

Hebrews 11

BARAK

Hebrews 11:32b

Introduction

Hebrews 11 has mention Barak by name as an example of faith to follow after or learn from. There is not much detail given of Barak save what is found in Judges 4-5. Although he himself was not called to be the judge over Israel at this time, there was a call given to carry out certain tasks set before him. He was not necessarily what you would call a brave, bold, and courageous man as we would often think a warrior to be, yet he had a faith that God has

recorded down in His Word for all His children to observe.

Although the account in Judges 4 and 5 has elevated Deborah to be the judge over Israel, Hebrews 11 has made mention of Barak as an example of faith, and so this study will seek to focus purely on Barak and what the LORD did in his life that has granted him the honour of being exalted as an example of true faith.

Hebrews 11 is simply a presentation and demonstration of real people with real-life testimonies crying out that the life of faith is the only life worth living as a child of God, and helping us to see, that in truth, the Lord Jesus Christ is the Author and Finisher of our faith. Let us go on to glean how faith is manifested through the life and account of Barak and seek to draw biblical principles and practical applications to assist in our own personal walk of faith.

Born:	➤ <i>Unknown BC</i>
Barak's account is Found:	➤ Judges 4-5
Barak's name mentioned 14 times in Scripture:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Judges 4:6 ➤ Judges 4:8-10 (3) ➤ Judges 4:12 ➤ Judges 4:14-16 (4) ➤ Judges 4:22 ➤ Judges 5:1 ➤ Judges 5:12 ➤ Judges 5:15 ➤ Hebrews 11:32
Some points of character:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sincere (Judges 4:8) ➤ Obedient (Judges 4:14) ➤ Persistent (Judges 4:16) ➤ Thankful (Judges 5)
Death	➤ <i>Unknown BC</i>
Key Verses	➤ Judges 4:8,10,14; 5:2

OUTLINE SUMMARY OF THE BIBLE ACCOUNT OF BARAK

Judges 4:

- 1-2** Israel is delivered up to the hands of the Canaanites
- 3** Israel cried out to God after 20years of oppression
- 4-5** Deborah, a prophetess, judged Israel at that time
- 6-7** Deborah calls for Barak and reminds him of God's command
- 8** Barak proves Deborah's prophesy (*If you'll go, I'll go*)
- 9a** Deborah assures and goes
- 9b-10** Barak obeys God's command
- 11-12** Barak's obedience by Faith initiates God's promise in v7.
- 13** Sisera gathers all his chariots and men, ready for war.
- 14** By faith Barak obeys and goes to claim the promised victory, after be reassured thereof.
- 15** The LORD goes before Barak and fights for him. And the enemy flees
- 16** Barak pursues and kills every man except Sisera, who got away.
- 17-20** Sisera tries to find refuge in Jael's tent
- 21** Jael nailed it. Sisera dies.
- 22** Barak persisted in his pursuit only to find that Sisera has already been taken care of.
- 23-24** God won the victory

Judges 5:

- 1-3** Praise the LORD for the victory
- 4-8** Praise the LORD for preservation of His people
- 9** Praise the LORD for yielded, willing servants
- 10-12** Praise the LORD for deliverance
- 13-18** Praise the LORD for the people of God
- 19-23** Praise the LORD for fighting our enemies
- 24-27** Praise the LORD for Jael
- 28-30** Praise the LORD for justice
- 31** Praise the LORD for rest

In this lesson concerning the faith of Barak we will look at three things:

1. A **Sincere Faith** — Judges 4:1-9 — *Barak Confirmed the Lord's Call*
2. A **Surrendered Faith** — Judges 4:10-24 — *Barak Carried out the Lord's Command*
3. A **Singing Faith** — Judges 5 — *Barak Complimented the Lord's Conquests*

Memory verse: (Judges 5:2) *Praise ye the LORD for the avenging of Israel, when the people willingly offered themselves.*

1. A SINCERE FAITH

I) THE LORD'S CALL

The LORD will not let you forget His call

- a. The LORD through Deborah reminds Barak of His call.

“And she sent and called Barak the son of Abinoam out of Kedeshnaphtali, and said unto him, **Hath not the LORD God of Israel commanded, saying,** Go and draw toward mount Tabor, and take with thee ten thousand men of the children of Naphtali and of the children of Zebulun?”

(Judges 4:6)

THE LORD OFTEN USES HIS CHILDREN TO CALL OTHERS

- b. The LORD through Deborah assures Barak of His support and success.

“And **I will** draw unto thee to the river Kishon Sisera, the captain of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his multitude; and **I will** deliver him into thine hand.”

(Judges 4:7)

THE LORD IS SPECIFIC WITH HIS CALL

It is not an uncommon thing for God to use His children to call others to the ministry. We see how God used Moses to call Aaron, Elijah to call Elisha, Samuel to anoint David, the disciples to appoint elders, and so forth. Although God uses His children to call others to the ministry, the call is always recognised by others, and the call is always specific in what part of the body God would have you to function in unity with the whole body. Even though God uses His children in this way, the called must always seek confirmation of the LORD, lest he step by faith on the word of man alone—his failure will be inevitable.

II) THE LORD'S CONFIRMATION

The LORD will always confirm His call

a. Barak seeks confirmation.

“And Barak said unto her, **If thou wilt go** with me, **then I will go**: but **if thou wilt not go** with me, **then I will not go**.

(Judges 4:8)

TRUE FAITH ALWAYS SINCERELY SEEKS GOD'S CONFIRMATION

b. Barak gets confirmation.

