

THE BOOK OF JUDGES

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

JUDGES CHAPTER 16:21-31

Media Reference Number WN-480 - - JULY 9, 2008

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 9

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Discipleship, Consecration, Devotion, Dedication

Introduction to the Text;

Judges 16:21-31

Statement of Textual Summation and Theme

A Series on “Consecration to God”

STAYING FIT FOR THE MASTER’S USE

LESSONS IN KNOWING GOD

The God Who Won’t Let Go

Romans 11:29

For the gifts and the calling of God *are* irrevocable.

The Man Samson Gives All of us Hope...

Hebrews 11:32

And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and **Samson** and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets:

STAYING FIT FOR THE MASTER'S USE

LESSONS IN KNOWING GOD

11.) Lesson 11 – Consecration: You belong to the Lord

YOU BELONG TO THE LORD

11a.) Because His **mercy** endures forever

His **Mercy** endures Forever,
but listen, we won't endure forever, our days are numbered !

1 Chronicles 16:34

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for *He is good!* For His mercy *endures* forever. (41 times)

:21 *Then the Philistines took him and put out (bore, carve, scrape clean) his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza. They bound him with bronze fetters, and he became a grinder in the prison.*

This is the Destination for every human being that refuses to turn from their sins. Sin will bore, carve, and scrape life right out of you until you're blind. Then your sin will parade you around town like a freak show...

Sin, **Blinds**, **Binds** & **Grinds** you into Nothing

James 1:12-15

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.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin *is* **death**, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A Dead Life is a Grind

Samson is a perfect picture / a type of the backslidden Christian.

Proverbs 14:14

The **backslider** in heart will be filled with his own ways,

Sin, in the Believers life

will always cause our enemies to rejoice

Verse 22

However, (However - However – However) (Grace – Grace – Grace) the hair of his head began to grow again after it had been shaven.

Repentance is Required, but when it's present,
Forgiveness comes in an instant. But
Restoration takes time.

Just think, Samson's pushing that stone around and around and around and around and around and around and around...

I Believe it's clear, **Samson's Repented**,
but he's **still blind** and he's **still grinding**
The Lord is Gracious to Forgive / But We Reap of What We Sow

:23 Now the lords of the Philistines gathered together to offer a great sacrifice to **Dagon** their god, and to rejoice. And they said: "Our god has delivered into our hands Samson our enemy!" **:24** When the people saw him, they **praised their god**; for they said: "Our god has delivered into our hands our enemy, The destroyer of our land, And the one who multiplied our dead." **:25** So it happened, when their hearts were merry, that they said, "Call for Samson, that he may perform for us." So they called for Samson from the prison, and he performed for them. And they stationed him between the pillars. **:26** *Then Samson said to the lad who held him by the hand, "Let me feel the pillars which support the temple, so that I can lean on them."*

Finally, The Man has Been Humbled

and He Sees His Need to Lean Upon Something...

He was a Lover, He was a Fighter.

now he can't see, he can't go anywhere, he can't do what he wants to do

James 4:6

...Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

1 Peter 5:5-6

Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to *your* elders. Yes, all of *you* be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble." **:6** Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

:27 Now the temple was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there about three thousand men and women on the roof watching while Samson performed. **:28** Then Samson called to the LORD,....

The End