

I. Samson’s Sting of Rejection (1-2)

A. He presumed upon a pathway (1a) – “After some days, at the time of wheat harvest, Samson went to visit his wife with a young goat. And he said, “I will go in to my wife in the chamber.””

B. He was blindsided with a refusal (1b) – “But her father would not allow him to go in. 2a And her father said, “I really thought that you utterly hated her, so I gave her to your companion.”

C. He was insulted with an alternative (2b) – “Is not her younger sister more beautiful than she? Please take her instead.”

II. Samson’s Desire for Revenge (3-5)

A. Premeditation in the mind (3) - “And Samson said to them, “This time I shall be innocent in regard to the Philistines, when I do them harm.”

B. Diligent work with the hands (4) – “So Samson went and caught 300 foxes and took torches. And he turned them tail to tail and put a torch between each pair of tails.”

C. Carnal satisfaction in the heart (5) – “And when he had set fire to the torches, he let the foxes go into the standing grain of the Philistines and set fire to the stacked grain and the standing grain, as well as the olive orchards.”

III. Samson’s Reaping of the Repercussions (6-8)

A. His secret activities were exposed (6) – “Then the Philistines said, “Who has done this?” And they said, “Samson, the son-in-law of the Timnite, because he has taken his wife and given her to his companion.” And the Philistines came up and burned her and her father with fire.”

B. His internal outrage escalated (7) - “And Samson said to them, “If this is what you do, I swear I will be avenged on you, and after that I will quit.”

C. His unhinged response exploded (8) – “And he struck them hip and thigh with a great blow, and he went down and stayed in the cleft of the rock of Etam.”