

## Samson

Judges 13-16

Heroes of Faith Part 9 of 9

Pastor Nate Marsh - July 27, 2025

### 1. SET \_\_\_\_\_ FROM THE START.

Judges 13:1-3; 5

Ephesians 1:4

### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ ON THE OUTSIDE, \_\_\_\_\_ ON THE INSIDE.

Judges 14:2

Samson has a pattern in his life. He pursues whatever looks good, feels good, or makes him look strong.

- He kills a lion with his bare hands—then eats honey out of its dead carcass, violating his Nazirite vow. (Judges 14:9)
- He throws a wedding party that turns into a revenge fest. (Judges 14:7-11)
- He sleeps with prostitutes. (Judges 16)
- And eventually, he falls for Delilah—a woman who ultimately betrays him. (Judges 16)

Judges 16:17 & 20.

### 3. WHEN \_\_\_\_\_ ISN'T FINAL.

Judges 16:22, 28, 30.

#### Application Step

This week, identify one area where you're trying to rely on your own strength—your image, control, success, or past.

Then, each day, pray:

“God, I need Your strength. Redeem this area of my life.”

Don't let failure have the final word. Like Samson, your weakness can become the place where God does His greatest work.

## Questions for Further Study

1. **What does it mean to be “set apart” by God?** Read Judges 13 and Ephesians 1:4. How does Samson’s calling from birth compare to the calling believers have in Christ? In what ways do we live out or neglect that calling?
2. **How do we confuse gifting with godliness?** Consider Judges 14–16 alongside passages like 1 Samuel 16:7 and Matthew 7:21–23. Where in your life have you relied more on talent or appearances than true spiritual surrender?
3. **What led to Samson’s spiritual downfall—and how can we avoid similar patterns?** Track the recurring themes in Samson’s choices (e.g., lust, pride, impulsiveness). How do these patterns still appear today, and what spiritual disciplines help guard against them?
4. **What is the significance of Judges 16:20—“He did not know that the Lord had left him”?** What does this verse reveal about spiritual awareness and intimacy with God? How do we cultivate a life where we remain sensitive to the Spirit’s presence?
5. **How does Samson foreshadow Jesus—and how is Jesus different?** Compare Samson’s final act in Judges 16:30 with Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross (Philippians 2:5–11, Hebrews 9:14). What does this contrast teach us about power, humility, and redemption?