

# Judges

Strength in Weakness

**Sinful  
Choices**

# Judges 13:1

- 1) And the people of Israel **again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD**, so the LORD gave them into the hand of the Philistines for **forty years**.

# Judges 13:24

24) And the woman bore a son and called his name **Samson**. And the young man grew, and **the LORD blessed him**.

# Judges 14:6

- 6) **Then the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon him**, and although he had nothing in his hand, he tore the lion in pieces as one tears a young goat. But he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done.

# Judges 14:1-2

- 1) Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the **daughters of the Philistines**.
- 2) Then he came up and told his father and mother, “I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now **get her for me as my wife.**”

# Judges 14:3

- 3) But his father and mother said to him, “Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?” But Samson said to his father, “Get her for me, for **she is right in my eyes.**”

# Judges 14:4

- 4) His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for **he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines**. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

# Judges 14:12-13

- 12) And Samson said to them, “Let me now put a **riddle** to you. If you can tell me what it is, within the seven days of the feast, and find it out, then I will give you **thirty linen garments** and thirty changes of clothes,
- 13) but if you cannot tell me what it is, then you shall give me thirty linen garments and thirty changes of clothes.” And they said to him, “Put your riddle, that we may hear it.”

# Judges 14:15

- 15) On the fourth day they said to Samson's wife, "Entice your husband to tell us what the riddle is, lest we **burn** you and your father's house with fire. Have you invited us here to impoverish us?"

# Judges 14:16

- 16) And Samson's wife wept over him and said, "You only hate me; **you do not love me**. You have put a riddle to my people, and you have not told me what it is." And he said to her, "Behold, I have not told my father nor my mother, and shall I tell you?"

# Judges 14:19

- 19) And **the Spirit of the LORD** rushed upon **him**, and he went down to Ashkelon and struck down thirty men of the town and took their spoil and gave the garments to those who had told the riddle. In hot anger he went back to his father's house.

# Judges 14:20

20) And Samson's wife was **given** to his companion, who had been his best man.

# Judges 15:1-2

- 1) 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.”** But her father would not allow him to go in.
- 2) And her father said, **“I really thought that you utterly hated her, so I gave her to your companion.** Is not her younger sister more beautiful than she? Please take her instead.”

# Judges 14:4 NLT

- 4) His father and mother didn't realize **the LORD was at work in this, creating an opportunity to disrupt the Philistines,** who ruled over Israel at that time.

# Judges 15:4

- 4) So Samson went and caught **300 foxes** and took torches. And he **tyed them tail to tail** and put a torch between each pair of tails.

# Judges 15:5

- 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.

# Judges 15:6

- 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.

# Judges 14:15

- 15) On the fourth day they said to Samson's wife, "Entice your husband to tell us what the riddle is, lest we **burn** you and your father's house with fire. Have you invited us here to impoverish us?"

# Judges 15:12-13

- 12) And they said to him, “We have come down to bind you, that we may give you into the hands of the Philistines.” And Samson said to them, “**Swear to me that you will not attack me yourselves.**”
- 13) They said to him, “No; we will only bind you and give you into their hands. We will surely not kill you.” So they bound him with two new ropes and brought him up from the rock.

# Judges 15:14-15

- 14) When he came to Lehi, the Philistines came shouting to meet him. Then **the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon him**, and the ropes that were on his arms became as flax that has caught fire, and his bonds melted off his hands.
- 15) And he found a fresh jawbone of a donkey, and put out his hand and took it, and with it he struck 1,000 men.

# Judges 15:18

- 18) And he was very thirsty, and he called upon the LORD and said, “**You have granted this great salvation by the hand of your servant**, and shall I now die of thirst and fall into the hands of the uncircumcised?”

# Judges 15:20

20) And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines **twenty years**.

# Judges 16:1

- 1) Samson went to Gaza, and there he saw a **prostitute**, and he went in to her.

# Judges 16:2

- 2) Samson The Gazites were told, “Samson has come here.” And they surrounded the place and set an ambush for him all night at the gate of the city. They kept quiet all night, saying, “Let us wait till the light of the morning; then **we will kill him.**”

# Judges 16:3

- 3) But Samson lay till midnight, and at midnight he arose and took hold of the doors of the gate of the city and the two posts, and **pulled them up**, bar and all, and put them on his shoulders and **carried them** to the top of the hill that is in front of Hebron.

# Judges 16:4

- 4) After this he loved a woman in the Valley of Sorek, whose name was **Delilah**.

# Judges 16:5

- 5) And the lords of the Philistines came up to her and said to her, “**Seduce him**, and see where his great strength lies, and by what means we may overpower him, that we may bind him to humble him. And we will each give you **1,100** pieces of silver.”

# Judges 16:15-16

- 15) And she said to him, “**How can you say, ‘I love you,’** when your heart is not with me? You have mocked me these three times, and you have not told me where your great strength lies.”
- 16) And when she pressed him hard with her words day after day, and urged him, **his soul was vexed to death.**

# Judges 16:17

- 17) And **he told her all his heart**, and said to her, “A razor has never come upon my head, for I have been a Nazirite to God from my mother’s womb. If my head is shaved, then my strength will leave me, and I shall become weak and be like any other man.”

# Judges 16:18

- 18) When Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called the lords of the Philistines, saying, “Come up again, for **he has told me all his heart.**” Then the lords of the Philistines came up to her and brought the money in their hands.

# Judges 16:19

- 19) **She made him sleep** on her knees. And she called a man and had him shave off the seven locks of his head. Then she began to torment him, and his strength left him.

# Judges 16:20

- 20) And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know **that the LORD had left him.**

# Judges 16:21

- 21) And the **Philistines seized him and gouged out his eyes** and brought him down to Gaza and bound him with bronze shackles. And he ground at the mill in the prison.

# Judges 16:22

- 22) But the **hair of his head began to grow** again after it had been shaved.

# Judges 16:28

- 28) Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, **please remember me** and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.”

# Judges 16:30

- 30) And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.**