

# SAMSON

**Text:** Judges 14:6 / 16:20

**Subject:** How Samson Forfeited God's Anointing"

**(From This)**

"And the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him" (14:6)

**(To This)**

"And he wist not that the Lord was departed from him" (16:20)

## **Introduction**

**Fact:** Samson's life is one great illustration of II Corinthians 6:17, 18:

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord".

**Fact:** Samson's life is an illustration of how the flow of God can be hindered and contaminated by the stain of flesh and sin.

**Fact:** Samson's life is one great picture of how separation and strength go hand in hand.

**Fact:** Samson's life is one of insight and warning to every believer who cares about God's glory.

## **The Story In A Nutshell**

- #1. An angel comes to Manoah's wife and declares, "You're going to have a baby boy" (Judges. 13:3)
- #2. With this news, comes the announcement that Samson will be a Nazarite, set apart to deliver Israel from the Philistines. (13:5)
- #3. Samson was born, raised according to the Nazarite Vow and lived pure before God.
- #4. When he reached manhood, the Spirit of God came upon Samson and used him greatly.
- #5. Along with the Spirit, came temptation that would rob him and ruin him.
- #6. After 20 years of victories, Delilah tricked Samson; his hair was cut, his strength was gone, his anointing was history and he was placed in a dungeon.
- #7. In final celebration to Dagon, the Philistines gathered to sacrifice to their idol and rejoice in capturing Samson. (Samson's final prayer was answered as he pulled down the columns and killed all in attendance, including himself).

## **A Sad Reality...**

#1... That Samson passes out of Bible History.

#2... That Samson is an example of what God could have done.

#3... That Samson reveals what God can do with someone separated from sin and separated to God.

## **What Is The "Nazarite Vow"?**

(Numbers 6:1-8)

"All the days of his separation" (v. 4)

"The days of the vow of his separation" (v. 5)

"The days that he separated himself" (v. 6)

"He shall not make himself unclean" (v. 7)

"All the days of his separation he is holy unto the Lord" (v. 8)

## **The Word Itself**

#1. The word (Nazar) for Nazarite means: "**To separate**"

#2. It means "To distinguish someone who is separated from certain things and separated to something else"

## **The Vow Is Clear (Two Fold)**

- #1. It was the act of **separation** from the world and every defiling influence. (Repeat)
- #2. It was the act of **consecration** to the Lord, totally for His purpose alone. (Repeat)

### Make No Mistake

- #1. Abstinence from wine was the symbol of separation from anything that would endanger sanctification.
- #2. The uncut hair was a symbol of strength and spiritual vitality (it was a sign that the Nazarite was totally dedicated to the service of the Lord).

### Why The Vow In Our Bible?

(To Reveal Two Absolutes)

- #1. That it is God's intention, that all of His people live a life of separation, purity and freedom from anything and everything that corrupts, contaminates, pollutes and defiles.
  - #2. That there is no other way that the Holy Spirit can work in our lives and rest upon us fully (without living separated from sin, the world, the flesh and the devil).
- ◆ Samson reveals to me that I can only be filled with the Spirit to the extent that I am separated from sin.

### Why This Vow Is So Powerful

**The Nazarite Vow Proves...**

- #1. That we can be instruments of God's power.
- #2. That God has a passion to separate us unto Himself.
- #3. That God must have separated vessels to work with.
- #4. That God will not drink from the devil's cup.
- #5. That there is the peril of spiritual neglect.
- #6. That the devil and temptation are very real.
- #7. That disaster will result if we fail in the separated life.

**(The Awesome Truth)**

- #1. The priest represents the idea of nearness to God.
- #2. The Nazarite represents the idea of separation from sin.

**(Samson's Short But Powerful Story)**

## I. Samson "Soaring" In The Spirit

**(What A Great Beginning)**

In Judges 13:25 – "The Spirit of the Lord began to move Samson"

In Judges 14:6 – "The Spirit came mightily upon him"

In Judges 14:19 – "The Spirit of the Lord came upon him"

In Judges 15:8 – "He smote them hip and thigh"

In Judges 15:15 – "He slew a thousand men"

In Judges 15:19 – "His spirit came again"

In Judges 16:3 – "Samson carried the gates uphill"

**(What A Picture)**

- #1. Samson is not like Og, Sihon or Goliath, (he was an ordinary size man).
- #2. The enemy was amazed at the power of God upon this human vessel.
- #3. We discover here that the Holy Spirit will rest upon believers separated unto Him.
- #4. We learn that if we are empty of everything that hinders us, we too can be filled with His Spirit!

