

HISTORY

IN JOSHUA & JUDGES

Samson

Judges 14-16

1

Samson

100 to 150 YEARS

GIDEON c. 1170-1120 BC

SAMSON c. 1100-1050 BC

Supernatural Strength
The Holy Spirit of God

2

Samson

Be Spirit-Led, Not Fleshly Driven

Judges 14:1-3

¹ Samson went down to Timnah and saw a young Philistine woman there. ² He went back and told his father and his mother, "I have seen a young Philistine woman in Timnah. Now get her for me as a wife."³ But his father and mother said to him, "Can't you find a young woman among your relatives or among any of our people? Must you go to the uncircumcised Philistines for a wife?"

2 Corinthians 6:14
Do not be yoked together with those who do not believe. For what partnership is there between righteousness and lawlessness? Or what fellowship does light have with darkness?

3

Samson

Small Compromises Lead to Big Failures

Samson was a Nazirite

They Would Never Drink Strong Drink
They Would Never Have a Razor Come Upon Their Hair
They Would Never Touch Any Kind of Dead Body

4

Samson

Small Compromises Lead to Big Failures

A Small Compromise

Judges 14:5-9

⁵ Samson went down to Timnah with his father and mother and came to the vineyards of Timnah. Suddenly a young lion came roaring at him, ⁶ the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully on him, and he tore the lion apart with his bare hands as he might have torn a young goat. But he did not tell his father or mother what he had done. ⁷ Then he went and spoke to the woman, because she seemed right to Samson. ⁸ After some time, when he returned to marry her, he left the road to see the lion's carcass, and there was a swarm of bees with honey in the carcass. ⁹ He scooped some honey into his hands and ate it as he went along. When he came to his father and mother, he gave some to them and they ate it. But he did not tell them that he had scooped the honey from the lion's carcass.

5

Samson

Small Compromises Lead to Big Failures

A Small Compromise

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

¹⁹ Don't you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰ for you were bought at a price. So glorify God with your body.

Your Body is a Temple of God

6

Samson
Small Compromises Lead to Big Failures
A Small Compromise

Judges 14:14
So he said to them: Out of the eater came something to eat, and out of the strong came something sweet.



Honey Out of a Lion

7

Samson
Small Compromises Lead to Big Failures
A Small Compromise

Judges 15:15-16
¹⁵He found a fresh jawbone of a donkey, reached out his hand, took it, and killed a thousand men with it. ¹⁶Then Samson said: With the jawbone of a donkey I have piled them in heaps. With the jawbone of a donkey I have killed a thousand men.



8

Samson
Small Compromises Lead to Big Failures
A Big Failure

Judges 16:1
Samson went to Gaza, where he saw a prostitute and went to bed with her.

Judges 16:4
"Some time later, he fell in love with a woman named Delilah, who lived in the Sorek Valley.



9

Samson
Small Compromises Lead to Big Failures
A Big Failure

Judges 16:15-16
¹⁵How can you say, 'I love you,'" she told him, "when your heart is not with me? This is the third time you have mocked me and not told me what makes your strength so great!" ¹⁶Because she nagged him day after day and pleaded with him until she wore him out, ¹⁷he told her the whole truth and said to her, "My hair has never been cut, because I am a Nazirite to God from birth. If I am shaved, my strength will leave me, and I will become weak and be like any other man."



10

Samson
Small Compromises Lead to Big Failures
A Big Failure

Judges 16:20
Then she cried, "Samson, the Philistines are here!" When he awoke from his sleep, he said, "I will escape as I did before and shake myself free." But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

Jeremiah 17:9 *The heart is more deceitful than anything else, and incurable—who can understand it?*

James 1:22 *Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.*



11

Samson
Failure Is Not Final When Grace Is Embraced

Judges 16:21-22
²¹The Philistines seized him and gouged out his eyes. They brought him down to Gaza and bound him with bronze shackles, and he was forced to grind grain in the prison. ²²But his hair began to grow back after it had been shaved.

**Sin Always
Blinds
Binds
Breaks You**



12

Samson

Failure Is Not Final When Grace Is Embraced

Judges 16:28

He called out to the LORD, "Lord GOD, please remember me. Strengthen me, God, just once more. With one act of vengeance, let me pay back the Philistines for my two eyes."

God Is in the Business of Restoring Failures

