



*A door to life*

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*Ensino Bíblico Evangélico*

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*São Paulo – SP – Brazil – 2011*

*Thanks to Him who is the source of love and teaches us to awaken in us this powerful strength that makes us understand what the true life is and enables us to defeat all our enemies.*

*This book is dedicated to the “little bees of the Lord” on earth, His tireless workers who, for His sake, live to sow His love and His word of truth.*

## Introduction

In the same spirit of “*Back to the Altar*”, “*A door to life*” is an allegory about the endless struggle between love and the other gods that surround the human being, in particular, *Mammon (money, in Greek)*, preventing him from experiencing that great strength within himself, and thus, from achieving the intimacy that he could have with his Maker. This time our heroine is *Deborah*, a small worker bee who, by force of circumstances such as the death of the queen of the hive, is raised as an instrument of revival in the midst of her people, reminding them of God’s orders, which only she hears through the wind. In Hebrew, the term ‘wind’ (*Ruach*) means ‘spirit’, in our case, *the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit*. Along with Deborah, I’ll put a little friend called ‘*Lightning*’, which is a small drone that will help her in her mission.

In *Lk. 4: 5-6*, when Jesus was tempted by Satan, it is written, “Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, ‘To you I will give their glory and all this authority; *for it has been given over to me*, and I give it to anyone I please.’” This means that God created the world, man, money, and laid upon Adam His authority to rule what had been created, but by sinning, he lost this authority and handed it over to the devil. So, Jesus says that the prince of this world is Satan. Thus, greed, avarice, anxiety for material things, poverty, consumerism, materialism and idolatry by the things that the world can offer began to take dominion over the human flesh, reversing the values. When we put these things to the detriment of God and His work, we lose our strength, because we open gap for the enemy, who begins to steal the love, health, joy, work (our provision) and the fruit of it. In *Neh. 8: 10b* it is written, “For the joy of the Lord is your strength.” We have never seen people so dry and with a so hard face as today because of lack of money. They give up the true friendship, the joy and pleasure of working, the healthy coexistence with their fellow men, simply because they don’t have money. The work, which should be considered a blessing given by God, becomes a great burden because it comes to be bound to the chains of the devil, the rules he imposes so that his empire is maintained. Thus, when we lose the real focus of our life, which is to serve God and our brothers in love, we become discouraged and let the stagnation take hold of our existence, giving up something precious that is the *time* that the Lord gave us here on earth to fulfill our mission. If this time is wasted, it will never be recovered, and when we come to His presence in eternity, we won’t have fruit to present to Him; we won’t have excuse of having ‘*buried our talents*’. When we speak of avarice or greed, we are not referring only to the material things, but the avarice of ‘giving oneself’ to the other; of giving the technical conditions or knowledge that one has to help a brother; a word of encouragement, comfort or tenderness in moment of pain; a phone call or to write a letter to a friend who is in need, just because this entails a financial expense. All this generates ‘dryness’ in the relationships and does not allow the flow of the Holy Spirit. The bible says in *Eph. 5: 5* on greed, linking it directly to the idolatry; this comes to corroborate what was said above: when we give a greater value than that is due to money, it becomes a god, and the true God who is Jesus ceases to occupy His place of Lord in our lives.

This allegory was inspired by the story of Deborah, judge of Israel who arose as a leader at a time when the people were being devastated by their enemies, precisely because they had sinned and went out from the presence of Lord. Deborah led them and

brought them back to His word. Her name (*d<sup>e</sup>bhôrâ*) means *honeybee*, but it comes from two Hebrew roots: *Davah* (*to say, to speak*), *Ledabet* (*anything*). The bible refers to her as “*the wife of Lappidoth*” (*lappidhôth, torches*). We do not know if Lappidoth refers to the name of her husband or if it is a reference to her anointing (“*woman of torches*” or “*woman of lightning*”), for the word of God came out of her mouth like torches, such was the revival that was over her. Anyway, Deborah assumed this position in her nation, for no other arose to judge it and to release it from its enemies. She arose ‘*as Mother in Israel*’, that is, as authority. Therefore, her decision to lead the people and deliver them from the oppression assured her the protection and enablement of God to this work. Through Deborah many lives were revived starting with *Barak* (*bârâq, lightning*), the commander of the armies of Israel, who took ten thousand soldiers to the Kishon River where the people achieved definitive victory over their oppressors. This makes us think that when one life is in the center of God’s will and occupies its position it can stimulate others that are not yet. Many tribes helped her and were by her side and Barak’s to fight against Jabin the Canaanite king, and Sisera the commander of his army. These tribes were: Ephraim, Manasseh, Benjamin, Naphtali, Zebulun, Issachar; perhaps, Judah and Simeon. Others (Reuben, Gad, Dan and Asher) moved away and ignored God’s call, but by no means she gave up. The victory was achieved by those who put themselves at the disposal of YHWH to the challenge, even without the unity among them. However, the act of a woman, Jael, putting an end in the oppression by killing Sisera in her own tent, taught an important lesson to the people: God does not choose the most qualified but enables His chosen. Jael’s act also taught that all those who didn’t omit had their reward, being placed in honor in the song of Deborah for the future generations.

Bringing the learning of this woman of God for our days, we can see that, when a given situation bothers, not only us but the entire community around us, it is necessary a strong decision so that the situation of captivity has an end. By walking step by step under the guidance of God, we gain strength and security to achieve the objectives that have been determined by Him. The fire of the Holy Spirit begins to be strengthened in us and to be lit in the hearts of others, reviving those who were dead by their sins. Through our attitude of fidelity, obedience and rightness, other lives will take a stand and will rise up even as a factor of help so that God’s work succeeds. An important factor in the story of Deborah is that precisely the tribes who were already used to oppression and hard work came to aid. Those who were used to well-being denied help. Therefore, whoever calls the people of God to a challenge, often has to face the barriers of self-indulgence and selfishness of certain brothers, ending up to face the struggles only with the few who truly are willing to be servants.

