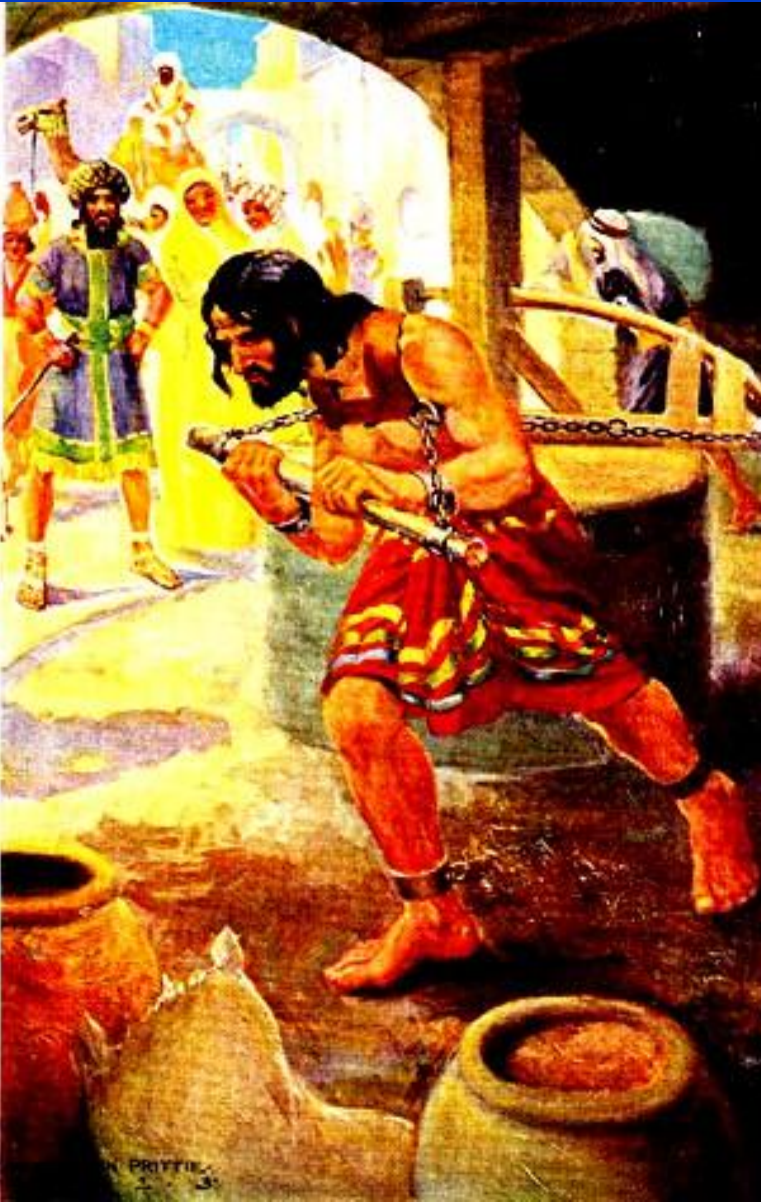


FAITH vs. FAITHFULNESS



- Delilah's betrayal of Samson
- Faith is a state or condition of the mind and soul
- Faithfulness is acting upon our faith
- Faithfulness is action
- Faith is passive
- FaithLESSness is disobedience
- ***“But he didn't know that Adonai had left him....”***

SAMSON NO LONGER VALUED HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD



- He never consciously thought that losing his Nazarite status could happen
- Samson was to have contact with the Philistines but was not to become AS the Philistines
- When a Believer looks more and more like those he came to rescue, there is DANGER!
- Samson was assigned “woman’s work” to humiliate him
- The grain mill was probably just a standard household mill

THE PATTERN OF UNFAITHFULNESS

- Samson's hair began to grow back
- An illustration of restoration with his relationship with God
- 1) Our spiritual strength deteriorates
- 2) Our usefulness to the Kingdom evaporates
- 3) God may depart from us
- 4) Fall or destruction becomes certain
- Through repentance the Lord WILL return to us





