



Judges 4: Faith, Hesitation, and Divine Victory

A Study in God's Sovereignty and Human Obedience

Then she sent and called for Barak the son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "Has not the LORD God of Israel commanded, 'Go and deploy *troops* at Mount Tabor; take with you ten thousand men of the sons of Naphtali and of the sons of Zebulun;

Call to the Word Judges 4:6-7; 14

**and against you I will deploy Sisera, the
commander of Jabin's army, with his
chariots and his multitude at the River
Kishon; and I will deliver him into your
hand'?"**

Call to the Word Judges 4:6-7; 14

Then Deborah said to Barak, "Up! For this *is* the day in which the LORD has delivered Sisera into your hand. Has not the LORD gone out before you?" So Barak went down from Mount Tabor with ten thousand men following him.

Call to the Word Judges 4:6-7; 14

Have you ever faced a situation where the odds were clearly stacked against you?

Where the resources weren't enough, the people weren't willing, and fear felt stronger than faith?

Introduction

Outline

- **A Tragic Situation: (vv 1-3)**
- **A Divine Revelation: (vv 4-7)**
- **A Reluctant Participant: (vv8-10)**
- **A Victorious Confrontation: (vv. 11–15)**

Introduction

- Israel again did evil after Ehud's death –
Judges 4:1
- God 'sold' them into Jabin's hand –
Judges 4:2
- Harsh oppression by Sisera, 900 iron
chariots – **Judges 4:3**

Act One: A Tragic Situation - Judges 4:1-3

Idolatry: attempting to fill a God-shaped void with false gods

(any master-passion other than God)

Act One: A Tragic Situation - Judges 4:1-3

- Modern parallels: materialism, self-worship, entertainment, religion without relationship
- What we worship, we become –
– Psalm 115:4–8, 2 Cor 3:18

Act One: A Tragic Situation - Judges 4:1-3

Israel cried out – 'za'aq' – raw, desperate
groaning before God

Act One: A Tragic Situation - Judges 4:1-3

Summons Barak – “Has not God has
commanded... – Judges 4:6–7

Why a question? To stir faith, test courage,
avoid coercion, emphasize divine source

Act Two: A Divine Revelation – Judges 4:4-7

God's strategy:

'I will draw out Sisera' – setup for victory

God controls both sides of the battle –

Gen 50:20, Prov 16:4, Ps 76:10

Act Two: A Divine Revelation – Judges 4:4-7

- God uses enemy strength against him – like Pharaoh
- Sisera drawn to terrain where chariots fail

Not Star Wars –

God vs Satan is not a battle of equal powers

Act Two: A Divine Revelation – Judges 4:4-7

God uses even evil to fulfill His purposes

Acts 2:23

*Victory is already staged – we fight from it,
not for it*

Act Two: A Divine Revelation – Judges 4:4-7

'If you go with me, I will go'