With regard to the prophetic gift of Deborah, we can see an interesting feature that was the strength of the word of God through the spiritual song, not only reporting the fact of victory itself, as well as sealing it for the future generations. Many prophets of God, by singing the Word, release the cure, open the paths to the altar, remove the spiritual barriers and describe what God is doing and still will do for His children.

To facilitate the understanding of the allegory, I put below the meaning of the names of our hives and of the twelve sons of Jacob (Israel), as well as his blessing given to them (*Gen. 49: 1-28*).

- *Reuben*, 1<sup>st</sup> – *Re’ubhen*, in the Masoretic, or *Râ’â b<sup>e</sup>’onyi*, in Hebrew, which means, ‘*He has seen my misery*’, *Lord has looked upon my affliction*’ or ‘*see, a son*’, ‘*behold a son*’. He will be the representative of the Hive of Pride and Power (*Gen. 49: 3*).
- *Simeon*, 2<sup>nd</sup> – *Shim’ôn* = *hearing, who hears, God heard*. He will be the representative of the Hive of Obedience.

- *Levi, 3<sup>rd</sup>* – *Lewi*, of the root *lāwâ* = *to join*, so, *Levi* = *attached, joined, united, connected, adhered, set apart for the Lord, holy to the Lord*. Here it is implied that the more united to God, the more love we will have. Levi was the tribe set apart for the priesthood. It represents, in our allegory, the Hive Agape.
- *Judah, 4<sup>th</sup>* – *Y<sup>e</sup>hüdâ* = *praised, celebrated, commemorated in praise (ydh) to the Lord*. He will be the representative of the Hive of Praise.
- *Dan, 5<sup>th</sup>* – *He has vindicated; God judged me, God is judge*. He will be the representative of the Hive of Rash Judgment and Cunning.
- *Naphtali, 6<sup>th</sup>* – from Hebrew, *Naphtâli* = *fighter, my struggle*. He will be the representative of the Hive of Courage.
- *Gad, 7<sup>th</sup>* – *good luck, fortunate a troop is coming*. He will be the representative of the Hive of Fortune, Wealth and Comfort.
- *Asher, 8<sup>th</sup>* – *âsher, happy, blissful, treasure*. He will be the representative of the Hive of Happiness.
- *Issachar, 9<sup>th</sup>* – *’ish* = *man* and *sâkhâr* = *reward, wage; therefore, hired worker*. He will be the representative of the Hive of the Holy and Blessed Work.
- *Zebulun, 10<sup>th</sup>* – *to honor, to exalt*. He will be the representative of the Hive of the Conquest.
- *Joseph, 11<sup>th</sup>* – originated from the verb *Yâsaph* = *to add*, so *yôseph* = *may be added, may God add* (children). He had two sons: *Ephraim* (= *fruitful or twice fruitful*) and *Manasseh* (= *He who made me to forget*). He will be the representative of the Hive of Forgiveness and the Multiplication of Blessings.
- *Benjamin, 12<sup>th</sup>*, *Binyâmin* – *son of my right hand or son of happiness*. He will be the representative of the Hive of Loyalty.

*Gen. 49: 1-28 (Jacob’s blessing on his children):* “Then Jacob called his sons, and said: ‘Gather around, that I may tell you what will happen to you in days to come. Assemble and hear, O sons of Jacob; listen to Israel your father. Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might and the first fruits of my vigor, excelling in rank and excelling in power. Unstable as water, you shall no longer excel because you went up onto your father’s bed; then you defiled it – you went up onto my couch! [He referred to the fact of Reuben lie down with his father’s concubine]. Simeon and Levi are brothers; weapons of violence are their swords. May I never come into their council; may I not be joined to their company – for in their anger they killed men, and at their whim they hamstringed oxen [He referred to the betrayal of Simeon and Levi, killing the men of Hamor, father of Shechem, who married Jacob’s daughter, Dinah. Hamor’s people had made a pact to unite with Jacob and, therefore, they circumcised all males; however, while they were being healed of their wounds in the camp, Simeon and Levi came and killed them all – Genesis 34: 1-31]. Cursed be their anger, for it is fierce, and their wrath, for it is cruel! I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel. Judah, your brothers shall praise you; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father’s sons shall bow down before you. Judah is a lion’s whelp; from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He crouches down, he stretches out like a lion, like a lioness – who dares rouse him up? The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him [NIV, ‘until he comes to whom it belongs’; in Hebrew, ‘until Shiloh comes’ or ‘until he comes to whom tribute belongs’]; and the obedience of the peoples is his. Binding his foal to the vine and his donkey’s colt to the choice vine, he washes his garments in wine and his robe in the blood of grapes; his eyes are darker than wine, and his teeth whiter than milk. Zebulun shall settle at the shore of the sea; he shall be a haven for ships, and his border shall be at Sidon. Issachar is a strong donkey, lying down between the sheepfolds; he saw that a resting place was

good, and that the land was pleasant; so he bowed his shoulder to the burden, and became a slave at forced labor. Dan shall judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel. Dan shall be a snake by the roadside, a viper along the path, that bites the horse's heels so that its rider falls backward. I wait for your salvation, O Lord. Gad shall be raided by raiders, but he shall raid at their heels. Asher's food shall be rich, and he shall provide royal delicacies. Naphtali is a doe let loose that bears lovely fawns. Joseph is a fruitful bough, a fruitful bough by a spring; his branches run over the wall. The archers fiercely attacked him; they shot at him and pressed him hard. Yet his bow remained taut, and his arms were made agile by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob, by the name of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel, by the God of your father, who will help you, by the Almighty who will bless you with blessings of heaven above [*spiritual blessings*], blessings of the deep [*emotional blessings*] that lies beneath, blessings of the breasts and of the womb [*material blessings*]. The blessings of your father are stronger than the blessings of the eternal mountains, the bounties of the everlasting hills; may they be on the head of Joseph, on the brow of him who was set apart from his brothers. Benjamin is a ravenous wolf, in the morning devouring the prey, and at evening dividing the spoil'. All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what their father said to them when he blessed them, blessing each one of them with a suitable blessing."

