

JUDGES

Wednesday, November 14, 2018
Week 19: The Consequence of Riddles

Scripture Reading: Judges 16:1-22

1. Samson displays his power (verses 1-3)

- Samson goes back to his old ways: *the love of foreign women*
- What's going on with the psyche of Samson?
 - He loves what he can't have
 - He feels a disconnect with his family
- **Two** things to see from verse 3:
 - Samson displays an incredible feat of strength
 - Hebron was **40** miles east of Gaza
 - Samson displays an incredible sign of deliverance

2. Samson belittles his power (verses 4-17)

- Samson "*loves*" a woman from Sorek named **Delilah**
- What **motivates** Delilah to betray her lover?
 - Greed
 - 1 Timothy 6:10
 - Fame

▪ **The three riddles of Samson:**

- First lie in verses 7-9: *“bind me with seven fresh bowstrings that have not been dried”*
- Second lie in verses 10-12: *“bind me with new ropes that have not been used”*
 - Samson and Delilah are both using each other
- Third lie in verses 13-14: *“weave the seven locks of my hair together”*

▪ After being **tricked 3x**, Delilah gets to the bottom of it – her words mirror Samson’s first intended wife from Chapter 14

▪ *“And his soul was vexed to death”*

▪ **Two** things to see from verse 17:

- Samson reveals the vow he’s in
- Samson belittles his SOURCE of power
 - 2 Timothy 2:13

3. Samson becomes powerless

(verses 18-22)

▪ In verse 18, Samson tells her *“all his heart”*

▪ The entrapment and terror of verse 20

▪ In verse 21, the Philistines *“humble”* him

- For the **FIRST and ONLY** time in Judges, God’s appointed judge has been defeated

▪ The glimmer of hope in verse 22

▪ **What do we learn from Judges 16:1-22?**

- *Don't belittle the role of God in your life*
- *Don't take all the credit*
- *Remember the foundations of Scripture*