

JUDGES 16 vs 1

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The author of this book is uncertain, some suggest Samuel, the high priest. It was written around 1050-1000bc. The events in the book cover the stormy period of the history of Israel between their return from Egypt until the time a monarchy was set in place. The judges were military and civil leaders during the confederacy of the 12 tribes plus Ephraim and Manasseh who occupied the land promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The Book of Judges



Samson and Delilah,

¹ Then Samson went to Gaza, and saw there a harlot, and went in to her / the modest way in the bible to say they were doing what men and harlots do best.

² And it was told the Gazites, saying, Samson has come here. And they surrounded them, and laid in wait for him all night at the gate of the city, and were quiet all the night, saying, In the morning, when the day dawns, we will kill him.

³ And Samson lay till midnight, and arose at midnight, and took the doors of the gate of the city, and the two posts, and went away with them, bar and all, and put them upon his shoulders, and carried them up to the top of a hill that is opposite Hebron.

⁴ After this, it happened, he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah.

⁵ And the lords of the Philistines came up to her, and said to her, Entice him, and see wherein is his great strength, and how we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him; and each of us will give you 1100 pieces of silver.

⁶ And Delilah said to Samson, Tell me please, wherein is your great strength, and how you might be bound to afflict you.

⁷ And Samson said to her, If they bind me with seven green cords which were never dried, then I will be weak, and be like any other man.

⁸ Then the lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven green cords which had not been dried, and she bound him with them.

⁹ Now there were assailants lying in wait, standing within her chamber. And she said to him, The Philistines are upon you, Samson. And he shattered the cords, as a thread of tow is broken when it touches the fire. So his strength was not made known.

¹⁰ And Delilah said to Samson, Behold, you have mocked me, and told me lies: now tell me please, how you might be tied up.

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11 And he said to her, If they bind me firmly with new ropes that never were used, then I will be weak, and like any other man.

12 So Delilah took new ropes, and bound him with them, and said to him, The Philistines are upon you, Samson. And there were assailants stealthily waiting in the chamber. And he broke the cords from off his arms like a thread.

13 And Delilah said to Samson, thus far you have mocked me, and told me lies: tell me how you might be tied up. And he said to her, If you weave the seven locks of my head with the loom and twist them with a pin.

14 And she fastened it with the pin, and said to him, The Philistines are upon you, Samson. And he awoke from his sleep, and went away with the pin of the beam, and with the loom.

15 And she said to him, How can you say, I love you, when your heart is not with me? You have mocked me these three times, and not told me wherein is your great strength.

16 And it happened, when she pressed him daily with her words, and urged him, so that his soul was vexed to death;

17 that he finally told her all the secret, and said to her, No razor has come upon my head; for I have been a Nazarite to God from my mother's womb: if I am shaved, then my strength will leave me, and I will become weak, and be like any other man.

18 And when Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called for the lords of the Philistines, saying, Come up this once, for he told me everything in his heart. Then the lords of the Philistines came up to her, and brought money in their hand.

19 And she made him sleep upon her lap; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; then she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him.

20 And she said, The Philistines are upon you, Samson. And he awoke from his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times, and shake myself loose. And he did not know that the LORD had departed from him.

21 Then the Philistines took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of bronze; and he was a grinder in the prison house.

22 Yet the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaved.

23 Then the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god, and to rejoice: for they said, Our god has delivered Samson our enemy into our hand.

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²⁴ When the people saw him, they praised their god: for they said, Our god has delivered into our hands our enemy, and the destroyer of our country, who killed many of us.

²⁵ And it happened, when their hearts were merry, that they said, Call for Samson, that he may entertain us. And they called for Samson from the prison house; and he amused them: and they set him between the pillars.

²⁶ And Samson said to the guy who held him by the hand, Allow me that I may feel the pillars whereon the house stands, that I may lean upon them.

²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women; and all the lords of the Philistines were there; and there were upon the roof about 3,000 men and women, who watched while Samson entertained.

²⁸ **And Samson called upon the LORD**, and said, O LORD God, remember me, indeed strengthen me, only this once, O God, that I may avenge myself for one of my two eyes.

²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars that supported the house, upon which the house stood, holding one with his right hand, and the other with his left.

³⁰ And Samson said, Let us die together: myself with the Philistines. And he pulled with all his might; and down fell the house upon the tyrants, and upon all the people who were in it. So those he killed in his death were more than he had killed in his life.

³¹ Then his kinsmen and all the house of his father came down, and took him away, and brought him up, and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the grave of his father Manoah. And he judged Israel twenty years.

Right & Wrong – CSLewisDoodle

Men Without Chests – The Abolition of Man,¹ CSLewisDoodle

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