

Judges 16:4 *“Some time later, he fell in love with a woman in the Valley of Sorek whose name was Delilah.”*

Judges 16:5 *“The rulers of the Philistines went to her and said, “See if you can lure him into showing you the secret of his great strength and how we can overpower him so we may tie him up and subdue him. Each one of us will give you eleven hundred shekels (\$6,500) of silver.”*

Judges 16:6 *“So Delilah said to Samson, “Tell me the secret of your great strength and how you can be tied up and subdued.”*

Judges 16:7 *“Samson answered her, “If anyone ties me with seven fresh bowstrings that have not been dried, I’ll become as weak as any other man.”*

Judges 16:8-9 *“Then the rulers of the Philistines brought her seven fresh bowstrings that had not been dried, and she tied him with them. With men hidden in the room, she called to him, “Samson, the Philistines are upon you!” But he snapped the bowstrings as easily as a piece of straw snaps when it comes close to a flame. So the secret of his strength was not discovered.”*

Judges 16:10 *“Then Delilah said to Samson, “You have made a fool of me; you lied to me. Come now, tell me how you can be tied.”*

Judges 16:15-16 ESV *“And she said to him, “How can you say, ‘I love you,’ when your heart is not with me? You have mocked me these three times, and you have not told me where your great strength lies.” And when she pressed him hard with her words day after day, and urged him, his soul was vexed to death.”*

Judges 16:17 *“And he told her all his heart, and said to her, “A razor has never come upon my head, for I have been a Nazirite to God from my mother's womb. If my head is shaved, then my strength will leave me, and I shall become weak and be like any other man.”*

Judges 16:18-20 ESV *“When Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called the lords of the Philistines, saying, “Come up again, for he has told me all his heart.” Then the lords of the Philistines came up to her and brought the money in their hands. She made him sleep on her knees. And she called a man and had him shave off the seven locks of his head. Then she began to torment him, and his strength left him. And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said,
“I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.”*

But he did not know that the Lord had left him.”

Judges 16:21 *“And the Philistines seized him and gouged out his eyes and brought him down to Gaza and bound him with bronze shackles. And he ground at the mill in the prison.”*

He did what was right in his own eyes and we will see that he ends up blind. He is bound in prison, walking in circles. That is what sin does to you.

Judges 16:22 “But the hair on his head began to grow again.”

Judges 16:23-28 *“Now the rulers of the Philistines assembled to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon (Grain God) their god and to celebrate, saying, “Our god has delivered Samson, our enemy, into our hands.”*

When the people saw him, they praised their god, saying,

“Our god has delivered our enemy

into our hands,

the one who laid waste our land

and multiplied our slain.”

While they were in high spirits, they shouted, “Bring out Samson to entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he performed for them.

When they stood him among the pillars, Samson said to the servant who held his hand, “Put me where I can feel the pillars that support the temple, so that I may lean against them.” Now the temple was crowded with men and women; all the rulers of the Philistines were there, and on the roof were about three thousand men and women watching Samson perform. Then Samson prayed:”

Judges 16:29-30 “Then Samson reached toward the two central pillars on which the temple stood. Bracing himself against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other, Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines!” Then he pushed with all his might, and down came the temple on the rulers and all the people in it. Thus he killed many more when he died than while he lived.”

Fusion Group Questions:

What did the Holy Spirit speak to me through the text or sermon?

What am I going to do about it?

What were my “biggest takes aways” from the life of Samson?

Samson had a habit of taking things and God for granted. What do you tend to take for granted and how can you change that?

Lord Remember, Lord Strengthen me, Lord use me.

You can't un-sin, but you can repent

to the Lord, “Sovereign Lord, remember me. Please, God, strengthen me just once more, and let me with one blow get revenge on the Philistines for my two eyes.”