

Lessons from the Judges
Week #9 – Lessons from Samson
Judges 13-16

Setting the Stage: Chapter 13

- Angel of the LORD is probably the _____ .
- Nazirite Vow: (13:5,7)
 - o Setting apart for being holy to the LORD (Numbers 6:1-2, 8)
 - No drinking or eating anything from the vine (6:3-4)
 - No _____ the head (6:5)
 - No touching the dead (6:6-7)
 - o Samson's Nazirite vow lasted his entire life (Judges 13:7)
 - o Samson's Nazirite vow was to _____ deliver Israel from the Philistines (13:5)

Lesson #1 – God still uses _____ for His purposes (14:1-4)

- Having a Philistine wife is certainly a problem (14:1-3)
 - o Philistines were not part of the list of peoples to not intermarry (Deut 7:1-3)
 - o Samson says that this woman is “_____” (14:3)
- *How could God use Samson who is so stuck in His lustful and sinful ways? How does that affect our view of God's sovereignty?*
 - Samson's seeing things right in his eyes is the first verbal expression of what has been slowly taking place in Israel's culture.

Lesson #2 – A life of lacking self-control leads to a life of habitual and greater sin

- Chapter 14:5-10
 - o Carcass of the lion (15:8)– touching a dead thing
 - o Throwing a feast (15:10) – the word is used with the connotation of a _____
 - o He still has his hair
- Proverbs 25:28 “*Whoever has no rule over his own spirit, is like a city broken down, without walls.*”

Lesson #3 – A culture totally given to sin will reject even God's _____

Lesson #4 – The past does not have to define your future.

- The consequence is great for Samson's sin – eyes gouged out, slavery, and praise of _____
- BUT there is hope – Samson had a redeeming end.
 - o His hair started to grow back (16:22)
 - o He cries out to the LORD (16:28)
 - o Samson ends up being named in the hall of faith in Hebrews 11:32

Questions:

- Even though we do not practice the Nazirite vow, what connection do we have regarding Samson's Nazirite vow and our new identity in Christ?
- If God uses people who are given to their lusts for His purposes, why does God have his people live in holiness? Why is putting to death the flesh so important? (Romans 8:12-13)

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”
Ephesians 6:10-11