

didn't rain and eventually the people above ran out of food and had to come down and were annihilated. It didn't work because the rains didn't come. Well, now somebody might say, well, now that's a beautiful reconstruction and if you were there in Palestine and studied conditions, maybe you would be able to convince yourself that's so, but how are we to be sure that's what it means. Well, I think you can get it right from the text, you don't need the local conditions though they were true.

In chapter 4, it said he said, I will draw unto thee to the river Kishon Sisera, the captain of his hosts. Then over in chapter 5 the Israelites celebrate what happened and see what they say in verse 4: Lord, when thou wentest out of Seir, when thou marchedst out of the field of Edom, the earth trembled, and the heavens dropped, the clouds also dropped water. And then you go over to verse 20, you read they fought from heaven; the stars in their courses fought against Sisera. What does that mean? That the stars fought? No, that the forces of heaven were active in the engagement, that it was forces from above that intervened. Then what happened, the very next verse, verse 21, the river of Kishon swept them away, that ancient river, the river Kishon. O my soul, thou hast trodden down strength. Then were the horsehoofs broken by the means of the pransings, the pransings of their mighty ones. You can just see their horses stumbling around in the mud, trying to get a footing, and trying to pull their heavy chariot wheels out, and they were just caught there and in a situation where it was easy for the Israelites to annihilate them.

So Deborah saw the strategy. Deborah I think said, I mean Barak saw the strategy, and Barak said Deborah is a prophetess and Deborah has told things from the Lord before that worked out. I believe Deborah knows God and that God leads Deborah, and yet anybody can make a mistake. Maybe Deborah has been so successful that she has started trusting her own intelligence here. Maybe Deborah here is thinking of the fact that all she has heard about Sisera's character is that he is an impetuous fellow, he will do the most obvious thing, he's always defeated in the past, and he won't bother to be careful, but Sisera is a little older than he used to be. Maybe Sisera has learned caution, maybe Sisera won't come to this place. She says God says I will draw unto thee to the river Kishon Sisera and his chariots and his multitude, but maybe Sisera won't, maybe he'll