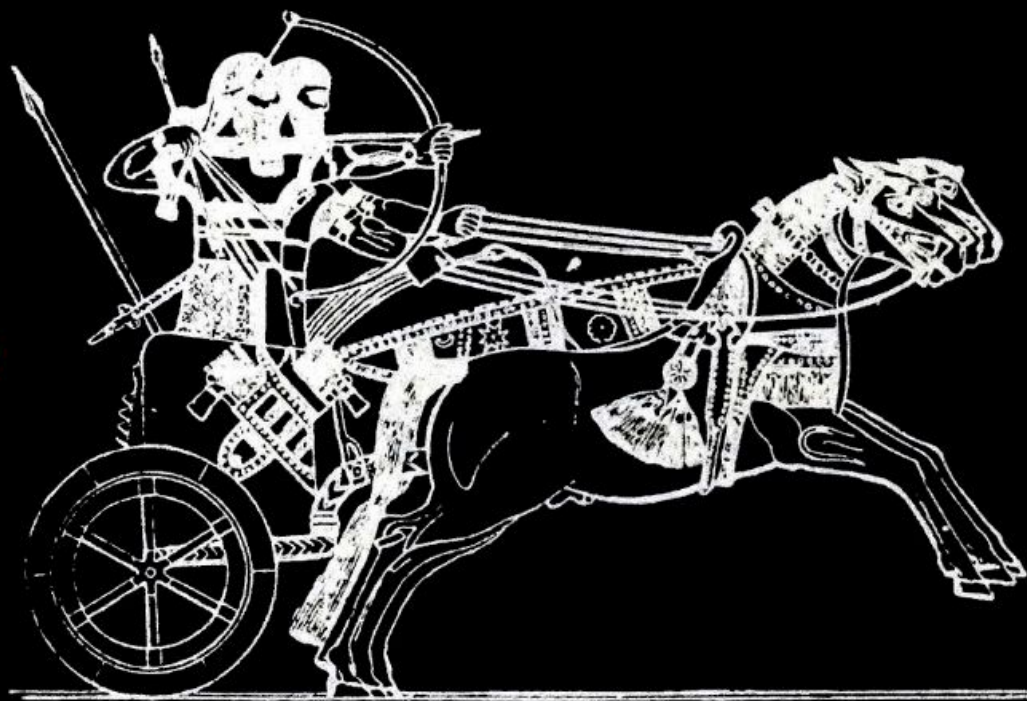


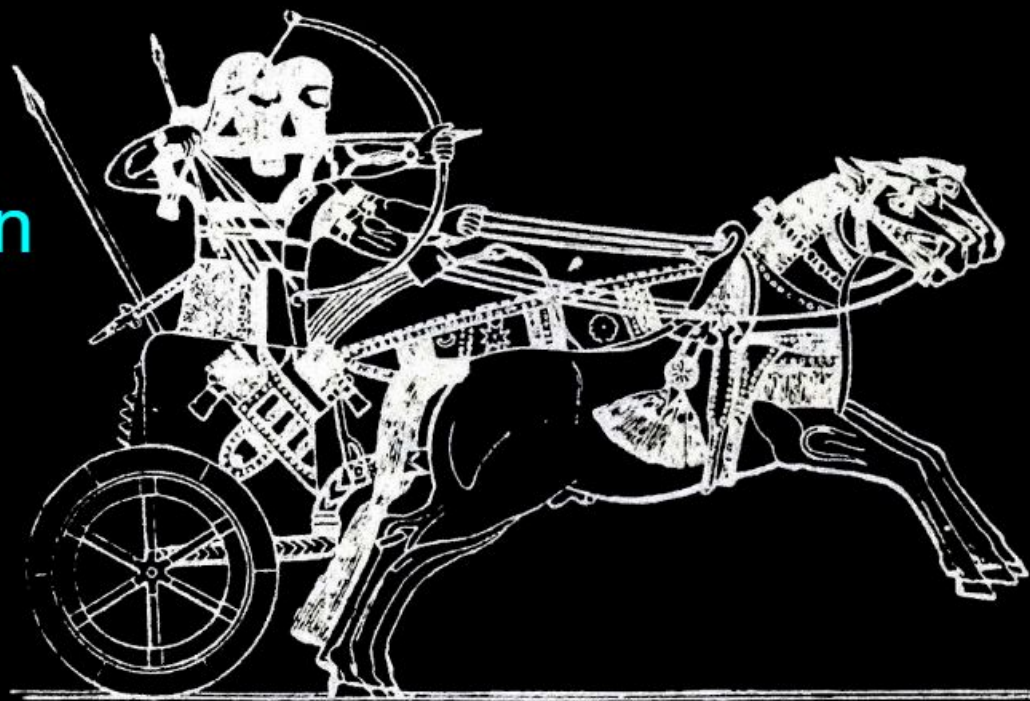
Judges 04

The Power of Encouragement

Deu 20:1 ESV "When you go out to war against your enemies, and see horses and chariots and an army larger than your own, you shall not be afraid of them, for the LORD your God is with you...



Jdg 1:19 ESV And the LORD was with Judah,
and he took possession of the hill country,
but he could not
drive out the
inhabitants of the plain
because they had
chariots of iron.



Jdg 4:1-4 ESV And the people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD after Ehud died. 2 And the LORD sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. The commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-hagoyim. 3 Then the people of Israel cried out to the LORD for help, for **he had 900 chariots of iron** and he oppressed the people of Israel cruelly for twenty years. Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel at that time.

Jdg 4:6 ESV 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.

Jdg 4:7 ESV 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'?"

Jdg 4:8-9 ESV 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." 9 And she said, "I will surely go with you"

9 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 Kadesh.

Jdg 4:12-15 ESV When Sisera was told that Barak the son of Abinoam had gone up to Mount Tabor, 13 Sisera called out all his chariots, 900 chariots of iron, and all the men who were with him, from Harosheth-hagoyim to the river Kishon. 14 And Deborah said to Barak,

"Up! For this is the day in which the LORD has given Sisera into your hand. Does not the LORD go out before you?" So Barak went down from Mount Tabor with 10,000 men following him. 15 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.

4:23 So on
that day God
subdued Jabin
the king of
Canaan
before the
people of
Israel.



ENCOURAGEMENT:

- 1) A call to **respond** to what the LORD has commanded
- 2) A reminder that **God, too, is at work**
- 3) A **standing with** others to support obedience to God
- 4) Always **speaks the truth**
- 5) Does not change the situation, **it changes our perspective** on the situation