## **One step too far in the wrong direction. Feb 20, 2022**

## **The end of Samson comes at the hand of many bad choices.**

## **He has had a lifetime of seeing things incorrectly with his physical eyes and now he will live the remainder of his life without them.**

## **The real story of Samson and Delilah**

## **First, he is immoral with a harlot in Gaza**

## **Second, he meets Delilah**

## **Third, her get rich quick scheme**

## **Samson loves her but it never says she loved him.**

## **In fact, by her actions, we can ascertain she is very selfish and really doesn’t.**

## **Does she love him?**

## **He’s really just a piece of bread to Delilah, to be eaten!**

## ***Prov 6:26 For by means of a harlot A man is reduced to a crust of bread; And an adulteress will prey upon his precious life. 27 Can a man take fire to his bosom, And his clothes not be burned?***

## ***28 Can one walk on hot coals, And his feet not be seared? 29 So is he who goes in to his neighbor’s wife; Whoever touches her shall not be innocent.***

## ***Judg 16:4 Afterward it happened that he loved a woman in the Valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah. Judg 5 And the lords of the Philistines came up to her and said to her, “Entice him, and find out where his great strength lies, and by what means we may overpower him,***

## ***that we may bind him to afflict him; and every one of us will give you eleven hundred pieces of silver.”***

## **Last I checked there were 5 lords of the Philistines, so that comes to 5,500 pieces of silver.**

## **3 times he lies to her about his great strength Judges 16:7-14.**

## **4th times a charm:**

## ***Judg 16:16 And it came to pass, when she pestered him daily with her words***

## ***and pressed him, so that his soul was vexed to death 17 that he told her all his heart,…*** (**impatient to the point of death)**

## **As soon as he tells her, she cashes in and that is the last we hear of her.**

## **As for Samson: *Judg 16:21 Then the Philistines took him and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza. They bound him with bronze fetters, and he became a grinder in the prison.***

## **Samson will have one more feat to accomplish God’s judgment of the Philistines.**

## ***Judg 16:28 Then Samson called to the LORD, saying, “O Lord GOD, remember me, I pray! Strengthen me, I pray, just this once, O God, that I may with one blow take vengeance on the Philistines for my two eyes!”29 And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars which supported the temple, and he braced himself against them, one on his right and the other on his left.***

## ***30 Then Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines!” And he pushed with all his might, and the temple fell on the lords and all the people who were in it. So the dead that he killed at his death were more than he had killed in his life.***

## **Samson is mentioned again here:**

## ***Heb 11:32 And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets:***

## ***Heb 11:33 who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,***

## ***34 quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.***

## **But don’t miss God’s purpose of the life of Samson!**

## ***Judg 14:4 But his father and mother did not know that it was of the LORD–that He was seeking an occasion to move against the Philistines.***

## ***For at that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel.***

## **And to move against their false God.**

## **Israel took a long time in getting rid of their Idols. By the time of Jesus, it was pretty much gone**

## ***Exod 20:3 “You shall have no other gods before Me. 4“You shall not make for yourself a carved image–any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth;***

## ***5 you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,***

## ***Isa 42:8 I am the LORD, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images.***

## **The battle is the struggle of, WHO IS GOD**

## **Whether it’s the baals or dagon or Roman and Greek gods. The age-old struggle is God is FIRST and there is no other!**

## **All the idols, all the false gods represent one giant battle:**

## ***Isa 14:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’***

## ***Matt 4:8 Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 4:9 And he said to Him, “All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.”***

## ***4:10 Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.’ ”***

## **This conflict will culminate with the man of sin**

## ***2 Thess 2:3 Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition,***

## ***2:4 who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.***

## ***Rev 13:11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. 12 And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.***

## ***13 He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.***

## ***14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived…***

## ***Ps 115:4 Their idols are silver and gold, The work of men’s hands. 5 They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see; 6 They have ears, but they do not hear; Noses they have, but they do not smell;***

## ***7 They have hands, but they do not handle; Feet they have, but they do not walk; Nor do they mutter through their throat.***

## **BUT THIS ONE…**

## ***Rev 13:15 He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.***

## **The battle and truth of all the scriptures…**

## ***Isa 42:8 I am the LORD, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images.***

## ***Isa 43:3 For I am the LORD your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior; …***

## ***Isa 43:15 I am the LORD, your Holy One, The Creator of Israel, your King.”***

## ***Isa 44:24 Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, And He who formed you from the womb:***

## ***“I am the LORD, who makes all things, Who stretches out the heavens all alone, Who spreads abroad the earth by Myself;***

## ***Isa 45:5 I am the LORD, and there is no other; There is no God besides Me. I will gird you, though you have not known Me,***

## ***Isa 45:6 That they may know from the rising of the sun to its setting That there is none besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other;***

## ***Isa 45:7 I form the light and create darkness,***

## ***I make peace and create calamity; I, the LORD, do all these things.’ Isa 51:15 But I am the LORD your God, Who divided the sea whose waves roared– The LORD of hosts is His name***

## ***1Cor 8:5 For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as there are many gods and many lords), 6 yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live.***

## Next week: Ruth