

Date: May 4, 2025

Series: Judges: Mankind Exposed

Title: The Unsolicited Savior

Text: Judges 13



INTRODUCTION

Note: In many ways, Samson is a perplexing, problematic, incomplete “savior” who provokes us to look for (to long for!) a better Savior, a perfect Savior, an intact Savior, a whole Savior, an uncompromising Savior, an all-encompassing strong and sufficient Savior!

Judges 13:1; Judges 17:6; Judges 21:25

Note: This is moral chaos! This is life-forsaking, self-centered self-destruction!

Romans 12:2; Proverbs 16:25; Judges 14:3b

I. THE PROMISE OF A COMING SAVIOR

Judges 13:2-7 -

1) Samson is an unrequested, unsolicited savior! Israel never cries out to God for deliverance; it's like they had grown accustomed to and comfortable in their sin and oppression.

Judges 15:11b; John 1:5; Ephesians 2:4-5

2) Samson would have a focused, localized, and limited ministry. He would frustrate and confound the Philistines as he visibly demonstrated the power and supremacy of God!

2 Corinthians 2:14-16a

3) As a life-long Nazirite, Samson was to live in devotion to and dependence upon God. God was ultimately (and exclusively!) the source of his strength!

2 Corinthians 3:5-6

Judges 13:8-14 -

4) God listened to the voice of Manoah but gave him no new information! The Angel of the LORD merely reiterated and emphasized the characteristics of the Nazirite vow, which stresses the need for ongoing devotion to and dependence upon God!

Proverbs 3:5-7

Judges 13:15-20 -

5) Worship, amazement, awe, humility, faith, adoration are the right responses to the One who is beyond our comprehension!

Psalm 2:11

Judges 13:21-23 -

6) In amazing grace, God reveals Himself and His work to us. And the most glorious revealing of God is found in the person and work of Jesus.

John 1:14

Judges 13:24-25 -

7) The name “Samson” means “sunny” or “little sun”. And Samson was supposed to “shine” as a light in Israel; sadly, his light was often veiled by darkness from within.

1 Peter 2:9

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. Compare Judges 13:1, Judges 14:3, and Judges 21:25. How are they different and similar?
2. What is missing from the opening verses of chapter 13? What does Israel fail to do? What don't they ask for from God? What does this reveal about them? What does God's actions reveal about Him?
3. According to verse 5, what would Samson do? What would God show/reveal through Samson?
4. What was the point/purpose of the Nazirite vow? Why was Samson to be a life-long Nazirite?
5. How does Manoah and his wife respond to what God reveals to them? How should their example encourage us to prayer and worship?