“And she said, **I will surely go** with thee: notwithstanding the journey that thou takest shall not be for thine honour; for the LORD shall sell Sisera into the hand of a woman. And Deborah arose, and went with Barak to Kedesh.”

(Judges 4:9)

TRUE FAITH ALWAYS WAITS FOR GOD'S CONFIRMATION

Conclusion: **BARAK CONFIRMED THE LORD'S CALL**

Application: **FAITH CONFIRMS THE LORD'S CALL**

2. A SURRENDERED FAITH

I) THE LORD'S COMMAND

Works of faith are always done according to God's Word

a. Barak did as the LORD said

And she said, I will surely go with thee: notwithstanding the journey that thou takest shall not be for thine honour; for the LORD shall sell Sisera into the hand of a woman. And Deborah arose, **and went with Barak** to Kedesh. **And Barak called Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh; and he went up with ten thousand men at his feet:** and Deborah went up with him.

(Judges 4:9-10)

FAITH ALWAYS PERFORMS IN UNISON WITH GOD'S WORD

b. Barak's obedience initiated the LORD's promise

Now Heber the Kenite, *which was* of the children of Hobab the father in law of Moses, had severed himself from the Kenites, and pitched his tent unto the plain of Zaanaim, which *is* by Kedesh. And they shewed Sisera that Barak the son of Abinoam was gone up to mount Tabor. And Sisera gathered together all his chariots, *even* nine hundred chariots of iron, and all the people that *were* with him, from Harosheth of the Gentiles unto the river of Kishon.

(Judges 4:11-13)

FAITH INITIATES THE PROMISES OF GOD

II) THE LORD FIGHTS THE BATTLE

God will fight for His children that live by faith

a. The LORD through Deborah reassures Barak of His promise

And Deborah said unto Barak, Up; for this *is* the day in which **the LORD hath delivered** Sisera into thine hand: **is not the LORD gone out before thee?...** So Barak went down from mount Tabor, and ten thousand men after him.

(Judges 4:14a)

FAITH LEAVES THE FIGHT IN THE LORD'S HANDS

b. Barak goes forward by faith

...So **Barak went** down from mount Tabor, and ten thousand men after him.
(Judges 4:14b)

FAITH OBEYS RIGHT AWAY

c. The LORD is faithful to His Word

And **the LORD** discomfited Sisera, and all *his* chariots, and all *his* host, with the edge of the sword before Barak; so that Sisera lighted down off *his* chariot, and fled away on his feet.
(Judges 4:15)

FAITH RESTS ON GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

d. Barak pursued those who got away

But **Barak pursued** after the chariots, and after the host, unto Harosheth of the Gentiles: and all the host of Sisera fell upon the edge of the sword; *and* there was not a man left. Howbeit Sisera fled away on his feet to the tent of Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite: for *there was* peace between Jabin the king of Hazor and the house of Heber the Kenite.
(Judges 4:16-17)

And, behold, **as Barak pursued** Sisera, Jael came out to meet him, and said unto him, Come, and I will shew thee the man whom thou seekest. And when he came into her *tent*, behold, Sisera lay dead, and the nail *was* in his temples.
(Judges 4:22)

FAITH FINISHES THE COURSE

e. The LORD gave the victory

So **God subdued** on that day Jabin the king of Canaan before the children of Israel. And the hand of the children of Israel prospered, and prevailed against Jabin the king of Canaan, until they had destroyed Jabin king of Canaan.
(Jdg 4:23-24)

FAITH IS THE VICTORY

Conclusion: **BARAK CARRIED OUT THE LORD'S COMMANDS**

Application: **FAITH CARRIES OUT THE LORD'S COMMANDS**

3. A SINGING FAITH

BARAK PRAISES THE LORD

Faith produces praise to God

a. Barak praises the LORD individually

Then **sang** Deborah and Barak the son of Abinoam on that day, saying, **Praise ye the LORD** for the avenging of Israel, when the people willingly offered themselves.

(Judges 5:1,2)

FAITH ALWAYS GIVES GOD THE GLORY

b. Barak praises the LORD openly

Hear, O ye kings; give ear, O ye princes; I, *even* I, will sing unto the LORD; I will sing *praise* to the LORD God of Israel.

(Judges 5:3)

FAITH ALWAYS PRAISES GOD OPENLY

c. Barak praises the LORD specifically

(See “Outline Summary of the Bible Account of Barak; Judges 5:1-31)

FAITH CAN ALWAYS PRAISE GOD IN ALL THINGS

Conclusion: BARAK COMPLIMENTED THE LORD’S CONQUESTS

Application: FAITH COMPLIMENTS THE LORD’S CONQUESTS

SUMMARY

1. A SINCERE FAITH

Conclusion: **BARAK CONFIRMED THE LORD'S CALL**

Application: **FAITH CONFIRMS THE LORD'S CALL**

FAITH IS ALWAYS SINCERE

2. A SURRENDERED FAITH

Conclusion: **BARAK CARRIED OUT THE LORD'S COMMANDS**

Application: **FAITH CARRIES OUT THE LORD'S COMMANDS**

FAITH IS ALWAYS SURRENDERED

3. A SINGING FAITH

Conclusion: **BARAK COMPLIMENTED THE LORD'S CONQUESTS**

Application: **FAITH COMPLIMENTS THE LORD'S CONQUESTS**

FAITH IS ALWAYS SINGING

ACCORDING TO THE RECORD OF GIDEON'S ACCOUNT AND
COMMENDATION OF FAITH:

**FAITH IS ALWAYS SINCERE
FAITH IS ALWAYS SURRENDERED
FAITH IS ALWAYS SINGING**