

Therefore we have no reason to know that Deborah is the only woman who ever judged Israel. We don't know who the leaders were and what the situation was. At this time Deborah was the one who was judging Israel so she occupied a position of great importance among these downtrodden people. She dwelt under the palm tree of Deborah. You see how important she became so that the particular place was named after her. Between Ramah and Bethel in mount Ephraim, and the children of Israel came up to her for judgment."

"And she sent and called Barak the son of Abinoam out of Kedesh-naphtali," In our days ~~when~~ with all the weapons of war that you have almost an army of women could probably could fight/as well as an army of men. But in those days war was a matter of physical strength to quite a large extent, and women were pretty much bystanders when it came to war. So though she is judging Israel, here is a war situation and she calls Barak the son of Abinoam out of Kedesh-naphtali. Now Barak may have been a man of great importance in the political life of Israel at the time. But all we know about him is ~~what~~ ^{what} is told here, how Deborah called on him to give help in this special emergency. And she said to him, God and draw toward mount Tabor. She started earlier: "Hath not the Lord God of Israel commanded saying - that's a peculiar way to say it isn't it? Has he not commanded? Well, how does he know? She means that the command is given to her. She knows it and she is passing it on. Hasn't the Lord commanded? God and draw toward Mt. Tabor and take with thee 10,000 men of the children of Naphtali and of the children of Zebulun. Under ordinary circumstances that would be a very very foolish command to give. The children of Israel were scattered here and there, living in caves and hovels trying to get along. A smaller number of the Canaanites would come through occasionally and would plunder them, but they were managing to survive. But you get 10,000 of them together and immediately Sisera and his chariots