



DEBORAH

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Deborah was a prophetess and Judge over Israel in the Old Testament. She used to sit under a palm tree between Rama and Bethel in the mountains of Ephraim. If any one wanted her advice for something, they would usually find her under her tree.

As a youth, respect Deborah as a prophetess and Judge because she, being a female, surpassed many of the male Judges themselves in many ways.

I also respect her because she was very brave as St Ambrose describes her. What I learned as a youth from her is that she was a widow who ruled over her people, who commanded the army, who chose the commander of the army, and a woman who insisted on war and realized victories. As Deborah once said

and which I learned is that it is courage that depends and determines strength not

gender. What I also learned as a youth is that Deborah symbolizes the Church of GOD and it is described like this through her name. Deborah= Dabourah (which means Bee in Arabic) which gathers honey. It is described in the verse: “Your lips, O my spouse, drip as the honeycomb...,” (Song of Sol. 4:12). Just like the Bee, which gathers honey, Deborah gathers inner Spiritual honey from the gardens of

wisdom and transforms or changes spiritual hardships into enjoyments. Lapidoth, Deborah’s husband, represents the bridegroom of the Church who is the Sun of Righteousness, who shines on those who live in darkness. Just as the verse said, “Your lips, o my spouse..” The spouse represents Lapidoth. The tree, which Deborah sat under, was named after her. The palm tree symbolizes the Holy Cross, which the Church longs to sit under. It stands on the heights as though the Cross-draws the heart of the Church up to Heaven. Since the palm tree was located next to Bethel, it symbolizes the house of GOD and on the mountains of Ephraim where she enjoys spiritual fruitfulness. Deborah encouraged Barak who was her son, although others believe that he was her husband Lapidoth. Any way regardless encouraged him to fight against Sisera with 10,000 men. This symbolizes the Church going into battle against Satan. Barak asked Deborah to go to

War with him and she answered, “... For the Lord will sell

Sisera into the hands of a woman,” She was talking about the war against Sisera and also about the woman named Joel, who killed the King with a tent nail. So overall GOD chose Deborah to be a Judge of Israel who was a very courageous Judge and prophetess in the Old Testament. Deborah’s story is in the book of Judges chapters 4 and 5. I pray that everyone will read it and enjoy this beautiful story and learn



as much from it as I did.