The phrase used by Jacob, in 'until Shiloh come' or 'until he comes to whom tribute belongs' in reference to Judah, in Hebrew is: *'adh kī-yābhō' shilōh*, and can be translated in several ways. The two most reasonable in my opinion are: 1) 'until he [in reference to Judah] comes to Shiloh', fulfilling what is written in *Josh. 18: 1*, when at a meeting, the tribe nobly rejected the prominence they had enjoyed previously (in the pilgrimage through the desert). 2) Amending *shilōh* to *shellōh* and translating the phrase as does the Septuagint (the Greek version of the OT), 'until he comes to whom it belongs' or 'until he comes to whom tribute belongs', namely, 'the things in store for him', maybe here is a reference to David or a messianic reference [he = Jesus]. It was in Shiloh that the tent of meeting was set up on the first days after the conquest of the Promised Land (*Josh. 18: 1*), and this was the main sanctuary of the Israelites during the time of the Judges (*Judg. 18: 31*).

Trying to understand the behavior of the tribes (*Judg. 5: 1-31* and the meaning of the names of the sons of Jacob and his blessings to them – *Gen. 49: 1-28*): when the people of God let other gods reign in their midst, the vision of the whole ceases to exist. We can identify many gods in this text of Judges, such as: self-indulgence, doctrines, selfishness, idolatry, individualism, material comfort etc. Ephraim and Manasseh (Joseph's sons) helped in the battle. The meaning of their names is: 'fruitful' (Ephraim) and 'He who made me to forget' (Manasseh) and in *Gen. 49: 24*, Jacob exalted the military power of Joseph (his blessing was prophetic on his son). Benjamin was also beside Deborah and his name means 'son of my right hand' (*Gen. 49: 27*), which, symbolically, speaks of loyalty and willingness to help. Naphtali (*Gen. 49: 21*) means 'my struggle', 'fighter', and it was a necessary characteristic to the combat in Kishon. Zebulun (*Gen. 49: 13*) means 'to honor', 'to exalt', and Deborah exalted his courage and fighting ability when she made her song. Issachar also helped. His name means 'reward, wage, hired worker' (*Gen. 49: 14-15*) and he was already accustomed with the position of servant and carrier of burdens. Perhaps, the tribes of Judah and Simeon also helped. If we look now to those who did not help, we will see a characteristic in Reuben, described in *Gen. 49: 3* in the blessings of Jacob: 'honor and power' [NIV], or 'rank and power' [NRSV] or 'pride and power' [ARA], which probably caused a dispute among the components of the tribe, making it difficult to help the brothers. In other words, the pride of the ego and the power struggle are gods who compete with the



divine guidance of interaction and cooperation. Gilead was the land occupied by the tribe of Gad, to the east of the river Jordan, fertile and suitable for livestock. Gad means 'good luck, fortunate'. The well-being that this tribe enjoyed and the abundance it lived can have discouraged it from war, keeping it in self-indulgence and individualism. Asher (*Gen. 49: 20*) means 'happy, blissful, treasure' and the main characteristic of this tribe was prosperity, other god that can occupy the hearts of the people of the Lord, making them forget the less fortunate. Dan (*Gen. 49: 16-17*) has a feature described by Jacob like *cunning and treachery* (snake). Perhaps, due to this, he denied help when his brothers needed it most.

*Briefly*: when one enjoys some well-being, even though it is fed by a bad habit, it becomes more difficult to identify with those who suffer. On the other hand, those who have already got used to the hard life and with hard work respond more readily to a call for help because they experienced the need by themselves.

Like in the other books in which the technique of novel was used, I make you the same guidance: do not forget to bring along with this reading your good humor, for it will facilitate the learning.

I hope you understand what God wants to convey to you through the story of Deborah and may change your way of thinking, reviving those around you to the spiritual realities, putting the enemy in his own place, and using consciously the material possessions the Lord has placed in your hands.

May God bless you and have a good reading.

Tânia Cristina

*Note (meaning of the names of some honeybees of our allegory):*

*Abinoan* = (Hebrew) *father of sweetness or father of grace*

*Agape* = (Greek) *God's love*

*Deborah* = (Hebrew) *honeybee*

*Jael* (Hebrew) = *mountain goat, wild mountain goat*

*Jaerah* = (Hebrew) *honey, honeycomb*

*Melissa* (Greek) = *honey, honey bee, active, applied*

*Melita* = (Latin) *as sweet as honey*

*Mithkah* = (Hebrew) *sweetness*

*Naam* = (Hebrew) *consolation, sweetness, pleasant*

*Naamah* = (Hebrew) *pleasant, sweet*

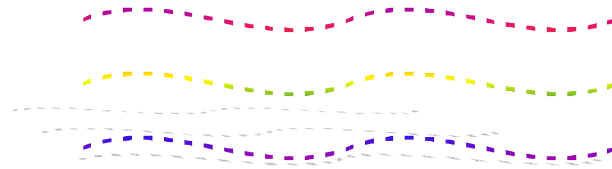
*Pannag* = (Hebrew) *sweet*

*Zuph* = (Hebrew) *honeycomb*

*Zabbai* = (Hebrew) *buzz*

*Zophai* = (Hebrew) *honey candy, honeycomb*

- All songs in the book are literally translated to English.



*“Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength... You shall love your neighbor as yourself... Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.” (Mk, 12: 29-31; 36)*

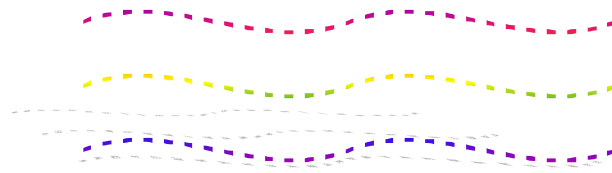
1



*Difficult times*

What a strange thing was happening in the world! Deborah didn't understand what was going on in creatures' hearts. From one moment to the other everything had lost meaning. She admitted that the "*Hive Agape*" to which she belonged was in mourning because the queen had died; however, why the other beings of nature showed so much indifference and apathy?

