stretching on boundlessly](#); this is the [broad highway](#), the [rising sun](#), and the [boundless future of the Lord's recovery](#)—cf. Prov. 4:18.
- C. We need to aspire and pray to be like those whom Deborah describes at the end of her song, which concludes in a glorious way: "May those who love Him be like the sun/When it rises in its might"—Judg. 5:31:

1. For the sun to rise in its might means that it shines brightly, brilliantly, and gloriously; if all the churches would experience the resolutions, the searchings, and the rising up to shine like the sun, they **surely would enjoy the Lord as their victory**.
2. The **overcomers** who are **reconstituted with the healing Christ** as the Sun of righteousness will **shine forth like the sun in the kingdom of their Father**—Mal. 4:2; Luke 1:78-79; Matt. 13:43.

To have a **great resolve** is to make a **firm decision**, and to have a **great searching** is to **devise a plan to live to the Lord and to live out the Lord** for His up-to-date recovery in the building up of His Body, the preparation of His bride, and the ushering in of His kingdom in its manifestation. May the messages in this training serve in this way, that is, to cause a response of great resolutions in heart, especially in the sisters, and of great searchings of heart that the Lord would be in us what He should be. We should not care about our situation, limitations, and history. **We should care only about enjoying Him and letting Him be our King and Lord**. This will bring in His kingdom so that He will be the Head, and there will be more of the reality of the Body of Christ in us, in our home, in our family, and in our local church. When He is our King, Lord, and Head, **He will also be our Husband**, for there will be more of the reality of the bride. Then in His coming in the next age, He will be what He should be—He will be the King, the Lord, the Head, and the Husband. **He needs some today to usher in these things with Him being what He should be in us**. (*The Ministry of the Word, Vol. 25, No. 04: Crystallization-study of Joshua, Judges, Ruth*)