

Samson and Delilah

(When a “Hubba Hubba” Caused a Fatal Haircut)

5.26.24

Judges 13:1 The Israelites again did what was evil in the LORD’s sight, so the LORD handed them over to the Philistines forty years. ² There was a certain man from Zorah, from the family of Dan, whose name was Manoah; his wife was unable to conceive and had no children. ³ The angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, “Although you are unable to conceive and have no children, you will conceive and give birth to a son. ⁴ Now please be careful not to drink wine or beer, or to eat anything unclean; ⁵ for indeed, you will conceive and give birth to a son. You must never cut his hair,^[a] because the boy will be a Nazirite to God from birth, and he will begin to save Israel from the power of the Philistines.”

Just a quick observation!

This is a huge redemption story!!!!!!

I. A little about Samson:

A His calling

A Nazarite

Later, Samson passed by the carcass of the lion and found it filled with a honeycomb, which he ate. This was a violation of the Nazirite law: “Throughout the period of his separation to the Lord he must not go near a dead body” ([Numbers 6:6](#)).

A Judge

A deliverer

B His skills

Strong

14: ⁵ Samson went down to Timnah with his father and mother and came to the vineyards of Timnah. Suddenly a young lion came roaring at him, ⁶ the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully on him, and he tore the lion apart with his bare hands as he might have torn a young goat. But he did not tell his father or mother what he had done.

C His personality

Joker

14: ¹² "Let me tell you a riddle," Samson said to them. "If you can explain it to me during the seven days of the feast and figure it out, I will give you thirty linen garments and thirty changes of clothes.

Vengeful

14: ¹⁹ The Spirit of the LORD came powerfully on him, and he went down to Ashkelon and killed thirty of their men.

He burned down vineyards and food storage because his wife was with another man.

15: ⁵ Then he ignited the torches and released the foxes into the standing grain of the Philistines. He burned the piles of grain and the standing grain as well as the vineyards and olive groves.

15: ¹⁵ He found a fresh jawbone of a donkey, reached out his hand, took it, and killed a thousand men with it

D His conscience

He knew very well right from wrong.

E His downfall

He allowed his appetites to overrule God's will for his life

14: ⁹ **He scooped some honey into his hands and ate it as he went along.** When he came to his father and mother, he gave some to them and they ate it. But he did not tell them that he had scooped the honey from the lion's carcass.

He REALLY LIKED WOMEN! (THE WRONG KIND)

14: Samson went down to Timnah and saw a young Philistine woman there. ² He went back and told his father and his mother, "I have seen a young Philistine woman in Timnah. Now get her for me as a wife."

14: ¹⁶ **So Samson's wife came to him, weeping,** and said, "You hate me and **don't love me!** You told my people the riddle, but haven't explained it to me."

"Look," he said,¹⁷ "I haven't even explained it to my father or mother, so why should I explain it to you?"

16 Samson went to Gaza, where he saw a prostitute and went to bed with her.

16: ⁴ Some time later, he fell in love with a woman named Delilah, who lived in the Sorek Valley.

16: ⁵ The Philistine leaders went to her and said, "Persuade him to tell you¹⁸ where his great strength comes from, so we can overpower him, tie him up, and make him helpless. Each of us will then give you 1,100 pieces of silver."

16: ⁶ So Delilah said to Samson, "Please tell me, where does your great strength come from? How could someone tie you up and make you helpless?"

16: ¹⁵ "How can you say, 'I love you,'" she told him, "when your heart is not with me? This is the third time you have mocked me and not told me what makes your strength so great!"

16: ¹⁶ Because she nagged him day after day and pleaded with him until she wore him out,¹⁷ he told her the whole truth and said to her, "My hair has never been cut,¹⁸ because I am a Nazirite to God from birth. If I am shaved, my strength will leave me, and **I will become weak and be like any other man.**"

16: ²⁰ Then she cried, "Samson, the Philistines are here!" When he awoke from his sleep, he said, "I will escape as I did before and shake myself free." **But he did not know that the LORD had left him.**

- II. What can we learn from Samson
- A. Good people struggle with bad things.

Romans 7: ¹⁵ For I do not understand what I am doing, because I do not practice what I want to do, but I do what I hate.

- B. Bad choices will have consequences

15: ⁶ Then the Philistines asked, "Who did this?"

They were told, "It was Samson, the Timnite's son-in-law, because he took Samson's wife and gave her to his companion." So the Philistines went to her and her father and burned them to death.

16: ¹⁹ Then she let him fall asleep on her lap and called a man to shave off the seven braids on his head. In this way, she made him helpless, and his strength left him. ²⁰ Then she cried, "Samson, the Philistines are here!" When he awoke from his sleep, he said, "I will escape as I did before and shake myself free." But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

116: ²¹ The Philistines seized him and **gouged out his eyes**. They brought him down to Gaza and **bound him with bronze shackles**, and he was **forced to grind grain in the prison**. ²² But his hair began to grow back after it had been shaved.

Gal 6: ⁷ Don't be deceived: God is not mocked. For whatever a person sows he will also reap, ⁸ because the one who sows to his flesh will reap destruction from the flesh, but the one who sows to the Spirit will reap eternal life from the Spirit.

C. Gods plan is way bigger than our bad choices

--He was part of a divine plan to free Israel from evil oppressors

14: ³ But his father and mother said to him, "Can't you find a young woman among your relatives or among any of our people? Must you go to the uncircumcised Philistines for a wife?"

But Samson told his father, "Get her for me. She's the right one for me." ⁴ Now his father and mother did not know **this was from the LORD**, who wanted the

Philistines to provide an opportunity for a confrontation.^[a] At that time, the Philistines were ruling Israel.

15: ¹⁴ When he came to Lehi, the Philistines came to meet him shouting. **The Spirit of the LORD came powerfully on him**, and the ropes that were on his arms and wrists became like burnt flax and fell off.

---He ultimately would be restored in his relationship with the Lord.

16:²² But his hair began to grow back after it had been shaved.





16: ²⁸ He called out to the LORD, "Lord GOD, please remember me. Strengthen me, God, just once more. With one act of vengeance, let me pay back the Philistines for my two eyes." ²⁹ Samson took hold of the two middle pillars supporting the temple and leaned against them, one on his right hand and the other on his left. ³⁰ Samson said, "Let me die with the Philistines." He pushed with all his might, and the temple fell on the leaders and all the people in it. And those he killed at his death were more than those he had killed in his life.

---God can redeem our worst mistakes and choices.

Rom 8: Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus,^[a] ² because the law^[b] of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you^[c] free from the law^[d] of sin and death.

Rom 8: ²⁸ We know that all things work together^[e] for the good^[f] of those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

D. Believers must never give up their influence! (We all have a "Samson" in our life)

13: ⁸ Manoah prayed to the LORD and said, "Please, Lord, let the man of God you sent come again to us and teach us what we should do for the boy who will be born."

14: ³ But his father and mother said to him, "Can't you find a young woman among your relatives or among any of our people? Must you go to the uncircumcised Philistines for a wife?"

Close:

There is always hope when the grace of God is involved!