

From the human viewpoint it appears entirely accidental that Sisera should escape from the field of battle and should happen to come to the tent of Jael, the wife of Heber, the Kenite. It appears entirely accidental that Sisera should look for safety at that tent, and that Jael should treacherously bring him in and get him completely at her mercy and then kill him. There are many details of circumstance entering into this which could not possibly be predicted by any mere human guess, and certainly do not form part of the strategy of the battle. Yet God permits Deborah to make this specific prediction of this incidental fact, a prediction the full meaning of which could not be understood by Barak when it was given and possibly not even by Deborah herself, and yet a prediction which was literally fulfilled in a remarkable way.

We have thus in the fulfillment of this prediction a remarkable evidence given to Deborah and to the people there, that Deborah was not merely a wise leader with clever political insight and sagacity, but that she was actually a prophetess, that is, one who spoke as the mouthpiece of God and who was used as his instrument in showing how he would deliver his own people.