

## Turning Fatherhood Into A Blessing

Judges 13:3-20

*“She gave him a special name; she called him Samson. Do you know what the name Samson means? It means, “sunshine”—“sunshine.”*

*“When God wants to do something really great in His world, He doesn't send an army but an angel. The angel often visits a couple and promises to send them a baby. His great plan of salvation got underway when He called Abraham and Sarah and gave them Isaac. When He wanted to deliver Israel from Egyptian bondage, God sent baby Moses to Amram and Jochebed (Exodus 6:20); and when in later years Israel desperately needed revival, God gave baby Samuel to Hannah (1 Samuel 1). When the fullness of time arrived, God gave Baby Jesus to Mary; and that baby grew up to die on the cross for the sins of the world.”*

- Warren Wiersbe

### Why Do We Consider Manoah as An Example of Fatherhood?

- ◆ In the context of his historical and political setting he was chosen to direct Samson.
- ◆ Samson would become one of the unique individuals who the Spirit of God would come upon in the Old Testament.
- ◆ Reading the story of Samson makes one aware of the critical role Manoah played in Samson's life.
- ◆ The story of Samson is a powerful story of the internal battle of one who is seeking to fulfill God's will. Manoah was a constant of accountability for Samson, and was sincere in his direction of Samson's life.

### I. Manoah received the witness about his fatherhood. (V.3-7)

A. The promise of the infant they could expect.

**Judges 13:3** *And the angel of the LORD appeared unto the woman, and said unto her, Behold now, thou art barren, and bearest not: but thou shalt conceive, and bear a son.*

*“You will not find that Manoah doubted that God could give him a son. This proves his level of faith.”*

Sarah. . . **Genesis 18:12** *Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?*

Zacharias, John's Father . . . **Luke 1:20** *And, behold, thou shalt be dumb, and not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words, which shall be fulfilled in their season.*

(A Preacher who couldn't Speak!!)

B. The prenatal instructions they were to employ.

**Judges 13:5** *For, lo, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and no razor shall come on his head: for the child shall be a Nazarite unto God from the womb: and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.*

**Judges 13:7** *But he said unto me, Behold, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and now drink no wine nor strong drink, neither eat any unclean thing: for the child shall be a Nazarite to God from the womb to the day of his death.*

*“This child was to be set aside for God. And, as the sign that he was to be set aside for God, he was not to drink wine or anything intoxicating.*

*Number two: He was not to touch any dead thing.*

*Number three: He was to let his hair grow.”*

### II. Manoah requested wisdom to be a father. (V.8-14)

*“Rebellion, waywardness, lack of discipline, confusion, and conflict prevent happy relationships within the home. But God is interested in your family, your marriage, your children. He shows us the ideals and the goals for the family.”*

- Billy Graham

A. Manoah ask instruction so he could prepare Samson for God's purpose.

**Judges 13:8** *Then Manoah intreated the LORD, and said, O my Lord, let the man of God which thou didst send come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born. (V.9) And God hearkened to the voice of Manoah;*

**Psalms 78:4** *We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.*

**Psalms 78:6** *That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children: (V.7) That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments:*

B. Manoah ask what kind of profession would the child perform.

**Judges 13:12** *And Manoah said, Now let thy words come to pass. How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him?*

**Judges 13:5** . . . *and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.*

*“The Philistines were important culturally because they adopted the manufacture and distribution of iron implements and weapons from the Hittites. Goliath's equipment was obviously of Philistine manufacture. Philistine soldiers apparently carried images of their god into battle, perhaps as standards.” (2 Samuel 5:21).*

**Nelson's Bible Dictionary**

*“Is it not comforting to know that God does the calling, and it's our job to teach them obedience?”*

**Philippians 1:6** *Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*

**III. Manoah rendered worship to the Father. (V.15-20)**

*“There is a great comfort that comes when you hear a word from the Lord about your children.”*

A. He worshiped the Lord in a spirit of gratefulness.

*“A home cannot be built by human ingenuity, human wit, and human wisdom alone. What we need is a divine plan, a blueprint—the Word of God—and the divine Builder, our Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus.” - Adrian Roger*

**Judges 13:19** *So Manoah took a kid with a meat offering, and offered it upon a rock unto the LORD: and the angel did wondrously; and Manoah and his wife looked on.*

*“He realized what a wonderful opportunity God had given him to be a father.”*

**Psalms 127:3** *Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. (V.4) As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.*

B. He worshiped the Lord in a spirit of grander.

**Judges 13:19** *... and the angel did wondrously; and Manoah and his wife looked on. (V.20) For it came to pass, when the flame went up toward heaven from off the altar, that the angel of the LORD ascended in the flame of the altar. And Manoah and his wife looked on it, and fell on their faces to the ground.*

**Conclusion:** There are three Dads occupying your chair this morning:

1. The Dad you are now
2. The Dad you could be for God
3. The Dad you may be if you take your eyes off of God.



Just as a father  
has compassion  
on his children,  
so the LORD has  
compassion on

**“Turning** those who  
**Fatherhood**  
**Into A Blessing”** fear Him.

*By: Dr. Hampton Drum*

*Psalm 103:13*