

**I. SAMSON, A MAN OF EXTRAORDINARY STRENGTH** (Judges 13-16)

- A. FULL OF FAITH** (Heb.11:1,2; 32f; Jdgs.13:5,24f; 15:18f; 16:28f)
- B. FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT** (Jdgs.14:6,19; 15:14 (see 3:10; 6:34; 11:29); see Eph.5:19; Acts 6:5; 11:24)
- C. OVERCOME BY THE FLESH** (Jdgs.14:1f; 15:1f; 16:1f,4f; see Neh.13:26; 2Sam.11:3f; see Gal.5:17; Rom.7:24)
- D. THE CYCLE IN SAMSON** (Jdgs.13:1,5; see *rebellion*, 14:1-16:14 / *retribution*, 16:15-25 / *repentance*, 16:28 / *restoration*, 16:26-31; see "Servant of the Lord", Is.41:8 & 42:1f)
- E. CLIMAX & TRANSITION** (Jdgs.1-16/17-21/Ruth/kings; see Jdgs.14:6,19; 15:14 (see 3:10; 6:34; 11:29))

**II. A DELIVERER LIKE SAMSON** (see Dt.18:15; Acts 3:22; 7:37; Jn.1:1f)

- A. THE REBELLION** (Jdgs.13:1; see Rom.5:8; Eph.2:1-3)
- B. THE BARREN MOTHER** (Jdgs.13:2b; see Lk.1:27f)
- C. THE ANNUNCIATION** (Jdgs.13:3f; see Lk.1:26f)
- D. THE DEDICATION TO GOD** (Jdgs.13:4f; 16:17; Num.6:2f; see Lk.1:35; Mk.1:24; Jn.19:19)
- E. THE PROMISE OF DELIVERANCE** (Jdgs.13:5; see Mt.1:21; Lk.1:32f; 67f)
- F. THE BIRTH & EARLY DAYS** (Jdgs.13:25; see Lk.2:40,52)
- G. THE ENDOWMENT OF THE SPIRIT** (Jdgs.13:25; see Lk.3:22; also Jdgs.15:18; Mt.4:11)
- H. THE GREAT WISDOM OF THE SPIRIT** (Jdgs.14:12f; see Lk.2:40f,52; 20:3; 22:68; 1Cor.1:24f)
- I. THE MIGHTY DEEDS OF THE SPIRIT** (Jdgs.14:6,19; 15:14 (3:10; 6:34; 11:29) /Lk4:1f,18; Mt12:28; Acts10:38)

**III. THE DELIVERER FOR US WHO IS STRONGER THAN SAMSON!** (Mt.12:6,41,42; Jn.4:12; 5:36; 8:53; 14:28; see Heb.1:4f; 3:3f; 4:8f; 4:14ff; 8:6f; 10:4f; 12:18f)

- A. THE TRUE NAZIRITE FOR US** (Jdgs.16:17f (c.14-16; Ps.31:10) *versus* Heb.4:15; 5:8f; 7:26; Acts 3:14; see Num.6:1f; Lk.1:35; Mk.1:24; Jn.19:19; 8:29)
- B. THE FAITHFUL HUSBAND FOR US** (Eph5:25f; Rev21:1f; *note*: Jdgs14:3,etc.; Neh.13:26; 1Co7:39; 2Co6:14)
- C. THE ONE WHO TEARS APART THE ROARING LION FOR US** (Jdgs.14:5f; see 1Pt.5:8; 1Cor.10:13)
- D. THE ONE WHO STUMPS THE WISE OF THIS WORLD FOR US** (Jdgs.14:12f; see 1Cor.1:20; Mt.10:39f; 16:25f; see Phil.2:9f)
- E. THE ONE WHO WILL CLEANSE THIS WORLD WITH FIRE FOR US** (Jdgs.15:4f; see 2Pt.3:7f)
- F. THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE GATES OF HELL FOR US** (Jdgs.16:2,3; see Mt.16:18; 12:28,29; Lk.8:35)
- G. THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE BONDS OF DEATH FOR US** (Jdgs15:14; 16:7f /Acts2:24; Jn10:18; 1Jn4:9)
- H THE ONE WHO OVERPOWERS THE TRUE PHILISTINES OF TEMPTATION, SIN & DEATH FOR US** (Jdgs.13:5; 14:19; 15:8,15; see Heb.4:15; 1Pt.2:24; 1Cor.15:26,54; see Phil.4:13)
- I. THE ONE WHO ACHIEVES HIS GREATEST VICTORY IN DEATH FOR US** (Jdgs.16:26f; see Rom.5:8; 1Th.5:10; Phil.2:5-11; Eph.2:16; Col.2:14; 1Pt.2:24; Jn.3:16)

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE, FAMILY AND SMALL GROUP FELLOWSHIP**

**Suggestions:** *Don't feel obliged to use every question or every part of every question. Go through and discuss those that are of greatest **interest** to you. Then consider going back and discussing those that may also be **useful**, including those that may have seemed a bit difficult. In all questions, keep the outline before to identify entries relevant to the question and to look up appropriate verses listed.*

1. What most surprised, puzzled or impressed you from this sermon?
2. What was most helpful? Why? How will you apply it in your daily life?
3. What Scripture references were most helpful and why?
4. What are the primary *doctrinal* points of Judges 13-16? Do you *believe* these things?
5. What are the primary *practical* points? Do you *do* these things?
6. How is the Judges cycle (rebellion, retribution, repentance, restoration) evident in the life of Samson?
7. What was there about Samson that we should admire and imitate? That we should despise and avoid?
8. Which of the ways in which Samson is a picture of Jesus are most striking to you? Why? How do these things strengthen your faith and/or your obedience?
9. Which of the ways in which Jesus is your deliverer who is stronger than Samson are most striking to you? Why? How do these things strengthen your faith and/or your obedience?
10. When you come to Jesus in prayer and/or the Lord's Supper, how does the picture of Him in the life of Samson encourage you?