**(What's The Result Of Separation?)**

- ◆ Supernatural **strength**. (Samson over lions)
- ◆ Supernatural **courage**. (Samson facing enemies)
- ◆ Supernatural **provision**. (Samson in the desert)

◆ Supernatural **faith**. (Samson's clear conscience)

**Fact:** We too, can be saturated with the Holy Spirit.

**Fact:** We too, can be anointed with fresh oil.

**Fact:** We too, can be fully possessed by God's Spirit.

**Fact:** We too, can be instruments used mightily of the Lord.

## II. **Samson "Slipping" In Sensitivity**

"And Samson went down to Timnath" (14:1)

**Fact:** Samson's first offence was his visit to the enemy's camp.

**Fact:** Samson was looking for a date in the wrong place.

**Fact:** Samson rejected the counsel from both Mom and Dad. (14:3)

**Fact:** Samson thought he could play with fire and not get burned.

**Fact:** Samson has no intention of falling, failing, yielding or sinning.

**(But He Makes The Big Mistake)  
(What is it?)**

◆ Trying to have the **blessing** of the Nazarite Vow,

◆ Without the **separation** of the Nazarite Vow. (repeat)

**(Samson Slips And Slides)**

#1. Instead of running from Timnath, he wants to see how close he can get without getting caught.

#2. He wants all of God, but won't let go of all the world.

#3. He runs the caution lights, ignores the sirens and rejects the inner voice calling him away from sin.

**(Samson Sadly Forgets Two Things)**

#1. **That the longer I stay where I do not belong, the weaker I become in trying to exit!**

#2. **The longer I reject the calling voice of God, the harder it becomes to hear that voice again!**

**Question:** What happens if we become desensitized to sin, flesh, the world and pollution.

**Answer:** (The same thing that happened to Samson)

A. Samson gets close to enemy territory.

B. Samson is attracted to enemy treasures.

C. Samson becomes vulnerable to enemy temptation.

D. Samson falls victim to the enemy's trap.

**(Let's Declare War On The Enemy)**

◆ And ditch the neutral zones,

◆ Get radical with every compromise,

◆ Rebuke all living on the edge of Timnath,

◆ Live as far from sin as possible.

**(Guess What?)**

I will either get out of Timnath when God speaks to me, or I will go further than Timnath and desensitize my soul!

## III. **Samson "Sinning" In Seduction**

"The Lord was departed from him" (16:20)

**Fact:** Because Samson refuses to turn in Judges 15, he ends up in the lap of a prostitute in Judges 16.

**(Samson Runs The Red Light)**

- #1. Samson tells Delilah that if he is tied with seven fresh cords, he will be weak like other men. (16:7)
- #2. Samson tells Delilah that it really takes new ropes. (16:11)
- #3. Samson tells Delilah that if she braids his hair into a loom. (16:13)
- #4. Samson finally yields and forfeits the anointing: "If I be shaven, my strength will go from me" (16:17)

**(Samson Presumes Upon God)**

He presumes as millions do, that sin will not grieve the Holy Spirit within our lives: **"I will go out as at other times before"**. (v. 20)

**(He Fails To Remember...)**

That the devil will...take you further than you want to go,  
 ...keep you longer than you want to stay,  
 ...make you pay more than you want to pay!

**(He Forgot That)**

Moths who investigate burning candles singe their wings for life!

**IV. Samson "Sorrowing" In Seclusion**

"The Philistines took Samson, and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison house". (16:21)

"Then the lord of the Philistines gathered them together for to offer a great sacrifice upon Dagon their god...they praised their god" (16:23 & 24)

**Question:** What happens when we fail to live "The separated life"?

**Answer:** (The same thing that happened to Samson):

- #1. **Samson lost his sight**  
 (His eyes were put out)
- #2. **Samson lost his strength**  
 (His hands were bound with fetters)
- #3. **Samson lost his story**  
 (He became a spectacle at the party of the enemy)
- #4. **Samson lost his song**  
 (His rejoicing over lions and enemies ended in tragedy, all because of sin)

**Conclusion**

"Lord, help us to never forget"

- #1. That no past anointing is any guarantee against a future departure.
- #2. That there is never a time to remain neutral when it comes to temptation and sin.
- #3. That we have been called to live separated from all pollution that would grieve Your Presence.
- #4. That it is possible (by Your Grace) to say "No" to every fiery dart of the enemy that comes our way.
- #5. That "**Separation**" and "**Strength**" go hand in hand for all who believe!!!

**Amen!**  
 Bill Kirk, Pastor