

MERCY AND DISOBEDIENCE, LIVING IT OUT, MODERN IDOLS

Old Testament Unit - Mercy In The Midst of Disobedience - *Destructive Patterns* - June 25, 2017

Text: Judges 16:1-31 (Background reading Judges 13-16)

Intro: Samson was an E_____ man in many ways, but he does not appear to have been a Z_____ servant of the Lord. It also seems that there was not a close B_____ between him and his countrymen. On the contrary, he was very friendly with the P_____. He seemed particularly attracted to Philistine W_____. He was a man of Imp_____ and controlled by sensual D_____. Revenge dominated his thinking, even in his P_____. While other Judges were raised up in times of crisis, Samson was dedicated to his task before _____. While it is easy to find fault with Samson's life, how is he portrayed in Heb. 11:32-34?

I. Judges 16:1-5 Sinful Patterns Will Bring Us Trouble

1. What problem does Samson show in Judges 14:1 & 16:1?

2. S_____ in one area of life will not make up for W_____ in another.

* Acknowledging your D_____ toward certain sin is the beginning of your B_____ to overcome it. We need to A_____ where we are apt to fail!

3. After Samson's escape from Gaza, what plan did the Philistines come up with to capture Samson?

II. Judges 16:6-20 Sin Distorts Our Judgment

1. How do you explain Samson "bad thinking" in his dealings with Delilah?

* You are free to choose, but not free from _____.

* Every action you take will either bring you C_____ or F_____ from God!

* Choosing a mate is life-changing. It should not be based on your W_____ but _____!

2. Read Numbers 6: 1-21. This passage describes the Nazarite vow that Samson's parents agreed to as commanded in Judges 13:7. What was the purpose of the vow? Did Samson break any of these conditions? Which ones?

*Christians have a higher calling than the pursuit of happiness. It is the pursuit of H_____!

III. Judges 16: 21-31 God Can Use Us In Spite of Our Flaws

1. What did the Philistines do to Samson after his capture? Why did they offer a "great sacrifice" to their God Dagon?

2. God's G_____, M_____, R_____, & second C_____ are seen in this final stage of Samson's life. Samson's last and greatest feat of strength resulted in: _____!

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM SAMSON'S LIFE?

1. Giving in to temptation leads to _____.
2. God will not let us escape the _____ of sin.
3. God will use even a sinful man to _____ his will.
4. God was the true S_____ of Samson's and our strength.
5. We are called to live a H_____ life.
6. God can use bad S_____ to fulfill His purpose.
7. God's purpose for our life is greater than our biggest M_____!
8. Believe it when people show you their true _____.

Text for 7/2/17: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 *Pleasing God*