

1. From the perspective of the people of Bethulia, what is the significance of Judith's accomplishment?
2. What is the significance of Achior's conversion?
3. According to the "retribution theology" of *Judith*, Judith's deceptions and violent actions are sanctioned by God. Discuss.
4. In determining the "moral of the story", what role does considering the point of view of the oppressed play?
5. There are Biblical texts that clearly support the opposing viewpoints that God both sanctions violence and abhors violence. What are we to do with that inconsistency?

6. What characteristics of the story and theme does Dr. Wolfe point out as typical of other stories in the Biblical canon?

7. In your opinion, how is Judith “uppity?”

8. Describe the elements of Judith’s “happily ever after” and similar endings in the Bible, other literature, or media. How are such endings helpful (or not) to living in the real world?

9. What are the implications of this session’s material for your personal life? Your spiritual journey? For your local faith community?

EXTENDED STUDY: Read the story of Jael in Judges 4.17-24 and 5.24-30. Compare Jael’s story with the story of Judith.

