

## SERMON NOTES

**Title: A Few Good Men and Women**

**Text: Judges 2:12-16**

**Topic: Unlikely Heroes**

**Teacher: Pastor Barry**

**Time: 5/10/26**



The Israelites make **two mistakes** after conquering the Promise Land.

1. They did not drive out all the **inhabitants**. Our **environment** can influence us toward wrong.
2. They failed to instill a **love and devotion** for God in their children.

*“...another generation grew up, who knew neither the LORD nor what he had done for Israel.” Judges 2:10*

Christianity is always only one generation away from **extinction**.

Throughout Judges the Israelites repeat a cycle over and over again.

**Disobedience, Oppression, Repentance, Deliverance.**

*“They forsook the LORD, ... and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. They aroused the LORD’s anger... Then the LORD raised up judges, ... and saved them out of the hands of their enemies... But when the judge died, the people returned to ways even more corrupt than those of their ancestors, ... They refused to give up their evil practices and stubborn ways.” Judges 2:12-16*

Our salvation is not by works but living a Godly life requires **cross bearing** daily.

There are always **consequences** for sin.

For **300** hundred years, this cycle repeats itself a **dozen** times

Judges were **political, spiritual, and military** leaders, all rolled into one.

A lesser known, unlikely Judge is **Deborah**.

*“Never underestimate the power and the influence of a woman. Women have more strength in their looks than men have in their laws. They have more power by their tears than we have by our arguments.”*  
J.F. Sandville

*“Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD, now that Ehud was dead. So the LORD sold them into the hands of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. ...they cried to the LORD for help. Now Deborah, a prophet, the wife of Lappidoth, was leading Israel at that time.” Judges 4:1ff*

Deborah sends her commander, Barak, into battle but he is **reluctant**. Deborah tells him that because of his reluctance a **woman** will be the hero of the battle.

Sisera the commander of the enemy army **flees on foot**, “...to the tent of Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite, ...”

She says, “Here’s a place where you can stay. Come into my tent, you look tired.” While Sisera is sleeping, she drives a **nail** through **his head**.

Deborah’s **prophecy** had come true. A **woman** was the hero of the battle.

God’s ways are not our ways. He enjoys using the **overlooked**, the **forgotten** the **most unlikely** to fulfill His purposes.