

PLAY ▶

[CYBER]

WHEN GOD

GIVES AN

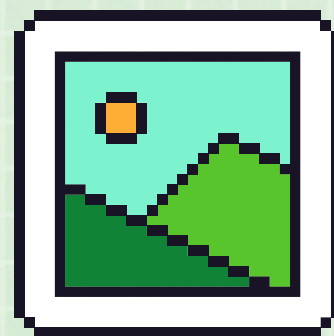
ASSIGNMENT

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LOADING_DATA_

STRUCTURE



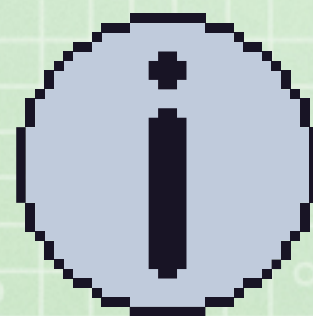
Setting the context



Two interpretations



Practical takeaways about
God's assignments



Reflection





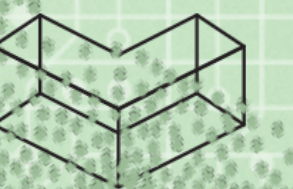
CONTEXT

Larger context

Book of Judges

Immediate context

**20 years of oppression
by Jabin, king of Canaan,
through his commander
Sisera, who had 900 iron
chariots.**



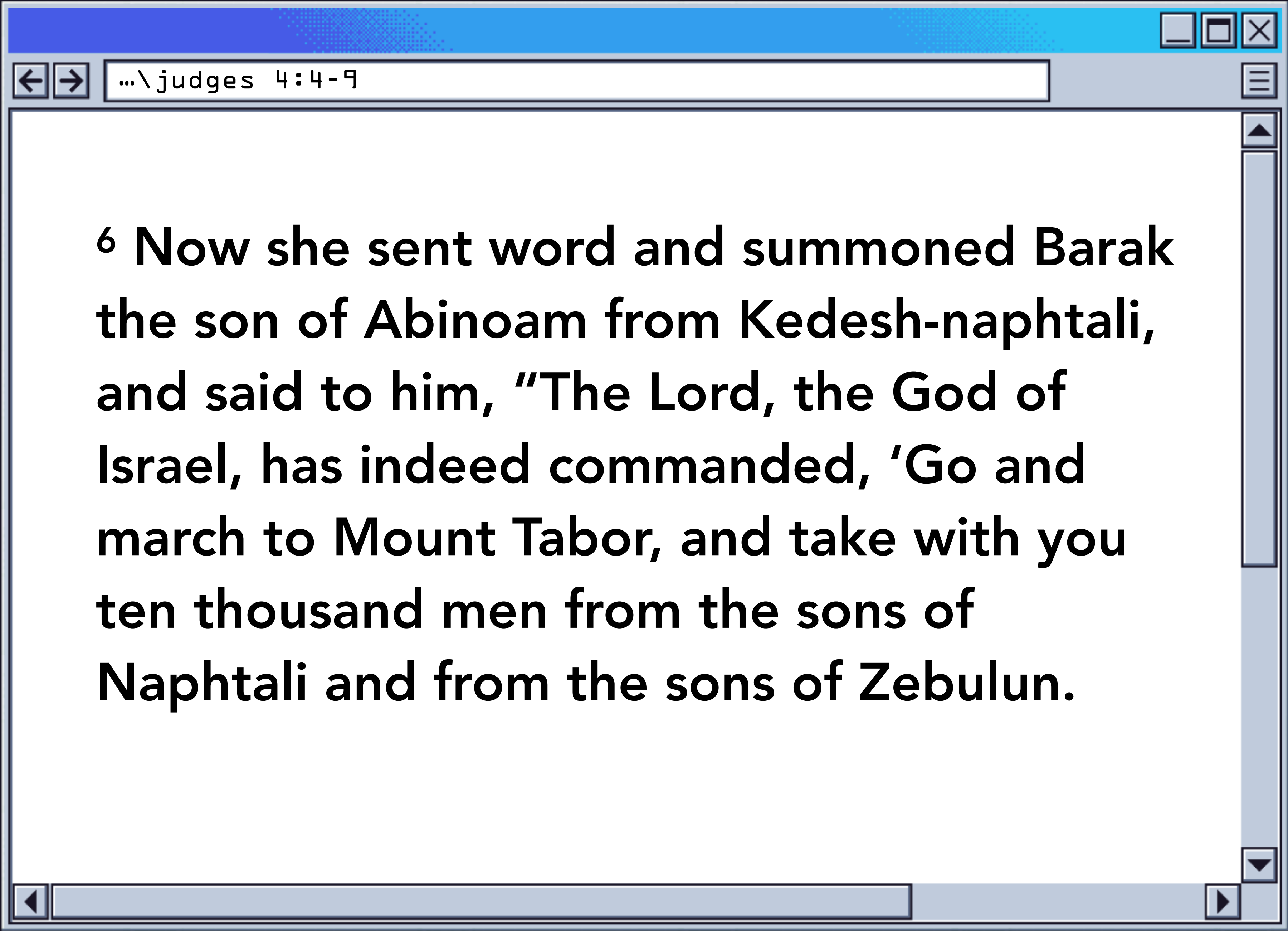
CORNERSTONE

4 Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel at that time. 5 She used to sit under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the sons of Israel went up to her for judgment.

