

## SAMSON

There is a 4-cycle phase through the Book of Judges:

**Idolatry** — God’s People go off into sin and forsake the Lord

God brings upon them **Slavery** — Another people will enslave them

This leads to **Supplication** — The people cry out to God

Which brings **Deliverance** – God lifts up a Judge to lead Israel to victory over their enemy

“Now the sons of Israel **AGAIN** did evil in the sight of the Lord, so that the Lord gave them into the hands of the Philistines forty years.” (Jdgs 13:1)

But now Israel is facing their greatest enemy: the Philistines – The dreaded people from the sea

It is as though God withheld the fiercest enemy in hopes that His people would wake up and turn around

When they didn’t, then He unleashed the worst

**God will do whatever it takes to try and turn people around  
Remember that, you who are praying for wayward people**

God’s Judge will now be Samson,

### I. Samson Had A Noble Beginning

A) An angel told Samson’s mother that she would be bring forth the next Judge of Israel (v.6)

1) She was barren at the time and had no other children

2) This would be the only Judge consecrated to that office while still in the womb

It is like what God did to Jeremiah – Jeremiah 1:5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, And before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

3) This son would be under a special vow from his birth – That of a Nazirite (v. 5)

a) This comes from Numbers chapter 6::2-5, 8

**It was a vow of separation from the world and unto the Lord** – As evidenced publicly by his long hair – he would have been viewed as a freak –

4) People made a Nazarite Vow for a specific length of time (Acts 18:18)

a) But his child would be that way his entire life (v. 5) – **FROM the Womb**

Likely John the Baptist was also this way from his birth (Lk. 1:15-17)

5) Because of this – Even his mother had to be a consecrated person(v. 4)

a) She likewise would have to abstain from any wine or grapes or any unclean food

b) If she wanted a consecrated offspring – She would have to be likewise consecrated

Isn’t this a key to being an effective Parent? – **Be consecrated yourself first  
and there is a better chance that your children will be also**

c) A godly offspring has a better chance of following a godly parent example

Samuel was the son of godly Hannah who consecrated herself to the Lord

John the Baptist was born under Zacharias and Elizabeth – Consecrated priest and priest descendant

Timothy was raised in the faith by his mother Eunice and his grand-mother Lois – Consecrated women

As much as you can – In your environment – Be consecrated to God

### II Samson Had an Up & Down Life

A) Samson had a very good start from God – Being consecrated and anointed from the womb up

1) He won many powerful victories for God and Israel

a) He killed a lion with is bare hands (14:6)

b) He killed 30 of the Philistines (14:19)

- c) He then killed 1,000 of the Philistines with just the jawbone of a dead donkey (15:14-15)  
These were with the power of the Holy Spirit

2) But Samson had a real weakness for women

He actually married a Philistine woman (14:2-3)

- 3) How many young men have lost their faith in God because of romance?  
Because this is what ended up happening to Samson in the long run

### III Samson had an Early Death

A) Samson's wife was killed and he became enthralled with yet another Philistine woman! (16:4-5)

- 1) Well, this Delilah was a real seductress

She nagged and finally wormed out of Samson the secret of his strength (16:16-17)

- a) The secret of Samson's strength was not just in his long hair

But in his Nazarite vow of separation which his long hair represented

- b) He then ends up not only losing his hair – But more as well (16:20-21)

Samson lost the Spirit of God because of the compromise of his consecration

Samson lost the Spirit of God, his eyes, his pride and self-worth

Because now Samson is a slave of the Philistines and providing entertainment for them (16:25)

This is what happens when you compromise your consecration to be the Lord's

B) As Samson's hair began to grow back – So did his spiritual senses

- 1) He figured out that he had but one chance to make things right (16:28-30)

He called upon the Lord God right at the point of his death

- 2) Then it says:

“Then his brothers and all his father's household came down, took him, brought him up, and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. <sup>a</sup>Thus he had judged Israel twenty years.”  
(16:31)

How do you think his mom felt about this – **Standing at the funeral of her only child!**

The one that she went into a Nazirite vow herself to see him become what God wanted him to become

And now he is gone! – Was it all in vain? (Heb. 11:32-34)

### CONCLUSION

Bill Desanto's daughter was on fire for the Lord as a teen

But drifted into the popular life for many young people today – Alcohol and Promiscuity

She and her boy friend left a party on his racing motorcycle – Swerving in and out of traffic

They hit a car in the front fender and down they went with no helmets

He came through it with cuts and scrapes – She wasn't so lucky

She ended up on life support only – Bill and his wife had to make the agonizing decision to “pull the plug” and let her die

19 years old – With so much promise and her whole life before her – And now she will be gone

I sat across from Bill and his wife at the Christmas party the following December

She just about lost her sanity over the whole ordeal

Everything that she had sacrificed to raise her daughter in the Lord seemed to be wasted

Sometimes that is the way that it ends up being with parenting and mothering

But was it really wasted? – Maybe – Like Samson – In her last dying moment – She called upon the Lord