The *Wind* began to blow, and then Deborah could hear His comforting voice, "*I want you to teach these people to love.*" He continued talking to her, for the tears that flowed from their eyes obviously showed the sadness she felt by the lack of supply of love, sweetness, healing and food that honey brought for her and her community. The flowers denied pollen. Why?



*"Through your life and your work, my people will learn to live in community and exercise my love. Many will have their attitudes changed by your words and by your acts of love and faith. The coldness, hatred and indifference of the world will no longer touch you, and your soul will no longer be sad by the sin of others, for I will multiply those who have been touched by my repentance and decided to leave the old sinful nature to receive the true life. I will bring them to you and you will be glad for new births."*

"Debbie, where are you going?"

"Why do you ask, Lightning?"

"Because I'm your friend and don't like to see you sad. Besides, I'm too young to die. I'm just a teenage drone."

"What scary talk is that about death?"

"Have you not heard about the latest news?"

"Of course I did. Drones are being expelled from the hive for lack of food. Since they do nothing except fertilizing the princesses, what will they do now that the queen died, nature is denying pollen and the princesses who were about to be born were murdered?"

"I don't want to die now! I have not even thought about having a girlfriend! Waaahhh!"

"Stop crying, you coward. Let's get more concrete information."

"All right! Were you talking to the *Wind*? What did he say?"

"It doesn't matter; it is private."

"Look there! The flowers are looking at us with a suspicious face."

"Let's talk to them."

...

"Good morning! What were you talking about?"

"You know, Deborah! We are deeply saddened by everything that is happening, but we can not help you; otherwise, we will suffer serious reprisals. The bear threatened us. If we give our pollen to the hives he will destroy us as he has already done to you bees."

“But don’t you know that your function is to provide the material for our work? If we do not produce honey, propolis and royal jelly, the world will be greatly affected; moreover, aren’t we the honeybees that contribute to the reproduction of your species? We help one another”.

“We are very sorry, but we are very afraid of him. He seems very strong and determined.”

“Lightning, do you have *the book of the Law* with you?”

“Of course, I don’t go out without it.”

“Well, then, read to them the article 6, paragraph 31 to 34, of the law that our venerable brother Matthew transcribed, and the article 12, paragraph 32 of Luke.”

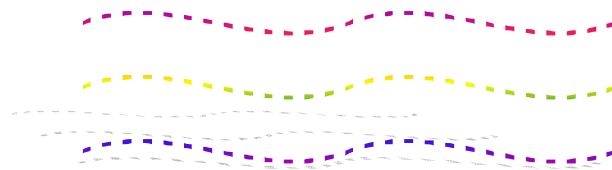
“Yes. It is written, ‘Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today... Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.’”

“Do you understand now?”

“Yes, but it’s hard to give up certain things, certain comforts, you know.”

“Hold on, folks! Deborah is again with that face of who is listening to the *Wind* and He wants to say something else to us. Debbie! What is He saying?”

“He sends a message to you,”



*“Nature is work of my hands and is proof of my kindness toward the children of men. Observe it and learn from it; it is wise and efficient master. Learn from it the simplicity and surrender, because in nature everything changes. Let me change your heart and your life so that you can walk lighter and free in the ways that I wish to take you. Free yourselves from greed, because it prevents the flow of my Spirit and of yours. Birds fly because their bones are light, and boldness and freedom are part of their being. A spirit that loves and dares and dreams of freedom can fly. Only those who occupy themselves with things of the flesh and persist in sin cling to the earth. They are heavy and can not fly. Cast out the heavy luggage and take upon you the wings of my Spirit. Teach others to divest themselves of many things so that they can fly freely with me.”*

“Do you understand now, dear flowers?”

“Yes, Deborah, but we prefer to think about this subject, first; we need to have a meeting.”

“Hey, Debbie! We can not forget the meeting in the hive. We also have a meeting today with the leader of the union of the worker bees, do you remember? Everyone is summoned. Come on, it’s almost time!”

“I have to fly. Goodbye flowers; think about the subject. Do not be cowards.”

...

“Psst! It has begun. Come in quietly, all right?”

“Jael, Jael, Jael, Jael!”

“Thank you, comrades! Now do silence. The news is alarming. Hey, hey! What is this ‘buzzing’ doing in the meeting?”

“I’m not a buzzing, I am a drone, and where my friend Debbie goes, I will go; I feel safe with her around.”

“It doesn’t matter. This is a meeting for worker bees, only those who are unionized enter. And this brat named Deborah? Are you registered as a member of the union?”

“I am; I pay the tax correctly, on time.”

“Jaeel!”

“What now, Melita?”

“She is Deborah, did you forget? She was the little bee that was raised in a wrong brood cell; she was to be raised in ‘queen cupules’ to be a future queen, but no room was left for her. However, as God turns curse into a blessing, the gift He gave her did not lose the royalty, for she is the only one here who talks to the *Wind*.”

“Oh, yes! But her age does not allow any leadership. She is still very young. Well! Let’s go to the meeting issue. As it’s late, I, Jael, the union leader of the worker bees of the Hive Agape, I’ll just give the general warnings, and tomorrow we will do our official summons. All of you know that the enemy has attacked the hives of the kingdom, preventing the production of honey. Some beehives have already surrendered, and many flowers are denying us the pollen and nectar for our work. Let’s take a position regarding this situation, but I want you to think well about the dire situation we’re in, so that tomorrow we can put the matter to a vote. Occupy your due functions, each one of you! Deborah! From what I understand, you’re still a teen bee and your function is to feed the cocoons of babies, isn’t it? However, tomorrow we will discuss the issue. Companions, as you leave, look at the bulletin board carefully to know what your position according to each age group. And you, Lightning! You can start thinking of moving to another hive; there is not the least chance of finding girlfriends here. Meeting closed!”

