

Getting started: Why do you think men with great ability are so vulnerable to perilous falls?

Read 15:1-8**Attack of Samson**

1. When Samson returned for his wife, what did he discover? How did Samson respond? How great was the devastation? (vv. 1-5)
2. When the Philistines learned of the devastation, who did the Philistines punish? (v. 6) How did Samson take revenge on the brutality of the Philistines?

Read 15:9-20**Arrest of Samson**

3. Why did the Philistines encamp against Judah? When the men of Judah approached Samson, what reason did he give for his actions? (vv. 10-11)
4. What did the men of Judah plan to do? What did Samson ask them to promise? (v. 12) With what was Samson bound before being given to the Philistines? (v. 13)
5. When Samson entered the Philistine camp, what happened to Samson? What did he do to the Philistines? (vv. 14-16). What was the place called? (v. 7)
6. What did Samson ask God following this great deliverance? So how did God provide for Samson and spare his life? (vv. 18-20) Why did God split a rock to provide water for him? (c.f. Ex. 17:6)

Read 16:1-31**Adultery of Samson**

7. When Samson visited a harlot in Gaza, a Philistine city, what did the Philistines plan to do? What did Samson do instead at midnight? (vv. 1-3)
8. When Samson went to another harlot named Delilah, what did the Philistines ask her to do? (vv. 5-6) When she asks him where, what does he tell her? (v. 7) What happens when Samson awakes from sleep to find the Philistines upon him (vv. 8-9)
9. When asked by Delilah a 2nd time, what does he tell her will weaken him? (vv. 10-11) When that too fails, what does he tell her next? (v. 13) After weaving his hair and making it secure, what does Delilah cry out for a third straight time? (v. 14)
10. When Samson awoke after his hair was cut, what did the Philistines do to him? What did Samson not know? (vv. 19-21)
11. When Samson was called from prison to be sported in front of the Philistine lords, what had his enemies overlooked? (vv. 22-25) What did Samson ask the lad beside him to do? (vv. 26-27) What did Samson ask God to do for him? (v. 28) Explain whether Samson's final act of vengeance on the Philistines was a victory or defeat. (vv. 29-31)

Going Deeper

12. Samson's story only records two prayers: 15:18 and 16:28. Review these two prayers. What do they tell us about how Samson viewed God? What redeeming qualities can be found in them? How should we shape our prayers?