

Now we find Deborah making a prediction in verse 9. It is, however, a prediction which Barak doubtless understood very differently from the way in which it was actually fulfilled. As we read the verse, we find that the impression which Barak would doubtless have received from it would be that she is willing to go if he wants, but, she says, the journey that he takes will not be for his honor, "for the Lord shall sell Sisera into the hands of a woman." Barak, of course, thinks that she means that Sisera will be sold into her hands and that she will receive the credit for the victory. ~~He~~ He thinks that it is an effort to arouse his pride and force him to go and take the responsibility upon himself.

We all know how this prophecy was fulfilled. It does not seem that Deborah received the credit for the victory, but that Sisera was killed by the woman, Jael, as described in verse 21.

This prediction was literally fulfilled, but the words are fulfilled in a way different from that which Barak would naturally have understood them to mean. Whether Deborah herself understood just what they meant is something which we do not know.

The prediction which we find given in verse 9 is quite a different type of prediction in verse 7. The prediction in verse 7 might be called an organic prediction. It is a prediction which tells how God is going to perform his work and accomplish his purpose. He is going to deliver the Israelites out of the hand of their oppressors. He is going to do it by causing the oppressors to get into a position where they are in great danger and can be destroyed by the Israelites. This is all a prophecy closely related to the carrying forward of the definite purposes of God.

Now the prediction in verse 9 is <sup>of an</sup> entirely different type. It is one we might, for want of a better term, perhaps call an incidental prediction. It predicts an incidental fact. After all it does not make a great deal of difference whether Sisera is killed or not. The important thing is that the Israelites are