Deborah went out with her friend, but it was not necessary to look her name on the bulletin board; she knew of her role as attendant of the queen, and nurse bee of larvae-babies and children; however, there was no queen now, and the babies and children had many older bees to take care of them. Her mission was different, as the *Wind* said; she was being raised in a revival to bring love back to her people.

“Debbie, won’t you look at the bulletin board?”

“Lightning, mind your own business and leave me alone.”

“What a nasty brat! I just wanted to help. Furthermore, I’m too young to die of cold and hunger outside the hive. If they talk so much about love, how will they leave me in this moment? The drones are very sad and do not know what else to do. They are all disheartened. Oh, heavens! Oh, pain! Oh, miserable life!”

“Oh, awful thing! Besides talking like an ‘old drone’, yet has to plagiarize the complaint of others! Good night, Lightning!”

	<b>FUNCTIONS</b>
<b>1 to 3 days</b>	<b>Cleaners:</b> do the cleaning and repairs, polishing the wax cells (alveoli).
<b>3 to 7 days</b>	<b>Nurse bees:</b> feed larvae over 3 days with honey and pollen.
<b>7 to 14 days</b>	<b>Nurse bees:</b> feed larvae under the age of 3 days with royal jelly. Also during this period, some care for the queen. They are called <b>queen attendants</b> .
<b>12 to 18 days</b>	They clean the trash of the hive.
<b>14 to 20 days</b>	<b>Engineers:</b> separate wax and build the honeycombs.
<b>18 to 20 days</b>	<b>Guards or soldier bees:</b> defend the hive against the enemies and against the unsuspecting beekeeper.
<b>From 21 days</b>	<b>Foragers or field workers:</b> bring nectar, pollen, propolis and water, until death.

2



*Sacred Assembly*



“Good morning, companions! Did you sleep well? Did you look at the bulletin board to be aware of your duties?”

“Yes, comrade Jael!”

“Melita! Come here. In a low voice, here among us, is this a joke? Do they respect me as a leader?”

“Sure, Jael! I do not see any disrespect in it!”

“All right! It seems that I felt a ‘tip’ of irony. Forget it. Let’s go to our matter of interest. Girls, brethren, companions, comrades! We are here to talk about something very important and needs an urgent decision. All of you know that our queen died suddenly and that queen cupules where the princesses stayed were opened and all were mysteriously murdered. However, as the case with the beehives of the kingdom is more important, let’s go straight to the point. We found out the likely culprit. I want you to see the picture of the enemy. It is a strong guy, with unpredictable reactions and, when he is hungry, he destroys what he sees ahead without considering the consequences. Besides having attacked the most of hives of the kingdom, he is now in a coalition with other gangs to prevent the production of our product, because he will get it already industrialized, without much personal effort. We must destroy him urgently. Our people are discouraged, especially the drones, who no longer have queens to fertilize and are dying of depression. The other worker bees are giving up their posts to flee to the rocks, because the trees are no longer safe. Melita my personal advisor has more information about the other hives. Speak, Melita!”

“Well! We have breaking news that was passed to us last night by fax and emails confirming the casualties. The hive of *Hope* is with great losses, as well as of the *Faith*, the *Perseverance*, that of *Justice*, *Health* and *Labor*. Some remnants remain without surrendering to the enemy. Unfortunately, the hives of *Friendship*, of *Loyalty* and *Joy* were completely decimated. We, from the hive of *Agape’s Love*, we’re still standing.”

“Oooooohhh!”

“Do not despair. This is the latest photo of the enemy. Look well to be able to identify him.”



“May I say what I think?”

“Ah! Deborah! What did the *Wind* tell you about all this?”

“He gave me some articles of the Law to read to all of you and remind you of some important points that must be taken into account:

1°) Article 6, paragraph 24, transcribed by Matthew, also found in Luke, article 16, paragraph 13: ‘No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth’.

2°) In Luke, article 6, paragraphs 37-38: ‘Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.’”

“Very good! God is wonderful! Here we have our strategy of war, haven’t we?”

“Comrade Jael! There’s more! The *Wind* sent me a personal message to also be transmitted to other hives in the kingdom. He says,”

*“There are many colors that I have put in nature, many forms of life, many species, above all, a single purpose of cooperating to the balance of the whole. Thus I planned my Body on earth with many different gifts, each cooperating for the good of all. Why, then, do you stop my flow by human prejudice? My heart gets sad and my work becomes slow. You are kings and priests; so, release my Spirit to move freely and do not let fear and pride making of my kingdom a petty thing. There is one God, one faith, one Spirit, one baptism. You are all equal before me.”*

“Comrades, let’s stop for a moment to make an inner inspection in our souls and ask forgiveness to the Lord for our omission and our sin in letting our flesh prevail, for it is preventing the work of His Spirit. I, Jael, I recognize my weakness before the brethren, for although the union leader of this hive, I have no ability to talk to the *Wind* like Deborah. So I think we can give continuity to our voting and elect our little sister as leader in this endeavor. She is the only one able to receive the revelations and strategies so that our species *Apis mellifera* is not totally decimated by hatred, violence, greed and the mundane behavior.”

“Hear! Very good! Bravo!”

“Leader Deborah, go up to the rostrum. What is the proposal to follow?”

“In first place, we must pray and strengthen ourselves in ‘*the Wind*’, crying out for His blessing and His help. In second place, we must let Him take of us the selfishness and put the willingness to serve and to love; third, we must get to work, enlivening the other hives, urging them to change their attitude and stay united to defeat the adversary; ‘many hands make light work.’ Fourth, we must look for our supply elsewhere, that is, if the flowers in the garden are denying the nectar and pollen, we must go further, to other gardens and talk with other flowers, braver and more loyal, which do not sell themselves to the adversary. We must encourage them to talk to bees of other hives that do not yet belong to the kingdom in order to participate in our project and thus, be part of the kingdom too. This would thicken our ranks against the enemy army. Finally, an interesting idea came up. The *Wind* told me that maybe it’s time to change our housing to a place more protected, that is, we have built our hives in holes of trees and rocks for being wild bees; however, He took me to a very interesting place, where a bear could never think to find us: the *vineyard*, because it’s the noblest site, in fact the true land of the kingdom, our real property. As you all know, there are several meanings to *vine*. The *vine* is a symbol of prosperity and peace, a symbol of divine favor; it is also a symbol of the chosen people who were taken out of Egypt and planted in a land

promised by God; it also means the union of Christ and His church as He refers in *John 15: 5*, by saying that He is the true vine and we are the branches. Therefore, girls, the strategy is to tell our sisters that we are going to change to the *vineyard*, after defeating the enemy.

