

# 1 Samuel 12:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when they forgat the LORD their God, he sold them into the hand of Sisera, captain of the host of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they fought against them.

## Analysis

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**And when they forgat the LORD their God, he sold them into the hand of Sisera, captain of the host of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they fought against them.**

Samuel identifies a recurring pattern: when Israel 'forgat the LORD their God,' He 'sold them' (makar) into enemy hands. The language of being 'sold' recalls the slave market, emphasizing that Israel's subjugation resulted from covenant abandonment. The specific enemies named - Sisera, the Philistines, and Moab - represent threats from north, west, and east, surrounding Israel with consequences of their unfaithfulness. Divine discipline aimed at restoration, not destruction.

## Historical Context

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Sisera commanded Jabin's Canaanite army and was defeated by Deborah and Barak (Judges 4-5). The Philistines dominated Israel during much of the judges period. Moab oppressed Israel under Eglon until Ehud's deliverance (Judges 3:12-30). These enemies represented distinct cultural and military threats.

## Related Passages

## **Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment**

## **Revelation 20:12 – Judgment according to deeds**

## Study Questions

1. How does forgetting God's past faithfulness lead to present vulnerability?
2. In what ways does God use difficult circumstances to draw His people back to Himself?

## Interlinear Text

וַיַּשְׁכַּח אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם	1
And when they forgot	H853
H7911	H3068
the LORD	their God
he sold	H4376
H853	
וַיַּבְדֵּל שָׁרֵךְ אֶצְבָּע וְאֶצְבָּע	וְאֶצְבָּע
and into the hand	of Sisera
H3027	H5516
captain	of the host
H8269	H6635
of Hazor	and into the hand
H2674	H3027
בְּמִן פָּלֶשֶׁת יָמִן בְּמִן לְגַת וְאֶצְבָּע	וְאֶצְבָּע
of the Philistines	and into the hand
H6430	H3027
of the king	of Moab
H4428	H4124
and they fought	H3898
H0	

## Additional Cross-References

**Judges 4:2** (Kingdom): And the LORD sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, that reigned in Hazor; the captain of whose host was Sisera, which dwelt in Harosheth of the Gentiles.

**Judges 10:7** (References Lord): And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he sold them into the hands of the Philistines, and into the hands of the children of Ammon.

**Judges 3:12** (Kingdom): And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD: and the LORD strengthened Eglon the king of Moab against Israel, because they had done evil in the sight of the LORD.

**Judges 13:1** (References Lord): And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD delivered them into the hand of the Philistines forty years.

**Deuteronomy 32:18** (References God): Of the Rock that begat thee thou art unmindful, and hast forgotten God that formed thee.

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