

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. If Samson began to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines, who finished it?
2. How did Samson begin to rescue Israel from the Philistines?
3. What special instruction was Samson's mother to observe? Why was she given these instructions?
4. What is a Nazarite? What is the Nazarite vow?
5. Was Manoah's entreatment of the Lord to let the man of God come again, a natural response?
6. What is the purpose of a meat offering?
7. Why did the angel keep his name a secret?

SUMMARY:

Because the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord the Philistines oppressed them. But God sent Samson to begin to deliver Israel. For such a special mission God required that Samson be a Nazarite from the womb. Samson's mother was also instructed to observe special commandments to keep herself clean.

God's sending Samson illustrates His desire to use men in His plan of deliverance. However, like Samson, anyone who is to be used by the Lord must be separated from the world unto God. Like Samson's mother, we who support the ones who have a special mission, must also keep ourselves clean from the world if God's work is to be accomplished.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #10

September 6, 2015

Third Quarter

SAMSON, A PROMISED DELIVERER

LESSON TEXT: *Judges 13:1-25*

LESSON SETTING: Samson uses super-human strength to deliver Israel from the Philistines.

TIME: 1161 - 1141 B.C. (Prior to Samuel's birth)

I. GOD'S DELIVERER PROMISED. Judges 13:1-5

- A. The Need for Being Delivered (vs. 1) Exodus 3:9-10; Judges 10:9-10; Romans 7:24
- B. God's Plan Revealed (vs. 3) Luke 1:13, 30-31
- C. Devout Parents (vs. 4) Matthew 1:20, 24

II. GOD'S REVELATION DISCUSSED. Judges 13:6-23

- A. To be a Nazarite (vs. 5, 7) Numbers 6:3; 2 Corinthians 6:17; Hebrews 7:26
- B. Prayer for Instructions (vs. 8) 1 Kings 3:9; Psalm 25:4-5
- C. Instructions Given (vs. 13-14) Psalm 32:8; 119:105
- D. Burnt Offering (vs. 16) Exodus 29:18

III. GOD'S DELIVERER GIVEN. Judges 13:24-25

- A. Samson is Born (vs. 24)
- B. Blessed by the Lord (vs. 24-25) 1 Samuel 2:26; Luke 2:52

GOLDEN TEXT: . . . *THERE SHALL COME OUT OF SION THE DELIVERER, AND SHALL TURN AWAY UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB:*

Romans 11:26

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Judges 16:1-31; Hebrews 11:32
SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: 1 Corinthians 15:55-57;
1 John 5:1-12

QUARTERLY THEME: Early Days in Canaan

TOPIC: SAMSON'S FINAL VICTORY

INTRODUCTION:

Samson had sinned, but he repented and asked God for a victory. It was a final victory, but it cost Samson's life. Through his foolish sin he had lost sight, strength and life, but because he repented, God forgave him and for one small moment returned his strength.

In our walk of life we too are in danger of committing sin, but how gracious is our Heavenly Father who has provided a way of escape through His Son, Jesus, so that we can be victorious. Samson did not have this power because Jesus had not been given yet as that sacrifice that provides forgiveness and power. Even so, if we err in a moment of unwatchfulness or in ignorance, God is faithful and forgiving if we confess our faults one to another. (James 5:16) Only then can peace with God be reestablished and our hearts filled with thanksgiving for His wonderful mercy. It fills us with praise, makes us more humble, more watchful and keeps us closer to Him.

Repentance for sin connects us with God and makes it possible for Him to listen to our prayers and grant us our petitions. We, too, must die spiritually even as Samson died physically if we wish to walk forward successfully in that newness of life.

CENTRAL TRUTH: God does not condone the sins of men, but will always honor true repentance.

GOLDEN TEXT: *FOR THOU, LORD, ART GOOD, AND READY TO FORGIVE; AND PLENTEOUS IN MERCY UNTO ALL THEM THAT CALL UPON THEE.*
Psalm 86:5

We must marvel at the love and mercy that God had for His people when they collectively or individually turned from His ways. His one condition in bestowing His forgiveness was that man realize his sinfulness and call upon Him for help and strength. Samson felt that he had gone too far from the ways of God, when he had allowed himself to be tempted beyond his strength. He had revealed the source of his God-given strength to the enemies of Israel, and so had been captured, blinded and mocked before a godless throng. Therefore, he did not ask that his own life be spared, but only that by his death he might bring a victory to his nation. God granted his wish and the enemy was overthrown.

Our Lord and Savior, with no fault or sin of His own, was also willing to die that not only His own nation, but all who would call upon Him might live. We can now, much more than in the time of the Psalmist say, "For Thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee."
(Psalm 86:5)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF September 7—13

M. Samson's Final Victory. Judges 16:1-31
T. The Assurance of Victory. 1 Corinthians 15:53-58
W. The Faith that Overcomes. 1 John 5:1-5
T. The Power of the Spirit. Acts 1:3-8
F. The Power of the Gospel. 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10
S. The Hope that Saves. Romans 8:16-28
S. The Power of Christ. Ephesians 3:14-20

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