

“A Self-Absorbed and Insufficient Savior”

Judges 15:9-20

April 5, 2020

I. Victory over the Philistines

- A. Even though Samson is handed over to die, he still delivers a crushing blow to the Philistines: A thousand men fall by his blows.
- B. Samson celebrates with song:

*With a donkey's jaw-bone
I have made donkeys of them.
With a donkey's jaw-bone
I have killed a thousand men. (NIV)*

II. Samson, the Proud and Faithless Savior

- A. His song does nothing but praise himself.
- B. Like Israel in the wilderness, he accuses God of evil because of his thirst.
 - 1. As He did for Israel, the Lord miraculously provides water.
 - 2. Samson gives the place a new name that gives himself the credit.
- C. Are we that different?
 - 1. Aren't we quick to take all the credit for our successes?
 - 2. Don't we start to question God the minute things go awry?

III. Jesus, Reflected and Contrasted by Samson

- A. Like Samson, Jesus was handed over to the gentiles to die by His own people.
- B. Like Samson, Jesus won a great victory over His enemies after being handed over.
Colossians 2:15 - When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through the cross.
- C. Unlike Samson, Jesus gave his body to accomplish the victory.
- D. Unlike Samson, Jesus did not lose faith in the face of suffering.

1 Peter 2:23 - and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously.

Hebrews 12:2 - ...Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

IV. Application

- A. Let us dwell with thankfulness upon our selfless and all sufficient Savior.

1 Peter 2:24 - and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

- B. Let us draw strength from that thankful remembrance.

Hebrews 12:3 - For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.