“Comrades! Let’s lift up our hands and bless our little sister Deborah and put her in charge of this mission. Lightning! I know that the drones have no sting and are of little help in a war, but we have a special task for you. Come here too!”

3



*Revival; get to work*

Deborah and Lightning received orders to take to the flowers from other gardens the pamphlets to be distributed with the words of the Law so that all citizens of the kingdom knew what the *Wind* had planned to give them victory. In addition to the words that had been given at the previous meeting, new ones should also be transmitted too:

1° “Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.’” (*Matt. 9: 37-38*)

2° “But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.” (*Matt. 13: 23*)

3° “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (*Matt. 6: 19-21*)

4° “Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” (*Jn. 6: 27*)

The former were also written in the pamphlets:

1° “No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth”. (*Matt. 6: 24*).

2° “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back”. (*Lk. 6: 37-38*).

“Attention! Attention! While Deborah and Lightning distribute the pamphlets among the flowers of other gardens, our warriors will take them to the other hives in the kingdom to call them to fight against our adversary. Now, Melita, come here and write down the names of the leaders who will command the soldier bees for each hive, please. Meanwhile, I, Jael, I stay here in the hive *Agape* directing the making of protest banners that will be used during the battle, amen? Melita, take note, please,

1) *Mithkah* will be responsible for the hive of *Forgiveness* and for the hive of *Multiplication of Blessings*.

2) *Abinoan* will be responsible for the hive of *Loyalty*.

3) *Zabbai*, for the hive of *Conquest*.

4) *Naam*, for the hive of *Courage*.

5) *Zophai*, for the hive of the *Holy and Blessed Work*.

6) *Jaerah*, for the hive of *Praise*.

7) *Naamah*, for the hive of *Pride and Power*.

8) *Pannag*, for the hive of *Fortune, Wealth and Comfort*.

9) *Zuph*, for the hive of *Happiness*.

10) *Melita*, for the hive of *Rash Judgment and Cunning*.

11) *Melissa*, for the hive of *Obedience*.

“Girls, you’re excused! Till the end of the day, return with the report for us to be sure of who will fight alongside us.”

The guard leaders of the hive went out, carrying pamphlets as well as the fellows of the squadron of protection to the other hives in the kingdom. Perhaps, someone accepted the proposal to fight for love. Meanwhile, Deborah and Lightning went to the gardens, directly to the sources of supply for the hive. While flying, Lightning said,

“Deborah, do you remember the song that the *Wind* gave you long ago to encourage you in your moments of pain and difficulty?”

“Why did you remember this now?”

“I remembered because we are in a critical and decisive moment, and since you are the general chief of this war, you must be stronger than everyone else to be able to lead us.”

“Oh! Forget it!”

“Of course not! Come on, I start,”



*Deborah was born  
This name, the Lord gave her  
Woman of strength she is  
Who fights and walks in faith  
Bee that produces honey  
Princess of Israel*



*Chorus:*

*Brave woman, gutsy;  
She's always happy with life  
Brave woman, gutsy;  
She's always happy with life*



*Deborah is me  
This name, the Lord gave me  
He made me to love  
And to bear witness to the truth*

*Brave woman, gutsy;  
She's always happy with life  
Brave woman, gutsy;  
She's always happy with life*



*Courage He gave me  
That's why He chose me  
Love and joy, also  
A good future He made me see*



*Brave woman, gutsy;  
She's always happy with life  
Brave woman, gutsy;  
She's always happy with life*

“Did you see? Cool!”

“Yeah, you’re right, it revives our soul.”

“Did I not tell you? We are coming to the gardens.”

“Flowers, how long we don’t see each other!”

“Debbie, honey! Where have you been?”

“I’m working in other parts of the kingdom. Unfortunately, I’m here with not so good news, but I know you will understand.”

“What’s going on?”

“The spirit of selfishness and greed is prowling our hives and our gardens, threatening the flowers that once provided us with nectar and pollen. They are denying them to us, and thus we can not produce honey, propolis or royal jelly. The princesses can not be born; even our queen died for lack of food. My bosom buddy, Lightning, the small drone that came with me is also very sad because his older friends were expelled from the hive for not having how to feed them; others left and others are almost dying of depression because of the princesses who perished. Jael, our union leader, sent us to you to warn you regarding the situation, to ask for help with supplies and ask if you are on our side in the war that is about to be fought against evil.”

“My goodness! What a terrible situation! Of course you can count on us. We have never been cowards; much less in favor of greed, selfishness and hatred.”

“Great! Prepare for the sign that the *Wind* will give us. Then, let Him take the pollen and spread it through the fields so that other bees can catch it. It was so good to see you, I was missing you.”

“Go in peace, little warriors, and may the Lord bless you.”

“Debbie! Enough talking, it’s time to go back. The meeting will begin soon and we have to take the report to Jael.”

“Fast, fellow! Farewell, dear flowers, and thanks for your help.”

It was a bit late when the guard bees of the hive returned with news; they arrived almost at the same time than Deborah and Lightning.

“Silence! Let’s hear the news from the leaders. Melita, give us the report!”

