

Monday, March 31, 2025

Delilah~

A woman like Delilah is the last person a devoted mother would want for her son!

Judges 13:24-25 **24** The woman gave birth to a boy and named him Samson. He grew and the Lord blessed him, **25** and the Spirit of the Lord began to stir him while he was in Mahaneh Dan, between Zorah and Eshtaol.

In Judges it depicts Samson as a mean spirited rough man.

Samson had a very hard life in retaliation ,the Philistines burned his wife and father in law alive. After that Samson killed a thousand men with a donkey jaw! You could say he wasn't a man to be taken lightly. The Philistines were always trying to kill him but he always outsmarted them.

But one woman managed to take him down without any force. Delilah!

Judges 16:44 **Afterward it happened that he loved a woman in the Valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah.**

The decision he made to be with Delilah was a combination of poor choices, his whole life.

Delilah in Arabic, means flirt or coquettish woman.

But Samson loved her. She was not a one night stand. However Its never said that she loved him in return.

This woman with no nationality, no past and no family had a name! Delilah! We don't know much about her. She lived in the Valley of Sorek, between Israelite and Philistine land, which tells where her home was located but not where her allegiance dwelled.

It does not say that she was a harlot but she seemed to have money because she had her own home, which wasn't normal unless she was married or widowed.

How did she capture Samsons devotion? It doesn't say she was charming or gentle or compassionate. The only explanation is that she was beautiful and knew how to use that beauty to get what she wanted.

How often do we used what our husband enjoys to try to control them.

For Samson his weak spot wasn't his hair it was Delilah!

We in turn can be our husbands weak spot, they want to keep us happy and safe. Do we respect and honor what they do for us or do we constantly use it to our advantage?

But she was a pawn the Philistines used to get to Samson.

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Judges 16:5 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.”

She was used by powerful men. Be careful who you associate with. The Devil is always lurking.

The Philistines appealed to her vanity and greed and confidence that she could manipulate him.

Notice they went to her directly, not a father, brother or family member they went to her. They didn't appeal to her sense of patriotism, or well get you a better man, or if he really loved you. They went after her heart which was filled with greed.

Now wait before we condemn Delilah for her actions we must ask what would we choose? 1) the violent man with a rocky past who was never a husband or father, who might disappear at any given moment with out a word or 2) The comfort of cold hard cash that could keep a woman well and fed and clothed for a lifetime. A single woman back then didn't have a lot of support. Now I'm not supporting her choice at all. I believe women should stick by their men through hard times as well as good.

But ask yourself what would you do?

What do you do?

But she made her choice without hesitation.

But Samson lied multiple times. Did this solidify her decision to betray him? Because she felt he wasn't trustworthy?

Judges 16; 6-9 So Delilah said to Samson, “Please tell me where your great strength *lies*, and with what you may be bound to afflict you.”**7** And Samson said to her, “If they bind me with seven fresh bowstrings, not yet dried, then I shall become weak, and be like any *other* man.”**8** So the lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven fresh bowstrings, not yet dried, and she bound him with them. **9** Now *men were* lying in wait, staying with her in the room. And she said to him, “The Philistines *are* upon you, Samson!” But he broke the bowstrings as a strand of yarn breaks when it touches fire. So the secret of his strength was not known.

Delilah, like Potiphar's wife was persistent and used his love for her against him. Whining and complaining because she wasn't getting her way. She wore his tired self down.

Judges 16:15-17

15 Then 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 have not told me where your great strength *lies*.”
16 And it came to pass, when she pestered him daily with her words and pressed him, so that his soul was [b]vexed to death, 17 that he told her all his heart, and said to her, “No razor has ever come upon my head, for I have been a Nazirite to God from my mother's womb. If I am shaven, then my strength will leave me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man.”

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Proverbs 27:15-16 A continual dripping on a very rainy day
And a contentious woman are alike;Whoever [c]restrains her restrains the wind,
And grasps oil with his right hand.

Judges 16:18-19 18 When Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called for the lords of the Philistines, saying, "Come up once more, for he has told me all his heart." So the lords of the Philistines came up to her and brought the money in their hand. 19 Then she lulled him to sleep on her knees, and called for a man and had him shave off the seven locks of his head. Then [c]she began to torment him, and his strength left him. 20 And she said, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" So he awoke from his sleep, and said, "I will go out as before, at other times, and shake myself free!" But he did not know that the Lord had departed from him.

She put no value on his love and loyalty to her.

Do we put aside there love for us in exchange for something we want? Do we only: I want, I feel, I need, I desire.

The comparison to Judas is hard to avoid, instead of 30 pieces of silver it was thousands of shekels. But it's not about the amount.

It's about the deceit, sin, and dishonor.

In verse 19 you then get into how she lulled him to sleep with the security that she would honor and love him the way he did her. Then the philistines capture him and tie him to the pillars after brutalizing him.

Judges 16:20 He didn't know the Lord had departed from him.

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

His dependance of God began to grow. His faith began to grow. His courage and anointing began to grow again.

She didn't just betray him she allowed him to be sacrificed for her own gain, remind you of someone again? (Judas)

Do you think she was there watching while loving her money?

One writer wrote: Delilah will be an everlasting curse on the lips of men

Because of Samson sin of disobeying God, he had to learn the hardest lesson about the consequences of sin and separation from God.

But God as always shows grace and might, as Samsons hair grows back he is able to overtake his enemies!

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Zachariah 4:6 says
'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,'
Says the Lord of hosts.

Despite Samsons troublesome past he still made the Hebrew honor roll!

Hebrews 11:32-34 AMPC**32** And what shall I say further? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets,**33** Who by [the help of] faith subdued kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promised blessings, closed the mouths of lions,**34** Extinguished the power of raging fire, escaped the devourings of the sword, out of frailty *and* weakness won strength *and* became stalwart, even mighty *and* resistless in battle,

Even with all his failings he still had a heart for God.

As for Delilah... Of all of her short coming the greatest by far is: not that she was rich in silver but that she was poor in spirit.

If she would have followed the God of Sampson. How would her life and need for love looked?