



# Judges

Part #6 –  
Samson

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# Introduction

## Key Scriptures

- And Samson went down to Timnath, and saw a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines. – Judges 14:1
- Then his father and his mother said unto him, *Is there* never a woman among the daughters of thy brethren, or among all my people, that thou goest to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistines? And Samson said unto his father, Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well. – Judges 14:3
- But his father and his mother knew not that it *was* of the LORD, that he sought an occasion against the Philistines: for at that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel. – Judges 14:4



# Introduction – Cont'd

## Key Scriptures

- And he took thereof in his hands, and went on eating, and came to his father and mother, and he gave them, and they did eat: but he told not them that he had taken the honey out of the carcase of the lion. – Judges 14:9
- *It is* better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a wide house. – Proverbs 21:9
- *It is* better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman. – Proverbs 21:19
- Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. – Proverbs 22:6



# Keys

*But his father and his mother **knew not that it was of the LORD, that he sought an occasion against the Philistines: for at that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel.** – Judges 14:4*

*And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he went down to Ashkelon, and slew thirty men of them, and took their spoil, and gave change of garments unto them which expounded the riddle. **And his anger was kindled, and he went up to his father's house.** – Judges 14:19*

- The Lord will reveal Himself to you according to the integrity of your heart
- We spend time raising children according to biblical standards and they go astray
- Samson had an undisciplined strong will
- Improprieties that destroy much good



# In this lesson

## **Spiraling out of Control**

- Choices
- Compromises
- Customs and Mind games
- Control, Coercion and Compulsions
- Contrariness and Conflict
- Collusions
- Conviction and Commitment



# Choices

*And he came up, and told his father and his mother, and said, I have seen a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines: now therefore get her for me to wife. - Judges 14:2*

*I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: – Deuteronomy 30:19*

*Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. – Ephesians 6:1*

*Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord. – Colossians 3:20*



# Choices – Cont'd

*Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old. – Proverbs 23:22*

*Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety. – Proverbs 11:14; 15:22; 24:6*

- Samson was not without training, yet his choices betrayed his lack of sobriety and discipline
- His parent highlighted the good around Samson and the options available to him – Judges 14:3,7
- The Lord will work within the framework you provide him, but it may be limited! (Heart Ache - See Judges 14:4)



# Compromises

*Now therefore beware, I pray thee, and drink not wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean thing: – Judges 13:4*

*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 13:5*

## **The Nazarite – Vow What is it?**

- The days of separation could be:
- Temporary
- Permanent – Life long





# Compromises – Cont'd

## **The Nazarite – Vow What is it? *(Not an exhaustive list)***

- It is a separation by a vow
- Pertains to man or a woman
- Separate from wine and strong drink
- Shall not drink vinegar of wine, or vinegar of strong drink
- Shall not drink liquor of grapes
- Shall not eat moist or dried grapes
- All the days of their separation, they shall eat nothing that is made of the vine tree, from kernels even to the husk



# Compromises – Cont'd

- No razor shall come upon their head – in other words they'll let their hair grow
- They shall be holy, even all the days of their separation unto the Lord
- They shall let the locks of their hair grow
- They shall not come to any dead body
- They shall not make themselves unclean for their father, mother, brother, sister when they die – why? Because the consecration of their God is upon their head.

For further details on a Nazarite see – Numbers 6



# Compromises – Cont'd

*Then his father and his mother said unto him, Is there never a woman among the daughters of thy brethren, or among all my people, that thou goest to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistines? And Samson said unto his father, Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well. – Judges 14:3*

- He went to the **uncircumcised** to pick a wife – What does this mean?
- Does it mean that God is racist?
- God's word is meant to protect not to limit
- His commands do not constrain, the love of God does
- The commandments are not grievous (weighty, burdensome)



# Customs and Mind games

*And he said unto them, Out of the eater came forth meat, and out of the strong came forth sweetness. And they could not in three days expound the riddle. – Judges 14:14*

- When a stranger comes to ask for marriage of your child would you not be suspicious?
- There were not similarities, ties, or accords – Just fleshly justification
- A riddle set them off – Wow!
- The riddle was meant to expose their ignorance and inferiority



# Control, Coercion and Compulsions

*And Samson's wife wept before him, and said, Thou dost but hate me, and lovest me not: thou hast put forth a riddle unto the children of my people, and hast not told it me. And he said unto her, Behold, I have not told it my father nor my mother, and shall I tell it thee? – Judges 14:16*

*And she wept before him the seven days, while their feast lasted: and it came to pass on the seventh day, that he told her, because she lay sore upon him: and she told the riddle to the children of her people. – Judges 14:17*

- The riddle will threaten the family's existence and subsequently destroy them (Judges 15:6)
- Coercion and compulsion lead to improprieties and betrayal
- See Proverbs 21:9, 19



# Contrariness and Conflict

*But Samson's wife was given to his companion, whom he had used as his friend. – Judges 14:20*

- He paid for his debt through conflict
- His Improprieties and lack of attention cost him
- I thought you hated her – you showed no concern
- Samson's wife was given to his friend, companion and confidant!
- 300 foxes

*And her father said, I verily thought that thou hadst utterly hated her; therefore I gave her to thy companion: is not her younger sister fairer than she? take her, I pray thee, instead of her. – Judges 15:2*



# Collusions

*Then the Philistines went up, and pitched in Judah, and spread themselves in Lehi. – Judges 15:9*

*And they said unto him, We are come down to bind thee, that we may deliver thee into the hand of the Philistines. And Samson said unto them, Swear unto me, that ye will not fall upon me yourselves – Judges 15:12*

- 3000 of his people conspired against him because they wanted to maintain the “*peace and temporal security*” of servitude and bondage
- The blatant blindness of bondage



# Conviction and Commitment

*And he found a new jawbone of an ass, and put forth his hand, and took it, and slew a thousand men therewith. And Samson said, With the jawbone of an ass, heaps upon heaps, with the jaw of an ass have I slain a thousand men. And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking, that he cast away the jawbone out of his hand, and called that place Ramathlehi. – Judges 15:15-17*

- The Jawbone of an ass
- No manufacturing or process plant
- No training on how to use the jawbone





# Conclusion

## **From the pages of Judges**

- The Lord will work within the framework of your choices



# Next Week

We will continue next week, still in the book of Judges