

EMOTIONS THAT TAKE STRONG MEN DOWN

SAMSON, Part 2

Pastor Ken Ritz * June 24, 2012 * New Life Vineyard Church

Review

- Samson was an incredibly strong man with a dangerously weak will.
- Three attitudes that make strong men weak:
 1. Lust – “I want it”
 2. Entitlement – “I deserve it”
 3. Pride – “I can handle it”

SAMSON WAS _____ DRIVEN NOT _____ LED.

So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.

Galatians 5:16-17 (NIV)

Samson threw a party at Timnah... When the bride's parents saw him, they selected thirty young men from the town to be his companions.

Judges 14:10-11 (NLT)

“Out of the eater, something to eat; out of the strong, something sweet.” For three days they could not give the answer.

Judges 14:14

Before sunset on the seventh day the men of the town said to him, “What is sweeter than honey? What is stronger than a lion?” Samson said to them, “If you had not plowed with my heifer, you would not have solved my riddle.”

Judges 14:18

Two Emotions That Take Strong Men Down

1. SAMSON BURNED WITH _____.

[Samson] went down to Ashkelon, struck down thirty of their men, stripped them of everything and gave their clothes to those who had explained the riddle. Burning with anger, he returned to his father's home. And Samson's wife was given to one of his companions who had attended him at the feast.

Judges 14:19-20

Samson said to them, “Since you've acted like this, I swear that I won't stop until I get my revenge on you.” He attacked them viciously and slaughtered many of them.

Judges 15:7-8

2. SAMSON WAS FILLED WITH _____.

The Spirit of the Lord came on him in power... Finding a fresh jawbone of a donkey, he grabbed it and struck down a thousand men.

Then Samson said, “With a donkey's jawbone I have made donkeys of them. With a donkey's jawbone I have killed a thousand men.”

Judges 15:15-16

IF YOU LET YOUR NEED DRIVE YOU TO GOD, GOD WILL MEET YOUR DEEPEST NEED.

When he finished his boasting, he threw away the jawbone; and the place was named Jawbone Hill.

Samson was now very thirsty, and he cried out to the Lord, “You have accomplished this great victory by the strength of your servant. Must I now die of thirst and fall into the hands of these pagans?”

So God caused water to gush out of a hollow in the ground at Lehi, and Samson was revived as he drank.

Judges 15:18-19 (NLT)

“Homework” Questions

- Think of a time when you let your emotions get the best of you. What resulted from your emotion-driven actions?
- What unchecked anger and pride do you need to address immediately?
- What steps do you need to take towards becoming more Spirit-led?

**All scriptures from TNIV unless otherwise noted*