

11/17/72

Isaiah Class -- Organic & Inorganic Prophecy
Illustrated from Judges 4-5; Ps. 22; Isa. 53

000300

Copy 1

This morning I'm going to take a step backwards and get a running start in order to throw light on one or two things that are yet ahead in the sections of Isa. 53 at which we have looked. So if you would open your Bibles to Judges 4, we have the story of an event in which certain prophecies are contained. I want you to look carefully at the prophecies to see their bearing, see what the similarities or difference between them is, see exactly what you think they mean.

Reading text of Judges 4:1-3. He had 900 chariots of iron. We notice this is the beginning of the iron age. The Israelites did not yet have much that was iron. They had bronze implements, and bronze is probably just as good as iron for most purposes, but it is harder to make. It is much harder to mould, to fit into proper shapes. There is less of it and so a great deal of iron is better than a little bronze and these people had access to iron. Eventually the Israelites got it but not until after the reign of Saul. So here he had 900 chariots of iron and also he had the ^{horses} ~~chariots~~ to draw the chariots. With the horses and with his 900 chariots of iron he could overcome 10,000 Israelites very easily. The chariots and horses could make a dash in among them and destroy them and disappear before they could do anything. So he could make his lightning war on them. The result was that he with a much smaller number of people held this great number of Israelites in subjection.

Then we read that after 20 years, the time came (vs.4) that Deborah, a prophetess.....she judged Israel at that time.. They do not try to give us a history of all the events in the judging of Israel. The civil history of Israel is not given much during this period because the purpose of the book of Judges is to show us how the people turned away from God at times and how God delivered them in time, and the accounts of the civil govt. are rather incidental.