

JUDGES: LESSON 10

X. THE JUDGESHIP OF SAMSON (13:1-16:31)

- A. Israel's evil brings them under the oppression of the Philistines for forty years (13:1)
- B. The birth of Samson (13:2-25)
 - 1. The angel of Jehovah announces the birth and conditions for the wife of Manoah to meet (13:2-7).
 - a. The child shall be a *Nazirite* unto Jehovah from the womb to the day of his death – no razor shall come on his head.
 - b. Mother is not to eat of the vine which includes wine or strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing.
 - c. Child will begin to save Israel from the Philistines.
 - 2. Manoah prays to God for the return of the angel of Jehovah (13:8-14).
 - a. Desire of parents to be taught concerning what should be done to the ordering of the child.
 - b. The angel appears again to Manoah's wife in answer to prayer.
 - 3. Manoah seeks to be hospitable to the angel of Jehovah and sees a wondrous act involving the angel (13:15-23)
 - a. Angel instructs Manoah to use the goat for a burnt -offering to Jehovah instead of a hospitable meal.
 - b. Angel ascends in the flame of the altar
 - c. Manoah's wife reasons with Manoah concerning why they will not die for seeing the glory of Jehovah.
 - 4. Samson is born – Spirit begins to move him in Mahanehdan (13:24-25)
- C. Samson's marriage and riddle (14:1-20)
 - 1. Samson asks parents to obtain woman of Timnah to be his wife.
 - 2. Samson kills lion with his bare hands.
 - 3. Later, he returns to see swarm of bees and honey in the carcass of the lion, and eats the honey and gives it to his parents to eat.
 - 4. Incident with lion forms basis for a riddle during a seven day feast: "*Out of the eater comes forth food, and out of the strong came forth sweetness*".
 - a. Prize for solving riddle: thirty inner and outer garments.
 - 5. Men use Samson's wife to find out the answer to the riddle.
 - 6. Samson smites thirty men of Ashkelon, and takes their apparel to give to those who solved the riddle.
 - 7. Samson's wife given to one of the companions at the feast.
- D. Samson burns the fields of the Philistines with 300 foxes (15:1-5)
- E. Samson revenges the death of his wife with great slaughter (15:6-8)
- F. Samson kills 1,000 men with the jawbone of an ass (15:9-20).
- G. Samson takes the doors of the gate of the city of Gaza and carries them on his shoulders to the top a mountain (16:1-3).
- H. Samson and Delilah (16:4-20)
 - 1. Philistines offer Delilah 1,000 pieces of silver for the secret to Samson's great strength.

2. Samson mocks Delilah three times before telling the secret of his strength: his long hair.
- I. Samson imprisoned and dies gloriously (16:21-31)
 1. Samson's eyes are put out and he grinds grain at the mill stone in the prison house.
 2. During sacrifice to god Dagon, Samson pulls down pillars of house where worshippers were gathered and kills about 3,000 men and women.
 3. Samson's body buried between Zorah and Eshtaol – He judged Israel 20 years.

QUESTIONS:

1. Samson was of what tribe?
2. What did the angel of Jehovah reveal to Samson's mother concerning:
 - a. her immediate responsibilities concerning the child to be born
 - b. Samson
3. What did the angel say his name was?
How did he show it?
4. Whom did Samson marry?
5. What did Samson do when a lion roared against him?
6. What is the answer to the riddle Samson gave to the Philistines?
7. How did the Philistines find out the answer to the riddle?
8. How did Samson provide the prize for solving the riddle?
9. What did the father of Samson's wife do?
Why did he do it?
10. Why did Samson retaliate with a slaughter of the Philistines?

11. Why did the men of Judah come to Samson?
12. What did Samson do when he came to Lehi?
13. What kindness did God show Samson at Lehi?
14. Why did Samson come to Gaza?
15. Samson left Gaza with what?
16. What three answers did Samson give to Delilah as to the source of his strength?
17. What happened to Samson after he was finally captured?
18. Why could you describe Samson as a man of faith?
19. What was glorious about Samson's death?
20. How long did Samson judge Israel?
21. After studying Samson's life, what about him can you imitate in order to please God?