“Well! Some hives decided to support the decision of Deborah. Unfortunately, some denied help. However, it seems that more are those who are with us than those who are with the foes. We could see that the kingdom is divided; it does not see itself anymore as a single kingdom, ruled by one central government. It looks like isolated tribes, each one looking after their own interests. They live in parts of the world instead of the *vineyard*, the fertile soil of God’s kingdom, where the thief does not steal or dig, nor where moth or rust corrode. The following hives decided to help: the hive of *the Multiplication of Blessings and Forgiveness*, the hive of *Loyalty, Conquest, Courage, Holy and Blessed Work, Praise and Obedience*. Those who fled from the fight were: the hive of *Pride and Power*, the hive of *Fortune, Wealth and Comfort*, the hive of *Happiness*, and the hive of *Cunning and Rash Judgment*.”

“Right! Now I want to show the banners of protest that we developed for each social class of worker bees and that will be proclaimed during the war.

1) Cleaners: *‘Down with selfishness, donation is our business!’*

2) Nurse bees: *‘Down with greed, honesty is what we need!’*

3) Queen attendants: *‘Down with what is serious, joy is what is precious!’*

4) Cleaners (general cleaning): *‘Down with idolatry, poverty and misery!’*

5) Engineers: *‘Down with sadness, we build with gladness!’*

6) Guards (defense squadron): *‘Down with greed, on love we feed!’*

7) Foragers or field workers: *‘Down with envy, God battles against it!’*”

“Pheeewwwww! Congratulations!”

“To war, comrades!”

“Please, be silent now. We go to sleep, and tomorrow we will execute our plan. But now I want to clarify a part of it. Deborah will do a fasting in order to receive from the *Wind* the right strategies. Lightning! Present yourself tomorrow morning, ready to be our ‘bait.’”

“Hey! I am not an earthworm! What will you do with me? I’m too young to die. Deborah! Do something, please.”



“Enough of drama, ‘Captain Courage.’ The plan is simple. You and the drones that were left will be smeared with anointed honey to attract the bear to an empty hive that is built on a tree in the field, while the guard bees of the hive will also have their stingers smeared in the honey anointed with love; it will be a real poison for the enemies. The other workers will follow them, screaming the banners of protest.”

“Wait a minute, Jael! Was not the bear our enemy? How did you speak of enemies?”

“Lightning! We received the latest news that the bear has hired mercenaries to help him, nine hundred wasps, do you understand? So, while you distract the bear, our bees of defense squadron sting the wasps.”

“What about the bear? I distract him, so what? What will happen to him?”

“This is the secret the *Wind* told Deborah. Only tomorrow we’ll understand the whole strategy. Disperse!”

## 4



*Decisive Battle*

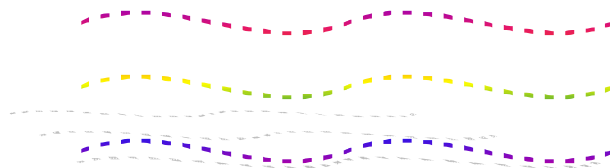
“Good morning, Hive!”

“Good morning, Jael! Good morning, Deborah!”

“Dear companions. I’ve fasted all night and the *Wind* gave me the guidelines: the chiefs who did the ads among other hives will lead them, as was spoken by Jael last night, smearing their stingers in honey anointed with love. The others chiefs, who had not the support of other hives, will do the same with their stingers and will fight for our hive. The rest of the worker bees will shout, constantly, the words of protest written on the banners until the fight is finished. Lightning and the other drones that remained will be totally immersed in the anointed honey and will attract the bear to the empty hive in the tree that is in the center of the field...



“... During my prayers, the *Wind* told me that he will bring a heavy rain, which will give a decisive victory for us. Did you understand? While the warrior bees with anointed stingers fight against the wasps of the enemy army, and Lightning and the drones attract the bear to the tree, the rest of the hive will prophesy the fall of the foe through the words of protest. I, Deborah, I’ll be on a high place, singing, for this way the anointing from high will be poured upon all of us. As for the storm and the bear, God Himself will take care of them. I want to read to you the words that the *Wind* gave me as a guaranty of victory,



*'I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another... This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you.'*

*'I have already sent my angel ahead of you to cut the evil bonds on your lives and clear the paths so that you may move freely and in faith. I lay ahead of you a path of fire and everything that tries to confront your walk will be burned and destroyed, in order to bow before my power. Fear not, I'm with you and I work for your sake so that this is a battle of victory in your lives. My hand and my love will never depart from you and you will receive my abundance as a precious prize that will never be taken from you.'*

"Now, Lord's people, to the fight!"

"Forward!"

All of them left for the field because they already knew the positions to be taken. The sky began to darken and the dark clouds confirmed the storm about to come. The heavenly hosts would do battle for the Lord's people. The bear appeared with nine hundred wasps. Lightning and his companions carried out the plan to the letter. They attracted the bear to the great tree that was in the field, while the bees of defense squadron with anointed stingers fought against the wasps. The other worker bees shouted the words of the protest banners incessantly. Deborah put herself apart and stood on a rock in contact with the *Wind*. He began to blow stronger and involved her. Then she began to sing.

*"Never again I will see  
Violence in my land  
Neither ruin nor desolation  
But my walls I call Yeshua  
And my gates I call praise,  
For Babylon died  
Babylon died and the Lord won*

*My land now is at rest, and is quiet  
In my spirit I'll rejoice  
For the Lord, my Jesus,  
Is He who puts an end to the war  
And with my song I will praise Him,  
For Babylon died  
Babylon died and the Lord won*

*But now the Lord showed me the truth  
There is not oppressor anymore  
And I can live His freedom  
Jesus Christ is my Savior,*

*For Babylon died  
 Babylon died and the Lord won,  
 For Babylon died  
 Babylon died and the Lord won.”*  
*(Inspired by Isaiah 14: 7; Isaiah 60: 18)*

The waters of the sky fell abundantly, and the bees fought for their lives. Suddenly, a lightning split the sky, parting the tree in half and killing the bear that was clung to the hive built in it. When the rain diminished, the bees gathered around Deborah in the cliff and looked down. No survivor of the enemy army was left. The *Wind* won.

“Whoopee! Hurray! We won! Glory to God! Glory to the *Wind*! Long life to Deborah!”

