

what the weather is going to be than most people could. She may have reason. She may have compared the calendar for years back and noticed the general situation. She may have good reason for thinking that after we get up on the hill there will be a storm that will put Sisera's troops at our mercy. She may have.

Also she has been keeping up with political traditions and ~~gossip~~ gossip. She knows about this character how apt he is to take chances. Yet Sisera has taken a few rather foolish chances and had difficulty in the past. Who knows that some of the other counsellors have criticized him pretty strongly for this, and he'll be extra cautious this time. What reason have we to think Sisera will do such a thing? Such a foolish thing as to take this chance? Now if Sisera camps somewhere else around the mountain, he can simply camp there and satch the mountain and our men could stay up there on top the mountain until they starve! Meantime he could send some of his men to ravage our homes, carry our wives off as slaves. We'll have to come down to our homes and then we'll be at their mercy.

If we stay up there we'll soon be starved, unless Sisera comes to the place where she says God will lure him, this can end in utter disaster. Now Deborah says that God has told her this. That God says this is going to happen in the future. This is an organic prophecy. It is a prophecy of what God will do to deliver his people and exactly how God is going to do it. How do I know God really spoke to Deborah? How do I know she is not just a clever woman who has figured all this thing out and she's very likely right? But suppose she's wrong! Or maybe she has been fooled and thought God spoke to her and He didn't. It's pretty dangerous thing to do.

Barak said to her(v.8) "If you will go with me, I will go; but if you don't go with me, I won't go." Well, if Deborah went up the mountain with the 10,000 troops it wouldn't add greatly to their strength! But it would mean that if == that everybody would know this is Deborah's idea, not Barak's. It would mean that if it failed, she would get the blame, and he won't be cursed and reviled for subsequent generations, for having caused this terrible disaster. He'll probably lose his life, but he doesn't want his reputation destroyed forever.

We read Deborah said, "Very well, I will go with you. But because of the way you are going about this, the honor will not be yours, for the Lord will hand Sisera over to a woman." On the expedition you are undertaking(reading NIV here) the honor will not be yours for the Lord will hand Sisera over to a woman. Does that mean Deborah is going to seize Sisera with her own hands and kill him? Does it mean he's going to become a slave to her? No. He thinks it is a general term using Sisera for the whole army. It means that the army will be destroyed and that Deborah will get the honor of it.

Well he thinks, there's plenty of glory for both of us. I'm willing to take that chance. But if it fails, I'm not going to take the blame. She he went to Kedesh and summoned Zebulon and Naphtali. 10,000 men followed him and Deborah also, went with him. We read on and find it happened just as Barak thought it might perhaps happen.