

FLAWED HEROES, FAITHFUL GOD

Judges 15:1-20

New Life Fellowship – Pastor Joe Green

Sunday, June 07, 2026

Judges 15:13-14 (NIV2011) “[The people of Judah] bound [Samson] with two new ropes and led him up from the rock. ¹⁴As he approached Lehi, the Philistines came toward him shouting. The Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon him. The ropes on his arms became like charred flax, and the bindings dropped from his hands.”

Romans 6:13 (GP) “Do not yield any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather yield yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and yield every part of yourself to Him as an instrument of righteousness.”

1. QUIT Yielding Yourself To Be _____ By _____.

Judges 15:1-2 (NIV2011) “Later on, at the time of wheat harvest, Samson took a young goat and went to visit his wife. He said, ‘I’m going to my wife’s room.’ But her father would not let him go in. ²‘I was so sure you hated her,’ he said, ‘that I gave her to your companion. Isn’t her younger sister more attractive? Take her instead.’”

Judges 15:3-5 (NIV2011) “Samson said to them, ‘This time I have a right to get even with the Philistines; I will really harm them.’ ⁴So he went out and caught three hundred foxes and tied them tail to tail in pairs. He then fastened a torch to every pair of tails, ⁵lit the torches and let the foxes loose in the standing grain of the Philistines. He burned up the shocks and standing grain, together with the vineyards and olive groves.”

Judges 15:6-8 (NIV2011) “When the Philistines asked, ‘Who did this?’ they were told, ‘Samson, the Timnite’s son-in-law, because his wife was given to his companion.’ So the Philistines went up and burned her and her father to death. ⁷Samson said to them, ‘Since you’ve acted like this, I swear that I won’t stop until I get my revenge on you.’ ⁸He attacked them viciously and slaughtered many of them. Then he went down and stayed in a cave in the rock of Etam.”

Judges 15:9-11 (NIV2011) “The Philistines went up and camped in Judah, spreading out near Lehi. ¹⁰The people of Judah asked, ‘Why have you come to fight us?’ ‘We have come to take Samson prisoner,’ they answered, ‘to do to him as he did to us.’ ¹¹Then three thousand men from Judah went down to the cave in the rock of Etam and said to Samson, ‘Don’t you realize that the Philistines are rulers over us? What have you done to us?’ He answered, ‘I merely did to them what they did to me.”

Judges 15:12 (NIV2011) “[The men of Judah] said to him, ‘We’ve come to tie you up and hand you over to the Philistines.’ Samson said, ‘Swear to me that you won’t kill me yourselves.”

Judges 15:13 (NIV2011) “‘Agreed,’ they answered. ‘We will only tie you up and hand you over to them. We will not kill you.’ So they bound him with two new ropes and led him up from the rock.”

Romans 6:11-13 (GP) “Count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. ¹²Do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. ¹³Do not yield any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather yield yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and yield every part of yourself to Him as an instrument of righteousness.”

2. KEEP Yielding Yourself To Be _____ By _____.

Judges 15:14-15 (NIV2011) “As [Samson] approached Lehi, the Philistines came toward him shouting. The Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon him. The ropes on his arms became like charred flax, and the bindings dropped from his hands. ¹⁵Finding a fresh jawbone of a donkey, he grabbed it and struck down a thousand men.”

Judges 15:16-17 (NIV2011) “Then Samson said, ‘With a donkey’s jawbone I have made donkeys of them. With a donkey’s jawbone I have killed a thousand men.’ ¹⁷When he finished speaking, he threw away the jawbone; and the place was called Ramath Lehi.”

Judges 15:18 (NIV2011) “Because [Samson] was very thirsty, he cried out to the LORD, ‘You have given Your servant this great victory. Must I now die of thirst and fall into the hands of the uncircumcised?”

Judges 15:19 (NIV2011) “Then God opened up the hollow place in Lehi, and water came out of it. When Samson drank, his strength returned and he revived. So the spring was called En Hakkore, and it is still there in Lehi.”

Judges 15:20 (NIV2011) “Samson led (judged) Israel for twenty years in the days of the Philistines.”

John 7:37-39 (NIV2011) “On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, ‘Let anyone who is thirsty come to Me and drink.’ ³⁸Whoever believes in Me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.’ ³⁹By this He meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were later to receive.”

Revelation 22:17 (NIV2011) “The Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’ And let the one who hears say, ‘Come!’ Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life.”