

13. Samson:

Example of Faith and Folly

Quote: "And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gideon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens."

Hebrews 11:32-34

The Woman

In Judges 13, Manoah's wife is never named. She is called "the woman" 7 times (the number of the covenant and a clear allusion to [Gen 3:15](#)). Colour these 7 occurrences ([v3,6,9,10,11,13,24](#)). She is also called "his wife" 7 times Colour these a different colour ([v2,11,19,20,21,22,23](#)).

Samson - A Type of Israel (Mark in Judges 13 at bottom of page)

SAMSON	ISRAEL
Nazarite from birth (separated to God) (13:5)	Israel - a separate people (Amos 2:11 ; Lev 20:24-26)
God was source of strength (15:14)	Yahweh was Israel's strength (Ex 15:13)
Strength inexplicable to enemies (16:5)	Nations to be amazed at Israel's strength (Mic 7:16)
Invincible while faithful to vow (16:9,12)	Israel unbeatable while obedient (Deut 28:7 ; Isa 54:17)
Constantly went astray (14:1-5 ; 16:1,4)	Israel constantly wayward (Jud 2:17-18)
Sin leads to suffering, blindness & captivity (16:21)	Sin leads to suffering, blindness & captivity (2 Kg 25:7 ; Rom 11:7)
Did "right in his own eyes" (14:3 see mgn)	Did "right in their own eyes" (Jud 17:6 ; 21:25)
Broke vow & lost strength (16:17-20)	Broke covenant & lost national strength (Psa 106:41-42 ; Deut 29:25 ; Jer 22:9)
Yet has a great future (Heb 11:32, 39-40)	Yet has a great future (Rom 11:25-26)

The Nazarite Law (Mark in Judges 13)

Nazarite Law

- Voluntarily separated unto Yahweh for a chosen period of time ([Num 6:2](#)).

- Identified with the HIGH PRIEST:
 - No contact with vine, wine etc (Num 6:3-4 cp Lev 10:9)
 - No contact with Death (Num 6:6 cp Lev 21:1-4,10-11)
 - Hair Uncut (= crown of High Priest) (Num 6:5,7 cp Exod 29:6; Lev 21:5)
 - Holy unto Yahweh (Num 6:2,8 cp Lev 21:6; Exod 28:36)
- Identified with the KING (Num 6:7; 2 Kg 11:12) - Both identified by what was on their head.
- Hence a KING-PRIEST in type (cp. Ex 19:5-6; Rev 5:9-10)
- Two Main Principles of Nazariteship (Hair symbolised both Num 6:5)
 1. SEPARATION (Num 6:5)
 2. HOLINESS (Num 6:8)
- Principles summarised in (2 Cor. 6:17-7:1)

Samson The Unusual Nazarite

- Nazariteship not voluntary 13:5
- Period of Nazariteship from birth to death (Whole life) 13:7
- Mother and son both involved 13:4-5,13-14

Samson A Type of Christ (Mark in Judges 16)

SAMSON	CHRIST
Nazarite from birth to death (13:5,7)	Spiritual Nazarite all his life (Heb 9:11; 10:7)
Birth announced by angel (13:3)	Birth announced by angel (Matt 1:20; Lk 1:30-31)
The "seed of the woman" (13:3)	The "seed of the woman" (Gen 3:15; Gal 4:4)
Miraculous birth (13:5, 24)	Born of spirit miraculously (Lk 1:35)
Made strong by spirit of God (14:6,15:14)	"The man made strong" for God (Psa 80:17)
A deliverer of his people (13:5)	The Great Deliverer (Heb 2:15)
Sold to Gentiles by brethren (15:13)	Betrayed to Gentiles by brethren (Jn 11:49-51)
Took gates of enemy city (16:3)	To "possess gates of enemies" (Gen 22:17)
Sold for pieces of silver (16:5)	Sold for 30 pieces of silver (Matt 27:3-5)
Ridiculed before death (16:25)	Ridiculed & taunted on cross (Matt 26:67-68)
Death brought victory over enemy (16:30)	Through death - victory over all (1 Cor 15:25; Heb 2:14)