



SAMSON THE JUDGE

There is good news for those of us who have made serious mistakes in our past. Let's look into some Biblical case studies.

1. What kind of society was Samson born into? (Judges 13:1)

2. Why was he born? (Judges 13:5) _____
3. What kind of parents did he have? (Judges 13:8,22) _____
4. Samson was chosen to live a separated life (Nazarite)? What things could he not do? _____
5. Things were going well for Samson and his parents. What three things are listed? (Judges 13:24)
a. _____
b. _____
c. _____

Not all of us grow up in a home where the parents are interested in God. Samson's folks were weakly religious but did not know God personally. Fortunately, Samson's parents became believers before he was born. They tried to raise him the way God instructed. He was supposed to model a life separated from sin and rebellion. He was probably under 25 years of age and would still have been under his parents' guidance. HE DID NOT LIVE THE SEPARATED LIFE GOD & HIS PARENTS EXPECTED OF HIM.

Let's review. His no-no's were: No booze
 No haircut
 No contact with anything dead

In other words, separated from anyone who did these things.

6. __Y__N He traveled down into enemy territory (Judg. 14:1)
7. __Y__N He wanted a woman of the Philistines. (14:2)
8. __Y__N He agreed with his parents & was a good boy. (14:3)
9. __Y__N He killed a lion but did not touch it. (14:6,9)

10. __Y__N He kept secrets from his parents. (14:6,9)
 __Y__N He talked with a foreign woman (14:9)

Samson knew the rules but he continued playing with fire. He had a great purpose from God but he couldn't keep his eyes off the women. He had great strength but he was proud of it and used it for the wrong reasons.

11. His character was weak. What kind of a wife he did pick? (14:15-20)

12. __Y__N Did his father-in-law like him? (15:1-2)

13. He burned Philistine crops with burning foxes, and he killed people with a donkey jawbone. (15:3-6,7-17)

 __Y__N Were these actions good, godly military planning?

 __Y__N Were these actions primarily revenge?

14. His revengeful actions resulted in the death of people close to Him. (15:6) Who were they? _____

This guy disobeyed God over and over; he disrespected his parents, he was preoccupied with sex and self gratification. Even after his revengeful activities, he still found a prostitute and later "fell in love" with Delilah. However, he knew nothing about love.

15. Here is the saddest thing: (16:20) - "But he did not _____ that the _____ had _____ from him."

16. It's interesting that when we get in a bind (that we caused), we still pray to the God we have been rejecting. (16:28) What did Samson pray?

 "_____ me, I pray."

 "_____ me, I pray."

 "Just this _____, O God."

17. Yes, he got a second chance; he had a moment of success as he died. "Lord, give me a second chance while I still live." Your comments: _____