Judges 4:4-9



CORNERSTONE



6 Now she sent word and summoned Barak the son of Abinoam from Kedesh-naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, has indeed commanded, 'Go and march to Mount Tabor, and take with you ten thousand men from the sons of Naphtali and from the sons of Zebulun.



WHEN GOD
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7 I will draw out to you Sisera, the commander of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his many troops to the river Kishon, and I will hand him over to you."
8 Then Barak said to her, "If you will go with me, then I will go; but if you will not go with me, I will not go."



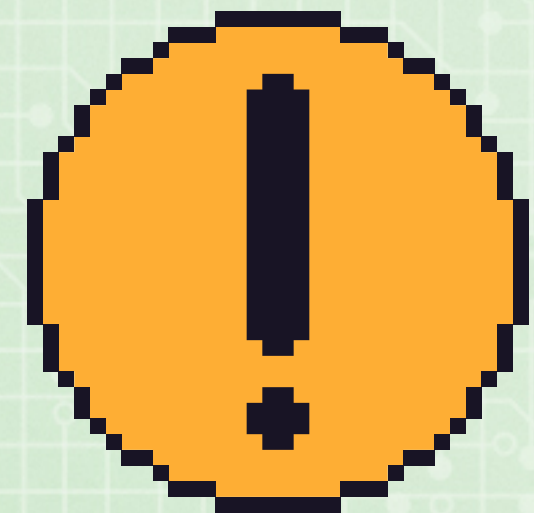
9 She said, "I will certainly go with you; however, the fame shall not be yours on the journey that you are about to take, for the Lord will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman." Then Deborah got up and went with Barak to Kedesh.





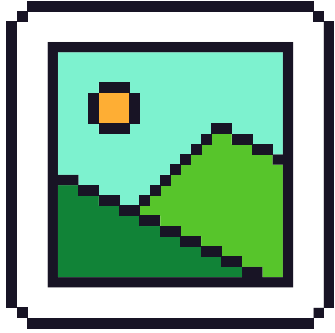
TWO 'PLOT TWISTS'

1) **Jael kills Sisera.**



2) **Barak, rather than Deborah, is commended in Hebrews 11:32.**





TWO INTERPRETATIONS

> Interpretation (1)

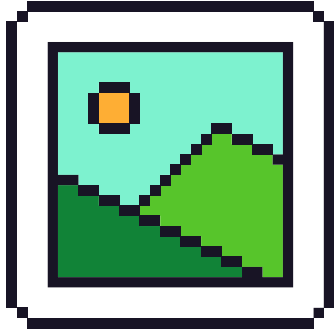
Barak's response stems from lack of faith: He was disciplined with not getting the honour for the victory.

> Interpretation (2)

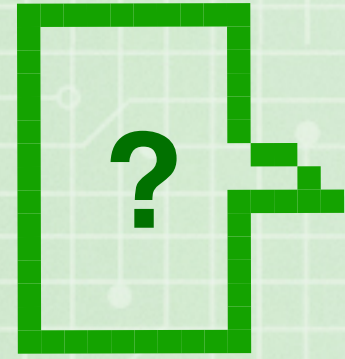
Barak was fully obedient, and was rewarded in the best way possible.



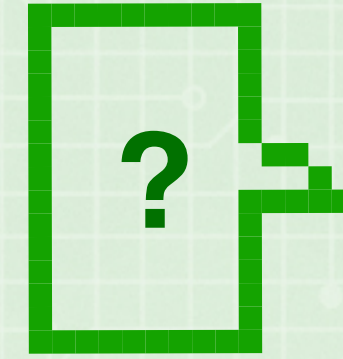
CORNERSTONE



> INTERPRETATION (1):
BARAK LACKS FAITH

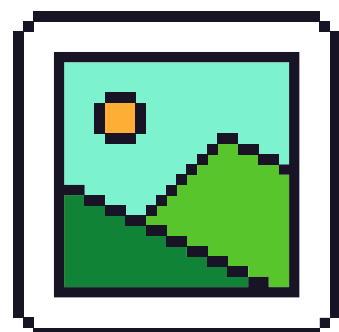


Why would Barak want Deborah, who sits under a palm tree, to go with him to battle?



Why was Barak specifically commended in *Hebrews 11:32* ?