Judges 4:8

Barak's faith was hesitant, not absent

God still honors imperfect faith

Hebrews 11:32

We often want a 'Deborah' with us for
confirmation and courage

Act Three: A Reluctant Participant – Judges 4:8-10

Spiritual Hesitation

Seen in Moses, Gideon, Barak –

These delays were not disobedience

Hesitation often masks insecurity or need
for clarity

Application: Obedience matters more than
confidence

Act Three: A Reluctant Participant – Judges 4:8-10

900 chariots vs 10,000 foot soldiers

'Superior technology vs superior theology'
– *Wiersbe*

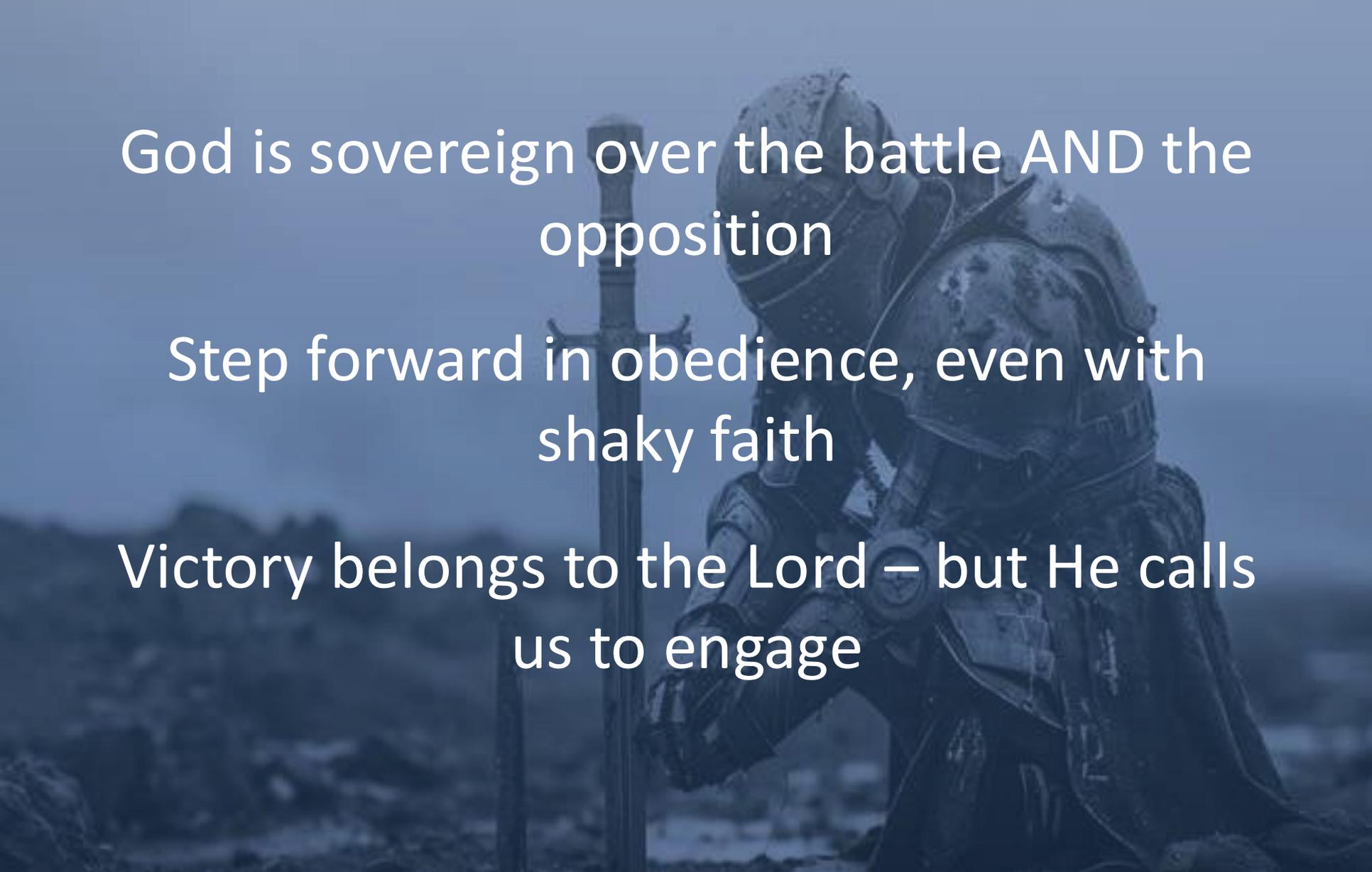
God dismantles human systems with divine
strategy

Act Four: Victorious Confrontation – Judges 4:11-15

'Has not the LORD gone out before you?' –
Judges 4:14

Leadership by questioning – inspires faith,
not fear because God is already on the
battlefield

Act Four: Victorious Confrontation – Judges 4:11-15



God is sovereign over the battle AND the
opposition

Step forward in obedience, even with
shaky faith

Victory belongs to the Lord – but He calls
us to engage

Act Four: Victorious Confrontation – Judges 4:11-15

A knight in full plate armor is kneeling on a battlefield. The armor is dark and weathered, with a helmet that has a visor. The knight's hands are clasped in prayer. To the left of the knight, a sword is planted upright in the ground, its hilt visible. The background is a hazy, overcast sky and a distant horizon. The overall tone is somber and reflective.

Judges 4: Faith, Hesitation, and Divine Victory

A Study in God's Sovereignty and Human Obedience