



This week at MRC we reached chapter 4 of Judges and considered Deborah and Barak, but also sought to deal with a number of questions or concerns that we might have with the account (and beyond)

- But what about all the blood and death?
- But what about Deborah (and women (and Barak)))?
- But what about the tent peg?
- But what does this all mean for us on a Monday?
 - 1. Jesus is the ruler we need - he's one with both the wisdom of Deborah and the courage to save of Barak. He rescues us and he rules us.
 - 2. Jesus is at work - chapter 5 gives us a bigger theological reflection on God's actions - even in the mess we see his plans and purposes being worked out.
 - 3. We need Jesus - in one sense we are God's enemies like the Canaanites, deserving

I would suggest listening in if you haven't to engage with some of the answers to the questions.

Here are some starter discussion questions

- How would you explain to an interested but confused friend who was struggling to engage with judges due to the Ideas of conquest etc?
- What do you make of Deborah in this account? What is she like? What role does she play? How does she feed into and shape our understanding of a complementarity between the sexes? How can we get better at this as a church?
- What do you make of the ability of God to both use evil and wrong-doing in his purposes and yet not be capable for it?
- How does this chapter point us to Jesus?