

Judges 15

King James Version (KJV)

15 But it came to pass within a while after, in the time of wheat harvest, that Samson visited his wife with a kid; and he said, I will go in to my wife into the chamber. But her father would not suffer him to go in. (They had not yet consummated the marriage. The goat was a customary gift)

²And her father said, I verily thought that thou hadst utterly hated her; therefore I gave her to thy companion: is not her younger sister fairer than she? take her, I pray thee, instead of her. (He is trying to make amends with Samson. He already gave her away to another man)

³And Samson said concerning them, Now shall I be more blameless than the Philistines, though I do them a displeasure. (A declaration of war from Samson unto the Philistines; he's calling his action against the Philistines a retribution for the evil they did to him)

⁴And Samson went and caught three hundred foxes, and took firebrands, and turned tail to tail, and put a firebrand in the midst between two tails. (Animal cruelty – 150 pairs of foxes with torches tied to their tails)

See the Song of Solomom-2:15 (He uses foxes as symbolic for Kenites)

⁵And when he had set the brands on fire, he let them go into the standing corn of the Philistines, and burnt up both the shocks, and also the standing corn, with the vineyards and olives. (Since it was harvest time, the crops must have been dry. They probably lost all of their crops to the fire; no harvest that year)

⁶Then the Philistines said, Who hath done this? And they answered, Samson, the son in law of the Timnite, because he had taken his wife, and given her to his companion. And the Philistines came up, and burnt her and her father with fire. (They killed the father, the woman Samson wanted and the younger sister. The Philistines were ruthless murderers, even to their own people)

⁷And Samson said unto them, Though ye have done this, yet will I be avenged of you, and after that I will cease. (He's not done with them)

⁸ And he smote them hip and thigh with a great slaughter: and he went down and dwelt in the top of the rock Etam. (hip and thigh – a Hebrew expression that means - a cruel and ceaseless fight) (Etam is in Judah)

⁹ Then the Philistines went up, and pitched in Judah, and spread themselves in Lehi. (Lehi= jawbone) (pitched - they came and set up an army camp, ready to make war)

¹⁰ And the men of Judah said, Why are ye come up against us? And they answered, To bind Samson are we come up, to do to him as he hath done to us. (God is turning the Philistines only against Samson, and not against all of Israel. That's why God gave Samson his enormous strength. He was far stronger than any other man who ever lived)

¹¹ Then three thousand men of Judah went to the top of the rock Etam, and said to Samson, Knowest thou not that the Philistines are rulers over us? what is this that thou hast done unto us? And he said unto them, As they did unto me, so have I done unto them. **Genesis-49:8** (These cowards are not living up to Jacob's blessing. Judah was supposed to be a champion to their brethren. Instead, they are turning Samson over to the enemy in order to save their own pathetic necks)

¹² And they said unto him, We are come down to bind thee, that we may deliver thee into the hand of the Philistines. And Samson said unto them, Swear unto me, that ye will not fall upon me yourselves. (If you swear that you won't slay me after I am bound)

¹³ And they spake unto him, saying, No; but we will bind thee fast, and deliver thee into their hand: but surely we will not kill thee. And they bound him with two new cords, and brought him up from the rock. (Samson was betrayed by his own people. There were 3000 of them, right there with Samson. Not one of them was man enough to side with Samson and fight the enemy)

(Centuries later, Jesus was betrayed by His own people, to be crucified)

¹⁴ And when he came unto Lehi, the Philistines shouted against him: and the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and the cords that were upon his arms became as flax that was burnt with fire, and his bands loosed from off his hands. (God freed him) (flax- what's left of a burnt out candle wick. It disintegrates if you touch it)

(Ignorant preachers teach people that Samson's strength came from his long hair. It came from God)

¹⁵ And he found a new jawbone of an ass, and put forth his hand, and took it, and slew a thousand men therewith. (new - It was fresh; not dried out and brittle)

¹⁶ And Samson said, With the jawbone of an ass, heaps upon heaps, with the jaw of an ass have I slain a thousand men. 1Corinthians-1:27 (God will use the weak things to confound the mighty)

¹⁷ And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking, that he cast away the jawbone out of his hand, and called that place Ramathlehi. (Ramathlehi = Casting away of the jawbone)

¹⁸ And he was sore athirst, and called on the LORD, and said, Thou hast given this great deliverance into the hand of thy servant: and now shall I die for thirst, and fall into the hand of the uncircumcised? (Samson had the wisdom to know that it was God who gave him the victory) (the uncircumcised – the heathen)

¹⁹ But God clave an hollow place that was in the jaw, and there came water thereout; and when he had drunk, his spirit came again, and he revived: wherefore he called the name thereof Enhakkore, which is in Lehi unto this day. (the jaw = Lehi) (Enhakkore= well of him that called)

²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.