“Let’s sing, companions, while we fly back to the hive.”

*“When the Lord restored my fortune  
 I was like those who dream  
 And my mouth was filled with laughter  
 And my lips with joy  
 Great things the Lord has done for me  
 I sing and rejoice in the Lord, at last  
 Restore, O Lord, my fortune,  
 As the streams in the Negev  
 Restore, O Lord, my fortune,  
 As the streams in the Negev  
 Those who sow with tears,  
 Will reap with joy  
 Who comes out crying and planting  
 Will rejoice  
 Will rejoice.”*  
*(Inspired by Psalm 126)*

## 5



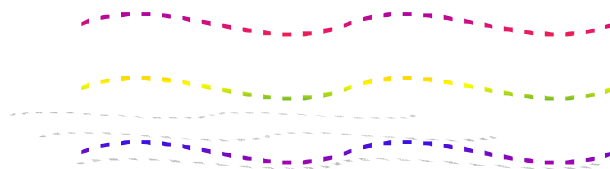
*A door to life*

They came back, finally! They were at home, all wet and dirty, but victorious. Deborah was now the leader of the hive and Jael, the leader of the worker bees. Together, they flew ahead, directing their people to the comfort of home. The leaders of the other hives also returned home, but they knew what they had to do the next day: to move to the vineyard along with the hive *Agape*. They would have to ‘pack the luggage.’

“Great day! Forward, girls, there is work to do.”

“What do you suggest, Deborah?”

“Jael! Organize groups of worker bees to get ready for home moving. Take care of cocoons where are the eggs, larvae, pupae, finally, all our future babies. Drones! Get ready to move with us and help the workers in everything they need. The ‘fine living’ is finished. After we move, you think of marriage again. While you prepare everything, Lightning and I will go up the mountain; we need to hear the *Wind*. Come on, Lightning!”



The *Wind* blew and said, “*I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing*”... “*Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.*”

“Deborah, are we really going to live in the vineyard?”

“Of course! The *Wind* is calling us to life. The vineyard is our place where we will be protected and where no one will dare to harm us; moreover, who would think to look for wild bees in a vineyard? Ah! I want to show you something that the *Wind* just brought to me, didn’t you notice?”

“No! Did He bring something? I simply feel myself fortunate to hear Him; I’m the first small drone who hears the *Wind* and think it’s wonderful. He has a soft and beautiful voice, hasn’t He?”

“You don’t need to get puffed up with pride just because of this, do you? It was He who chose you to hear Him.”

“Stop scolding me! After all, what did He bring?”

“This...”

“What is this?”

“A vine flower.”

“Wow! Does it provide pollen and nectar?”

“I still don’t know, but it must do something for us, otherwise the *Wind* would not put us there. Hey! Where you going with my flower?”

“I’ll show to the others.”



“Look, everybody, what I found.”  
“Who found?”  
“Psst!”  
“We are ready, Deborah!”  
“Forward.”  
“May we sing?”  
“Of course! Now, more than ever.”



*bbbzzzzzzz...*



*bbbzzzzzzz...*



*(Workers) Moving to the vineyard we go  
 (Drones) We hear the Spirit, His voice  
 (Workers) Our work will bear fruit  
 (Drones) And God's heart will rejoice*

*(Workers) We will be a great community  
 (Drones) Where true friendship reigns  
 (Workers) Forever we will have happiness  
 (Drones) In the vineyard we'll live in freedom*

*(Deborah) oh, oh, oh, let's sing  
 (Lightning) oh, oh, oh, let's praise  
 (Deborah) The King of kings, we'll glorify  
 (All) For the abundance that He will give us*

*(Deborah) Thus perish all Your enemies  
 Be burned and destroyed  
 Those who love You, Your friends  
 May be like the sun with its brightness*

*(Workers) We will be a great community  
 (Drones) Where true friendship reigns  
 (Workers) Forever we will have happiness  
 (Drones) In the vineyard we'll live in freedom*

*(Deborah) oh, oh, oh, let's sing  
 (Lightning) oh, oh, oh, let's praise  
 (Deborah) The King of kings, we'll glorify  
 (All) For the abundance that He will give us*

*T*hey were coming to the vineyard. The kingdom was prepared for the elect, for the beloved and for those who knew to give value to love and the things of God. There the Lord would wipe away every tear from their eyes and they would no longer feel want. Their needs would be met because they had learned to share, to exchange their gifts and talents for the good of the community. All hives came together, all who had accompanied Deborah: the hive of the *Forgiveness and the Multiplication of Blessings*, that of the *Loyalty*, of the *Conquest*, of the *Courage*, of the *Holy and Blessed Work*, of *Praise* and *Obedience*. The arms of the Lord were open to them. The door to the vineyard was opened for them and this meant to have opened the door to Jesus, to life, to love. The door to life would also open to them the door for work and provision.



*Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father*

*Matt. 13: 43a*

## *Epilogue*

*If* you have prophetic call, but haven't yet decide to take it on, whatever the reason, remember that perhaps the Lord is giving you a unique opportunity to lead a people who have not yet seen the light, and must have the fire of the Spirit lit in their hearts; a people who need to see the impossible of God in a material way in the life of a fellow man to pluck up courage to fight for their own causes and to take on their spiritual position. The next message is for you; meditate on it and 'get to work', responding to God's will for your life.

"You are a rare jewel, a lush and fragrant flower in the midst of your brothers. The gifts I gave you are precious and useful where I put you. Why, then, do you fear exercising them? Do not fear the rejection of men; they are lies used by the enemy to make you give up. I'll strengthen you so that you move forward and no longer be afraid to show your light. Through you I will bring revival to my people and everything that seemed dead will gain new life. Many around you remain silent and suffering when they go through trials, sometimes even hopeless, because they cannot see or hear the incentive or the fire of boldness in their brothers. Rise up like Deborah and prophesy the victory. At the sound of your order, many warriors will rise again."

May God always bless you and make you a warrior of love.