
❖SERMON NOTES❖

Sunday, June 23, 2013

FAILURE GUIDEBOOK FOR DUMMIES

(Judges 13:1-5; 16:17-21)

Today we continue our series of Old Testament Profiles with the story of Samson. Samson is one of the most familiar heroes and one of the most tragic in all the Bible. Samson could write a book on how to live poorly and fail in relationship to God and others.

“Then the woman gave birth to a son and named him Samson; and the child grew up and the Lord blessed him. And the Spirit of the Lord began to stir him” (Judges 13:24-25, NASB).

1. The _____ – “and she said” (v. 20).

2. The _____ – “he awoke from his sleep” (v. 20).

3. The _____ – “I will go out” (v. 20).

4. The _____ – “the Lord had departed” (v. 20).

“Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour” (1 Peter 5:8, NIV).

“Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak” (Matthew 26:41, NLT).

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“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” (Judges 13:1, NASB).

“Now the Lord was with Judah, and they took possession of the hill country; but they could not drive out the inhabitants of the valley because they had iron chariots” (Judges 1:19, NASB).

“There were no blacksmiths in the land of Israel in those days. The Philistines wouldn’t allow them for fear they would make swords and spears for the Hebrews. So whenever the Israelites needed to sharpen their plowshares, picks, axes, or sickles, they had to take them to a Philistine blacksmith” (1 Samuel 13:19-20, NLT).

“Then the woman gave birth to a son and named him Samson; and the child grew up and the Lord blessed him. And the Spirit of the Lord began to stir him” (Judges 13:24-25, NASB).

“Samson went down to the city of Timnah. He saw a young Philistine woman there” (Judges 14:1, NASB).

“So he came back and told his father and mother, ‘I saw a woman in Timnah, one of the daughters of the Philistines; now therefore, get her for me as a wife.’ Then his father and his mother said to him, ‘Is there no woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?’ But Samson said to his father, Get her for me, for she looks good to me’” (Judges 14:2-3, NASB).

“Now Samson went to Gaza and saw a harlot there, and went in to her” (Judges 16:1, NASB).

1. The undermining influence – “and she said” (v. 20).

“Flee immorality” (1 Corinthians 6:18, NASB).

2. The unguarded moment – “he awoke from his sleep” (v. 20).

“Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour” (1 Peter 5:8, NIV).

“Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak” (Matthew 26:41, NLT).

3. The untried boast – “I will go out” (v. 20).

“The things that are impossible with people are possible with God” (Luke 18:27, NASB).

4. The unknown loss – “the Lord had departed” (v. 20).