



The Book of Judges - Riding the Handbasket to Hell

Judges Part 5

High Hopes for a New Son (Judges 13-14)

A Reminder

In these Bible studies we could be asking “Why would a loving God command the deaths of all these people, even though they are pagans and oppressing the Israelites?”

Instead, we are asking “What does it mean for us to surrender to the will of God, even though His will seems not only incomprehensible but completely contradictory at times?”

Judges 13

The prophecy, and the birth of Samson



The Nazirite Vow (verses 4-5):

No strong (i.e., alcoholic) drink
Never eat anything unclean
Head never touched by a razor
= Devoted to the Lord

Samson’s mother was also bound to the vow (verse 13)

Talk about these parenting styles:

- a) *“My kid can do whatever he wants - I don’t care.”*
- b) *“I support whatever decisions my kid makes.”*
- c) *“I have a plan for my kid’s life, and - by God! - he’d better keep it!”*
- d) *“I have hopes for my kid’s life - I’ll do what I can to help him along the way - but I am not solely responsible for the man he will become.”*

v.24-25. Compare Luke 1:80;
Luke 2:40.

Judges 14:1-7 “Samson went down to Timnah . . . “

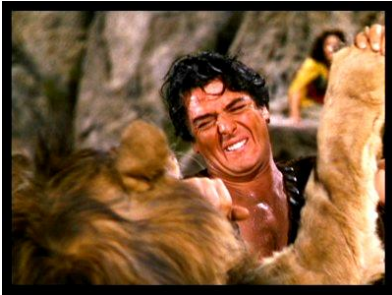


v. 3 “Must you go to the uncircumcised Philistines to get a wife?”

Talk about the same parenting styles, only this time with regard to your child’s dating preferences.

How do you feel about your child dating someone who is not a Christian?

Judges 14:8-30 - Samson’s bachelor party



Remember The Nazirite Vow?
(verses 4-5):

**No strong (i.e., alcoholic) drink
Never eat anything unclean**

v.9 “out of the strong,
something sweet”
(and verse 14)



Judges 15:1-20 - Samson's revenge

v.1-6 - The incident with the foxes

v. 7-8 - The death of Samson's wife



v. 9-20 - The battle at Ramah Lehi

v. 7 “Since you’ve acted like this, I won’t stop until I get my revenge on you.”

v. 11 “I merely did to them what they did to me.”

The “eye for an eye” theory is that maximum revenge allowed is equivalent to the damage inflicted.

What do you think: was Samson’s revenge equivalent? Not enough? Or did he go too far?

When have you heard

a) “They started it”?

b) “I was only . . .”?

When did those words come out of your own mouth?

What did you do about it?

**Next Time: Judges Part 6
More Gratuitous Sex and Violence;
Samson Brings Down the House**

Samson's Legacy?



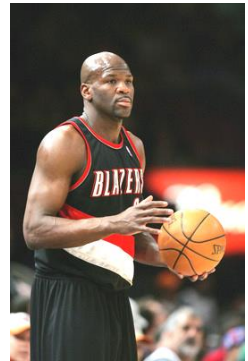
Albert Belle

Former MLB Outfielder

Arrested in 2006 and charged with allegedly stalking his ex-girlfriend with a GPS device.

Ruben Patterson

In 2001, Patterson plead guilty to attempting to rape his child's nanny in September of 2000. Patterson then had to register as a sex offender, which was clearly a dark mark on himself and the league by association with Patterson.



Braylon Edwards

Braylon Edwards is known to have a heavy foot on the gas pedal. The last time he was pulled over, he was driving 120 mph in a 65 mph zone. He has had misdemeanor assaults and had a DWI charge.

Tonya Harding

Former Figure Skater

Arrested in 2000 and charged with domestic violence for striking her boyfriend.

