



JUDGES

o u r d e e p e s t n e e d



LEAD CLASS

Conscience:

What It Is, How to Train It, and Loving Those Who Differ

with Dr. Andy Naselli

March 4 // Register Online

Judges 4 - tells the story (this week)

Judges 4 – tells the story (this week)

Judges 5 – sings the story (next week)

Marvin
Olasky

Lament
for a
Father

The Journey to Understanding
and Forgiveness



“Three introverted males reading or playing chess, in silence befitting a Trappist monastery. Into the room lopes my thin and dark-haired mother, who wants to see the world but is now stuck in an apartment half a mile from where she grew up.

“At age 6 I miss subtle signs of marital discord, but it’s hard to mistake misery when she periodically screams, ‘Harvard man! Lazy! No ambition! Why don’t we have a house! Why don’t we go anywhere?’

“My father walks into their bedroom and closes the door. Sometimes my mother goes after him.”

Marvin Olasky



There are risks and costs to action.
But they are far less than the long
range risks of comfortable inaction.

— *John F. Kennedy* —

1. They are **imitating** their **neighbors**.

“And the people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord after Ehud died.”

Judges 4:1

1. They are imitating their neighbors.
2. They are **living in fear**.







“In the days of Jael, the highways were **abandoned**, and travelers kept to the byways. The villagers **ceased** in Israel; they **ceased** to be until I arose; I, Deborah, arose as a mother in Israel.”

Judges 5:6-7

1. They are imitating their neighbors.
2. They are living in fear.
3. They are experiencing a **leadership vacuum**.

“Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel at that time. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the people of Israel came up to her for judgment.”

Judges 4:4-5

“She sent and summoned Barak the son of Abinoam from Kedesh-naphtali and said to him, ‘Has not the Lord, the God of Israel, commanded you, “Go, gather your men at Mount Tabor, taking 10,000 from the people of Naphtali and the people of Zebulun.”’

“And I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin’s army, to meet you by the river Kishon with his chariots and his troops, and I will give him into your hand”?

“Barak said to her, ‘If you will go with me, I will go, but if you will not go with me, I will not go.’ And she said, ‘I will surely go with you. Nevertheless, the road on which you are going will not lead to your glory, for the Lord will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman.’

“Then Deborah arose and went with Barak to Kedesh. And Barak called out Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh. And 10,000 men went up at his heels, and Deborah went up with him.”

Judges 4:6-10

“Now Heber the Kenite had separated from the Kenites, the descendants of Hobab the father-in-law of Moses, and had pitched his tent as far away as the oak in Zaananim, which is near Kedesh.”

Judges 4:11

- Sisera calls out his chariots. (12-13)

- Sisera calls out his chariots. (12-13)
- Barak, prompted by Deborah, leads out his men. (14-16)



“And the Lord routed Sisera and all his chariots and all his army before Barak by the edge of the sword. And Sisera got down from his chariot and fled away on foot.

“And Barak pursued the chariots and the army to Harosheth-hagoyim, and all the army of Sisera fell by the edge of the sword; not a man was left.”

Judges 4:15-16

“Lord, when you went out from Seir,
when you marched from the region of Edom,
the earth trembled
and the heavens dropped,
yes, the clouds dropped water.
The mountains quaked before the Lord,
even Sinai before the Lord, the God of Israel.”

Judges 5:4-5

“But Sisera fled away on foot to the tent of Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite, for there was peace between Jabin the king of Hazor and the house of Heber the Kenite.”

Judges 4:17

- Sisera calls out his chariots. (12-13)
- Barak, prompted by Deborah, leads out his men. (14-16)
- Jael takes out the commander. (17-22)

“And the hand of the people of Israel pressed harder and harder against Jabin the king of Canaan, until they destroyed Jabin king of Canaan.”

Judges 4:24





JUDGES

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“And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him:

“bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power.”

Colossians 1:1-11a

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

“And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.”

Colossians 1:15-17, 20

“Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.”

Colossians 1:28-29

“At first glance, an iron chain bonds together generation after generation. And I’m part of that chain. I’ve realized in the course of this research how self-centered I was. Not only as a child but as an adult.

“Why did I have so little interest in seeing my parents not primarily as people to meet my needs (or not), but as individuals with their own struggles? I never really cared to find out about that.

“Yet sometimes, with God’s grace and mercy,
that iron chain becomes a readily-breakable
daisy chain.

“Those who see the miraculous transition cry out joyfully, as the Apostle Paul did, ‘Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!’

“When we have faith in God, we can look squarely at our own sin because nothing is a surprise to God. We learn that we’re worse than we have imagined but more loved than we could have hoped for.”

Marvin Olasky