

Sermon Notes

“Samson #1 – When Strong Men Are Weak”

Pastor Kurt Tomlinson, September 14, 2025

Judges 13:1-7, 24-25

The Story of Samson – Incredible Potential – Tragically Wasted

- Short and not popular.
- Just 4 chapters in Judges.

Samson’s story begins

- Israel and the Philistines – punishment for Israel’s sins.
- Philistines were big and cruel.
- Samson became a Nazarite because of his miraculous birth. Nazarite vows:
 - No fermented drink.
 - Don’t touch anything dead.
 - Don’t cut your hair.

Samson’s legendary strength

- Tore apart a lion.
- Killed 1,000 men with a donkey’s jaw.

Samson’s legendary failures

- Betrayed God for honey.
- Drunken brawls.
- Women.

Samson’s failures:

- Lust – Judges 14:1-2
- Entitlement – Judges 14:6b
- Pride – Judges 14:9b, 10

Overcoming Samson’s Failures:

- Lust = I want God – Matthew 6:22
- Entitlement = I want to serve God – Romans 6:23
- Pride = I can’t do anything without God – Proverbs 16:18