

# SAMSON (Part 1): CALLING, REBELLION, AND VENGEANCE

*Pastor Lucas Almeida—Judges 13-15—Central Baptist Church—July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023*

## INTRODUCTION

### Psalm 103:15–16

*[15] As for man, his days are like grass;  
he flourishes like a flower of the field;  
[16] for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,  
and its place knows it no more.*

There is no such thing as a strong man of God; there is only a strong God who empowers weak men to accomplish great things for his glory and for the good of his people.

## REVIEW

The Book of Judges is a book of warriors that God used to deliver his people.

Judges' Cycle = sin, servitude, supplication, and salvation

moral decadence / *canaanization*' of Israel

### Samson

- Last of the judges
- Four entire chapters
- The main human character in this book
- Samson was not a military leader—a lone ranger
- Samson is the most immoral of all the judges

Out of all the judges, in some ways, Samson was the most unlike Christ; however, in some ways no other judges points us to Christ like Samson.

## CALLING

Samson was called to be devoted to God from the womb.

Nazarite Vow = no alcohol / no contact with a dead body / no cutting hair

The faith that was to be born in Samson needed to first be born in his parents.

**2 Timothy 1:5**—*I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well.*

The call to be devoted to God was also a call to be devoted to God's people.

**Matthew 1:21**—“*[21] She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.*”

Notice how concerned Samson’s parents are to understand the message from the Angel of the Lord.

## REBELLION

Timnah was a Philistine town.

Rebellion first begins when we reject the wisdom of God and begin doing things that are right in our own eyes.

**Judges 21:25**—*[25] In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.*

God uses every means to accomplish his good purposes—even the rebellion of men.

Samson’s initial rebellion became habitual rebellion.

Samson, in rebellion, also breaks his Nazarite vow.

The enemy he was called to destroy became his companions.

## VENGEANCE

Vengeance is when we don’t trust the Lord to correct the injustices we suffer, so we take justice in our own hands.

**Romans 12:19**—*[19] Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”*

Vengeance is justice that does not proceed from faith.

Not only was Samson’s sense of justice completely disconnected from the justice of God, the sense of security from the men of Israel was also disconnected from the hand of God.

### **Psalm 121:1–2**

*[1] I lift up my eyes to the hills.  
From where does my help come?  
[2] My help comes from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.*

**John 7:37–38**—*[37] On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink.*