

always succeeded and consequently he has become a little over-confident. Now if he would stop and be cautious and be careful he would say that would be a good idea to go there,-- they are at my mercy but if it rains I would be at their mercy,-- I had better not. I had better stay back a bit further, even at the risk of losing them. Or I had better go off and attack their houses and their families and put them in a condition where they will have to come down. I had better not rush in there where I have them at my mercy if it stays dry weather, because of the real danger connected with it. Maybe Sisera is becoming cautious as he gets a little older. Well, Deborah is a good judge of human nature; she has been observing Sisera, but suppose she makes a mistake. I'm not going to risk my reputation on Deborah's good judgment.

And so, in verse 8, Barak said, "If thou wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go". In other words, Barak said, "I think she is right, I think her judgment is good, or if the Lord has really spoken to her I know it is right. But, he said, she's got to take the responsibility, I am not going to take it. She must go with me, everybody knows it is her plan, she is leading us,-- and then if it fails they won't curse me and say Barak ruined Israel, but they will say Deborah proved to be a false prophet. So he said, "If thou wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go."

And then you will notice the answer that Deborah makes. Deborah said, "I will go with you: but nevertheless the journey that thou takest shall not be for thine honor; for the Lord shall sell ^{Sisera} ~~Sisera~~ into the hand of a woman. What do you suppose Barak thought she meant? Do you think there is any question that Barak thought what she meant was that if she went she would get the credit for it. The Lord would sell Sisera into the hand of a woman,-- Deborah would get the credit for it. Barak said,