

## "Crash & Burn!: The Life of Samson" Judges 13-16

As the book of Judges ends and the nation of Israel's descent into depravity deepens, Samson's life demonstrates the extent to which sin can destroy the people of God. Specifically, Samson's life reveals that while sin's destruction doesn't discriminate based on potential or promise and isn't immediate, it does lead to unending torture. Samson will realize in the end that the only strength against sin is in his weakness.

### **Sin's Destruction...**

#### **I. Doesn't discriminate**

"For behold, you shall conceive and give birth to a son, and no razor shall come upon his head, for the boy shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb; and he shall begin to deliver Israel from the hands of the Philistines."  
—Judges 13:5

"Then Manoah entreated the Lord and said, 'O Lord, please let the man of God whom You have sent come to us again that he may teach us what to do for the boy who is to be born.'  
—Judges 13:8

"But his wife said to him, 'If the Lord had desired to kill us, ...He [would not] have shown us all these things, nor would He have let us hear *things* like this at this time.' Then the woman gave birth to a son ... and the child grew up and the Lord blessed him. And the Spirit of the Lord began to stir him."  
—Judges 13:23-25

#### **II. Isn't immediate**

Samson will ignore ...

- A. Command of God
- B. Counsel of the godly
- C. Circumstance of life
- D. Crushing of company

"Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?"  
—Romans 2:4

“All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.”  
—Hebrews 12:11

### **III. Is unending torture**

#### A. Sin’s goal (16:5-6)

“Sin is crouching at the door, and its desire is for you, but you must master it.”  
—Genesis 4:7

#### B. Sin’s methods (16:5-25)

1. Exploit your weakness
2. Provide you enjoyment
3. Blind your senses
4. Wait you out

#### C. Sin’s end game (16:19-25)

### **IV. Reversed by weakness**

“I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed *acts of* righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.”  
—Hebrews 11:32-34