

Lesson 8 November 6, 2024

# Who IS That Woman?

Women in the Bible who got it right and those who didn't

## A Bad Haircut

## Judges 13 - 16

1. Samson is the last judge mentioned in the Book of Judges. He served for twenty years during the forty years of Philistine oppression. His assignment was to begin Israel's deliverance from the Philistines even though they were not crying out to be delivered. (Judges 13:1,5; 15:20).
2. Samson's birth was \_\_\_\_\_. The angel of the LORD had visited his mother who had suffered from infertility for many years. He told her she would give birth to a \_\_\_\_\_, and he would be a \_\_\_\_\_ from birth to death. According to this vow, her son would abstain from drinking any wine or intoxicating beverages, cutting his hair, coming in contact with anything unclean (corpse). His name meant "sunny." He "grew and the LORD blessed him, and the Spirit of the LORD began to stir him while he was in the area near Zorah" (Judges 13).
3. Unfortunately, Samson was the boy who never grew up. He exhibited several character flaws. He was impulsive, unpredictable, vindictive, resistant to parental guidance, careless about his calling, reckless, a troublemaker unnecessarily, a lone ranger not a leader, driven by an unbridled sexual appetite for women. However, he was intelligent and had supernatural strength (Chps. 13-16).
4. Samson went to \_\_\_\_\_ and spent the night with a Philistine \_\_\_\_\_. The Philistines recognized him immediately and planned to \_\_\_\_\_ him at dawn. However, Samson escaped during the night. He ripped the city gate out of the wall and took it with him to Israelite territory, leaving Gaza \_\_\_\_\_ (16:1-3).
5. Sometime later, Samson fell in love with a woman named \_\_\_\_\_ who lived in the Valley of Sorek ("red grapes"). When the rulers of the \_\_\_\_\_ learned about their relationship, they saw this as an opportunity to \_\_\_\_\_ Samson. They offered Delilah an exorbitant amount of money if she would \_\_\_\_\_ Samson into telling her the \_\_\_\_\_ of his supernatural \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 4-5).

6. Delilah agreed without hesitation. It took her a while, but she got the job done. Despite her \_\_\_\_\_ behavior, her first three attempts \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 6-14).
  
7. Determined to accomplish her mission though, she resorted to relentless \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ day after day. Finally, she wore Samson down, and he \_\_\_\_\_. He disclosed that his strength was related to his \_\_\_\_\_ - not to cut his hair (vv. 15-17).
  
8. Convinced that Samson had told her the truth, Delilah contacted the five Philistine rulers. They promptly responded, having their payment in hand (v. 18).
  
9. Delilah got to work immediately. She lulled Samson to \_\_\_\_\_ and had a man \_\_\_\_\_ off his seven braids (v. 19).
  
10. When Samson awoke, thinking that it had just been another playful evening, he soon realized his \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 20).
  
11. The Philistines \_\_\_\_\_ Samson and \_\_\_\_\_. Then they \_\_\_\_\_ him in Gaza where they \_\_\_\_\_ and forced him to do the job of a slave - \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 21).
  
12. However, in time Samson's hair began to \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 22).
  
13. Soon, the Philistine ruler held a celebration at the temple of \_\_\_\_\_, their god, to honor him for their victory over Samson and his God, the LORD. In their drunken state, the huge crowd (more than 3,000) demanded that Samson be brought out so he could \_\_\_\_\_ them (vv. 23-25, 27).
  
14. A servant led Samson out to be put on \_\_\_\_\_. Aware of the architectural structure of the temple, Samson asked the servant to \_\_\_\_\_. Then he prayed, asking the LORD to \_\_\_\_\_ and to \_\_\_\_\_ him one last time so he could get revenge (vv. 25-28).

15. Samson prayed again saying, "Let me die with the Philistines!" Then with all the strength he could muster, he pushed on the pillars and the \_\_\_\_\_, killing \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ those in attendance (vv. 29-30).
16. With the five rulers' death, it was safe for Samson's relatives to \_\_\_\_\_ and take it back home for \_\_\_\_\_ in the tomb of his godly parents (v. 31).
17. Samson's name is included in the Roll Call of Faith in Hebrews 11:32.

## What can I learn from Delilah?



God chose for me to be a \_\_\_\_\_ with characteristics vastly different from a male. As I seek to embrace my femininity in my relationships, I need to beware of any tendency to be \_\_\_\_\_ and/or use \_\_\_\_\_ ploys - whining, pouting, crying, kissing up - to accomplish my goal.



To keep me on track, my daily prayer should be, "Create in me a \_\_\_\_\_, O God, and renew a \_\_\_\_\_ within me" (Psalm 51:10).

## HOMework

Song: \_\_\_\_\_ By: Matt Maher

**Review:** Review Judges 13-16 and look for additional lessons you can learn from Delilah.

**Read:** Ruth 1-4