

THE BOOK OF JUDGES

ISRAEL IN THE TIME OF THE JUDGES - 1380-1050 B.C.

JUDGES CHAPTER 14:1-20

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“STAYING FIT FOR THE MASTER’S USE” LESSONS IN KNOWING GOD

*ISRAEL DURING THE PERIOD OF THE JUDGES
AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATION*

Part 4

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Discipleship, Consecration, Devotion, Dedication

Introduction to the Text:

Judges 14:1-20

Statement of Textual Summation and Theme

A Series on “The Consecration of the Believer”
and What the Lord Desires to Do in the Lives of His People.

STAYING FIT FOR THE MASTER’S USE LESSONS IN KNOWING GOD

1.) Lesson 1 - Consecration: What’s at stake

2.) Lesson 2 - Consecration: Having ears to hear

3.) Lesson 3 - Consecration: Being where He is

4.) Lesson 4 - Consecration: Obeying Him

5.) Lesson 5 - The “Self Control” Exercise

STAYING FIT FOR THE MASTER'S USE

LESSONS IN KNOWING GOD

6.) Lesson 6 - The "Be Wise" Rule

v.4-15

6a.) Be Wise about who The Lord is

v.4-5a

:4 But his father and mother did not know that *it was of the LORD* - - that *He* (The Lord) was seeking an occasion to move against the Philistines. For at that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel. :5a So Samson went down to Timnah with his father and mother, and came to the vineyards of Timnah.

Look Around You.

*Everything that you see and utilize in this life speaks of order.
The complexity of God and the existence of God is evident to all who can see.*

God Has A Specific Plan.

He has proven Himself to mankind that He is a God of detail and reason.

But What About The Evil Stuff?

God explains the existence of evil in our lives and in this world system.

How Do You Know The Difference?

How do you and I know the difference between what is right and wrong, good or bad, whether something is moral or immoral?

God had a calling upon Samson's life = "the plan",
but there was the presence of evil in the scenario = "the world".

BEING WISE ABOUT WHO THE LORD IS

What do we know?

His Characteristics, or Attributes

He is Pure, Holy, Perfect, Just, All Knowing, Omnipotent, All Loving, Kind,
He is Patient, Longsuffering...

Nehemiah 9:17b

...But You are God, Ready to pardon, Gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, Abundant in kindness,
And did not forsake them.

Psalms 103:8

The LORD is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.

Leviticus 11:44

For I *am* the LORD your God. You shall therefore consecrate yourselves, and you shall be holy; for I *am* holy.

Oprah Winfrey's Favorite Verse

Deuteronomy 4:24

For the LORD your God *is* a consuming fire,
a **jealous** God. (*zealous for you, for His people, He is Possessive or watchful over His people*).

THE “BE WISE” RULE

6b.) Be Wise about your Strengths

v.5b-6

:5b Now to *his surprise*, a young lion came roaring against him. :6 And *the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him*, and he tore the lion apart as one would have torn apart a young goat, though *he had* nothing in his hand. But he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done.

What are our Strength's Anyway?

I See less and less “Strength” in Man's Efforts and Devices
and more and more futility – *man is lost in all areas of life!*

Romans 5:6

For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

2 Corinthians 12:8-10

Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. :9 And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. :10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

THE “BE WISE” RULE

6c.) Be Wise about Temptations tricks

v.7-13

:7 Then he went down and talked with the woman; and she pleased Samson well. :8 After some time, when he returned to get her, he turned aside to see the carcass of the lion. And behold, a swarm of bees and honey were in the carcass of the lion. :9 He took some of it in his hands and went along, eating. When he came to his father and mother, he gave *some* to them, and they also ate. But he did not tell them that he had taken the honey out of the carcass of the lion. :10 So his father went down to the woman. And Samson gave a feast there, for young men used to do so. :11 And it happened, when they saw him, that they brought thirty companions to be with him. :12 Then Samson said to them, “Let me pose a riddle to you. If you can correctly solve and explain it to me within the seven days of the feast, then I will give you thirty linen garments and thirty changes of clothing. :13 But if you cannot explain *it* to me, then you shall give me thirty linen garments and thirty changes of

clothing.” And they said to him, “Pose your riddle, that we may hear it.” :4 But his father and mother did not know that *it was of the LORD* - -

Trials *Do* Come from God.

They are engineered by God, Designed by God, and, Delivered by God.

Temptations *Do Not* Come from God.

They are from this world, my flesh, and, spiritual powers.

James 1:12-16

Blessed *is* the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. :13 Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. :14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. :15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death. :16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren.

1 Peter 5:6-9

Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, :7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. :8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. :9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

Temptation Comes at Us All – like a Train – at Times

Matthew 4:1-3

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. :2 And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. :3 Now when the tempter came to Him,

40 days of temptation, Mark 1:13

And He was there in the wilderness forty days, **tempted** by Satan,

PHYSICAL, MENTAL, EMOTIONAL, SPIRITUAL

Luke 10:25

And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and **tempted** him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

1 Corinthians 10:12-14

Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. :13 No **temptation** has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God *is* faithful, who will not allow you to be **tempted** beyond what you are able, but with the **temptation** will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear *it*. :14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

Hebrews 2:18

For in that He Himself has suffered, being **tempted**, He is able to aid those who are **tempted**.

This Is A "Must" Verse.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* confession. :15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are*, yet without sin. :16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

THE "BE WISE" RULE

6d.) Be Wise about the **Costs** of Sinful acts

v.14-15

:14 So he said to them: "Out of the eater came something to eat, And out of the strong came something sweet." Now for three days they could not explain the riddle. :15 But it came to pass on the seventh day that they said to Samson's wife, "*Entice your husband, that he may explain the riddle to us, or else we will burn you and your father's house with fire. Have you invited us in order to take what is ours? Is that not so?*"

We're not to **Tempt** God in Life

Matthew 4:7

Jesus said to him, "It is written again, '*You shall **not tempt** the LORD your God.*' "

To **tempt** is to put to the test or to provoke God to action.

We can too often "tempt" the Lord.

Samson was Reckless in Life and his decision placed him in jeopardy.

How Do We Tempt the Lord?

1. By not seeking His guidance.
2. By making assumptions.
3. By failing to apply the word of God to a situation.
4. By doing things in our own power or wisdom.
5. By not offering thanks or not being appreciative.
6. By not living by faith in Him.

End of Study