



SERMON NOTES



Week 3 (June 20, 2021):
"Samson"

Judges 13:1-5, 14:1-6, 14; 15:1-3; 16:20-21, 28-30

I. Introduction

- A. Hebrews 11 lists _____ as a man of faith.
- B. The phrase "the Israelites did evil in the sight of the Lord" teaches us two truths about _____.
- C. Sin does not ultimately consist of violating our conscience, personal standards, or community standards, but rather consists of violating God's will for us.
- D. We are easily self-deceived regarding sin.

II. Samson the Womanizer

- A. God uses our obedience for his glory, but he can also use our _____ for his glory.
- B. God works through _____, and through sinful situations.
- C. There are people in scripture like Samson who have great _____ but seem very shallow in holiness and character.

III. Samson and Delilah

- A. Both Samson and the Philistines have a misunderstanding about Samson's source of _____.
- B. What mattered was not that Samson's hair was cut, what mattered was that God _____ him.
- C. The God of the Bible is a God of grace who is faithful to us even when we are _____ to him.

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message

ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

The book of Hebrews tells us that Samson was a hero of the faith. His story has been taught for years in Sunday School. But the book of Judges shows him as a man driven by his sexual appetite, his vindictiveness and temper. Though exposed to the things of God, Samson's life is defined by poor decisions, rash judgments and carnal desires. Yet through all of the compromise and moral failure God used him in a powerful way.

Monday: Judges 13:1

During the sermon, pastor Eric said "the phrase 'the Israelites did evil in the sight of the Lord' reminds us that sin does not ultimately consist of violating our conscience, personal standards, or community standards, but rather consists of violating God's will for us." What are your thoughts on that statement?

Tuesday: Judges 14:1-4

Samson was set apart by God so that he could influence the surrounding pagan tribes, instead he was influenced by them. How do you feel pressure to fit in with the surrounding culture in your own life?

Wednesday: Judges 15

The book of Judges shows Samson as a man driven by his sexual appetite, his vindictiveness and temper. What does it tell us about God that he used a man like Samson to accomplish his purpose?

Thursday: Judges 16:1-20

Why do you think Samson decided to stay with Delilah after he told her the truth about his strength? Do you often fail to recognize that the things you accomplish are by the grace of God instead of your own strength? How can you do a better job of giving God the glory for your accomplishments?

Friday: Judges 16:23-31

One of the things we learn about God from the story of Samson is that the God of the Bible is a God of grace who is faithful to us even when we are not faithful to him. Has there ever been a time in your life when God was faithful to you when you were not faithful to Him?

MOVING FORWARD

The life of Samson teaches us some important aspects of the character of God. We learn that God can use our disobedience as well as our obedience for his glory. We learn that God works through sinners and sinful situations and that God is faithful to us even when we are unfaithful to Him. The story also teaches us something important about ourselves. We are reminded that we are only able to do what we can do by the grace of God. This week, humble yourself before God and thank him for the gifts and talents he has given you.

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) Samson, B) sin. IIA) disobedience, B) sinners, C) gifts. IIIA) strength, B) left, C) unfaithful.