

“Know Your Enemy, Know Your Redeemer”

Judges 16:23-31

April 26, 2020

I. Samson’s Final Moments (Judges 16:23-31)

- A. This account is Judge’s last portion of its section (3:7-16:31) on the life of the judges.
- B. Samson is brought out for the Philistines’ entertainment (vs. 23-27).
 - 1. Note the irony of the Philistines praising their god for their victory while Samson never praises the true God for his.
 - 2. A temple like the one described, with two supporting pillars, has been discovered in what was ancient Philistine territory.
- C. Samson cries out to the Lord (vs. 28-31).
 - 1. The Lord hears. Samson pushes, and the temple is leveled.
 - 2. Many thousands would have died in the multi-level collapse.

II. Conclusions from Samson’s Final Moments

- A. Samson finally learned two important lessons:
 - 1. The Philistines were truly his enemies.
 - 2. He was truly powerless against them.
 - 3. We should learn and remember that our true enemy is sin.
- B. Samson finally cried out to Yahweh in repentance and faith (Heb. 11:32).

***Psalm 25:7** - Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!*

***Psalm 106:4** - Remember me, O Lord, in Your favor toward Your people; Visit me with Your salvation.*

***Luke 23:42** - And he was saying, “Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!”*

- 1. We can and should continue to return to the Lord in repentance and faith.
- 2. He will receive us as He did Samson and also strengthen us for the ongoing fight.
- 3. We can be confident of this because we have a Redeemer whose story does not end in a tomb like Samson’s did.