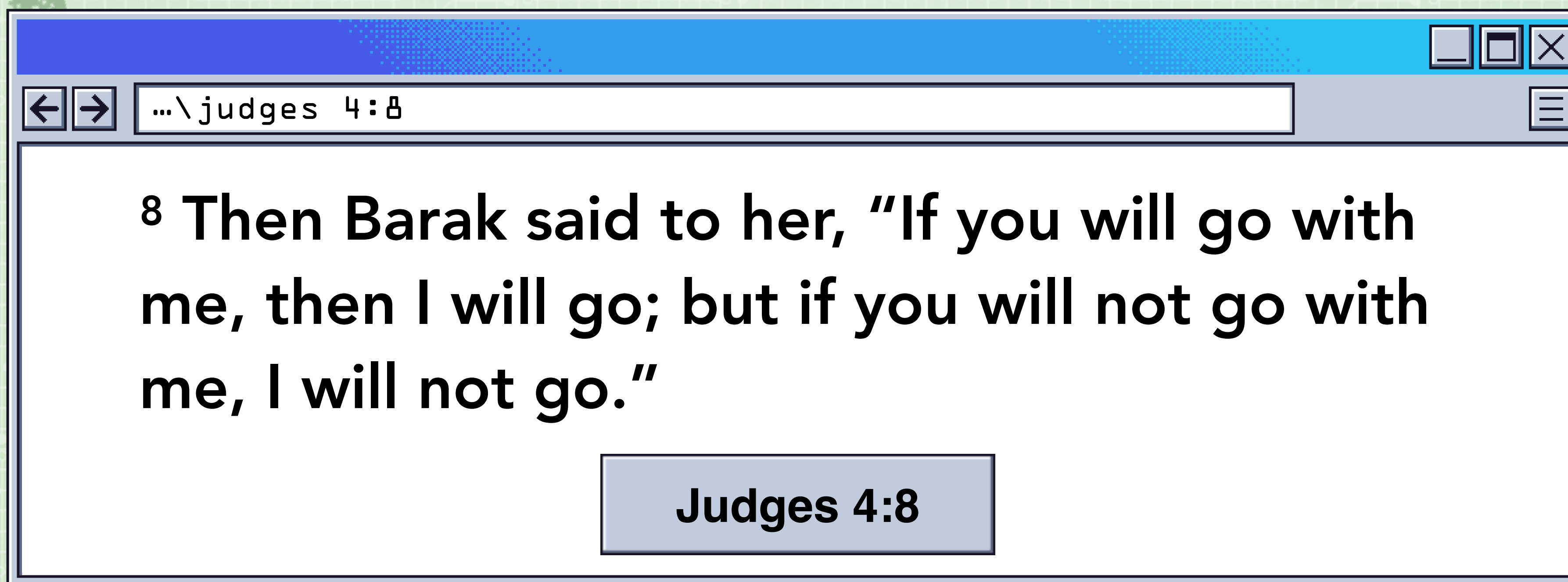




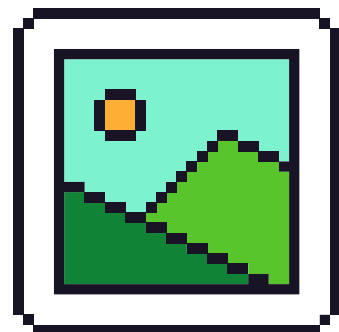
> INTERPRETATION (2):

BARAK EXPRESSES FAITH, NOT COWARDICE

(Michael Wilcock)



CORNERSTONE



> INTERPRETATION (2):

BARAK EXPRESSES FAITH, NOT COWARDICE

(Michael Wilcock)

8 Then Barak
me, then I
me, I will n

... \judges 4:8

Will go with
not go with

Moses & God
Exodus 33:12-17

Judges 4:8



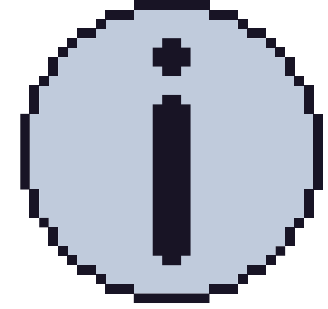
CORNERSTONE

And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell of... Barak... who by faith...

Hebrews 11:32-34



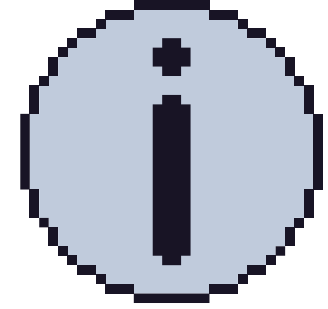
CORNERSTONE



PRACTICAL TAKEAWAYS ABOUT GOD'S ASSIGNMENT

- 1) **God's assignment is specific** – specific task for a specific person who will be specifically resourced.
- 2) **God does not assign and leave a person to his own devices** – He is with us all the way.
- 3) **God places importance on community.**





PRACTICAL TAKEAWAYS ABOUT GOD'S ASSIGNMENT

4) Our heart matters.

5) Sometimes there is no immediate honour.



CORNERSTONE