

“Samson” *Judges 13-16*

Open:

- Judges 13 – The birth and calling of Samson.
 - Manoah and his wife are told they are going to be given a son who would have a special calling on his life. **vs. 1-7**
 - Manoah and his wife seek God’s wisdom in rearing their son. **vs. 8-16**
 - Samson is born. **vs. 24-25**
- Judges 14 – The pride and fall of Samson.
 - Samson loses sight of his purpose and calling to life and allows his fleshly desires to control him. **vs. 1-11**
 - Samson, in all his power, remains ignorant of the desire of the enemy to see him fall. **vs. 12-20**
- Judges 15 – The ignorance and carnality of Samson
 - Samson’s wife is given to another man. Samson seeks for revenge in man’s actions towards him instead of seeking for restoration in God’s eyes. **vs. 1-9**
 - Samson remains ignorant to the enemies desire to kill him. Samson fails to recognize that, while he was strong enough to defeat them physically, he was not able to defeat the devil spiritually. **vs. 10-20**
- Judges 16 – The defeat and revenge of Samson
 - Samson’s habit of carnality eventually becomes his downfall. **vs. 1-17**
 - Samson’s strength is taken away and he falls into the hands of the enemy. **vs. 18-20**
 - Samson receives strength for one last victory. **vs. 21-31**

Tran:

- Don’t waste the investment and the training of those who love and care for you.
- Don’t allow the physical blessings God has given you cause you to be blinded by pride to the wiles of the devil.
- Don’t wait until the world has taken everything from you to see the need for your obedience to God.

I. Don’t be fooled into thinking you are stronger than the enemy.

- A. Don’t be fooled into thinking that you can live like the world and enjoy life. One of the biggest deceptions of Satan is to get you to look at the pleasures of the world and ignore the consequences that come with living life your own way. I Peter 5:8-9 *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: [9] Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”*
- B. Don’t be ignorant of the enemies’ tactics. Samson failed to recognize that the world was not seeking his strength nor his pleasure; they were only seeking the source of his strength so they could defeat him. II Cor. 2:9, 11 *“For to this end also did I write, that I might know the proof of you, whether ye be obedient in all things. [11] Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.”*
- C. Don’t be fooled into thinking that you are strong enough to defeat the enemy in your own strength. Put on the whole armour of God. Eph. 6:10-13 *“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. [11] Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. [12] For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places [13] Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*

II. Don’t be fooled into thinking that you can live life your way and be happy.

- **II Peter 2:19** *“While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.”*
- A. God knows how to deliver us. II Peter 2:9 *“The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:”*

B. God knows how to provide for us. **Mt. 7:7-11** “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: [8] For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. [9] Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? [10] Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? [11] If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?”

C. God knows how to prosper. **Ps. 18:20** “The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness; according to the cleanness of my hands hath he recompensed me.”

- **Joshua 1:8** “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.”

III. Don't be fooled into thinking that you have gotten away with disobedience.

- **Prov. 6:27-28** “Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? [28] Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned?”

A. Don't fail to recognize that you will give an account of your actions before God. **Mt. 12:36-37** “But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. [37] For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.”

B. Don't fail to realize that your works will be tried by fire, and only that which is done for Christ will last. **I Cor. 3:10-15** “According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. [11] For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. [12] Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; [13] Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. [14] If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. [15] If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.”

C. Don't fail to recognize that God sees you wherever you are. **Ps. 139:1-13** “O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me. [2] Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. [3] Thou compasses my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. [4] For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether. [5] Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me. [6] Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it. [7] Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? [8] If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. [9] If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; [10] Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. [11] If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. [12] Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee. [13] For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb.”

Close:

- Don't be fooled into thinking you are stronger than the enemy.
- Don't be fooled into thinking that you can live life your way and be happy.
- Don't be fooled into thinking that you have gotten away with disobedience.

Eph. 6:12

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”