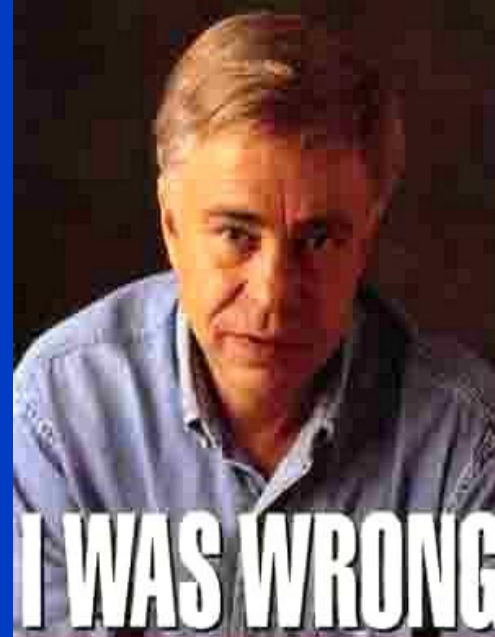
THE TEMPLE OF DAGON

- Dagon, half-man/half-fish
- Samson's defeat was seen by the Philistines as YHWH's defeat
- Philistines brought Samson out to mock him
- Supporting pillars were not one solid piece
- 3000 people on the roof, over the dignitaries inside the Temple



BEWARE THE FALL

- The Lord's final use for Samson meant the end of his life
- Samson died in a state of grace, but as a broken man
- Even his last act was meant for personal payback and revenge
- Samson's body buried with his father
- Judged Israel for 20 years



JUDGES 17 – 21

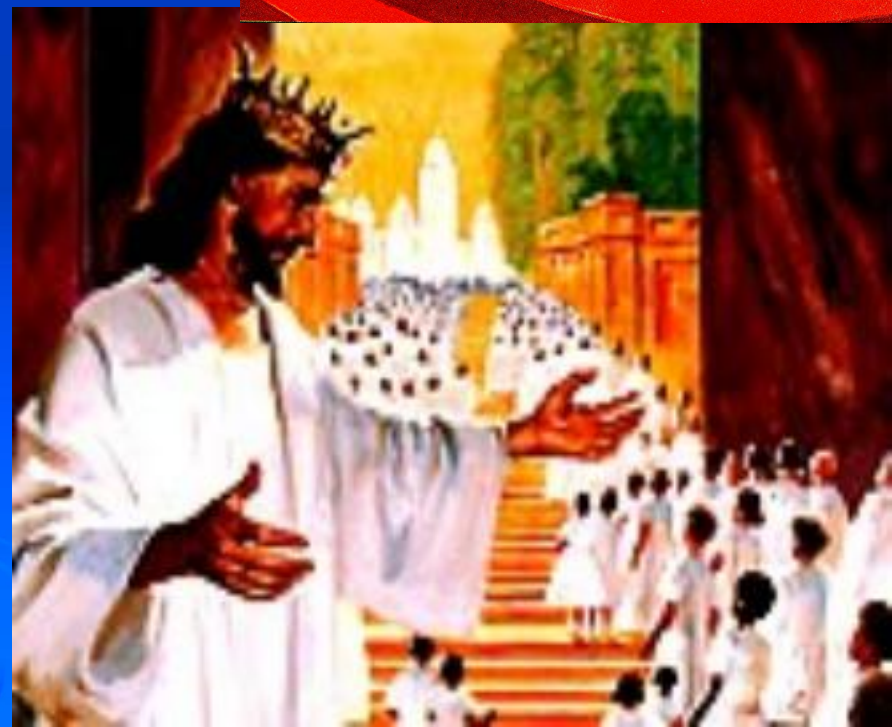
THE APPENDICES

- These chapters do NOT deal with any of the Judges of Israel
- Final chapters not in chronological order
- The happenings occurred 200 years before Samson
- Hebrews less concerned with time, more concerned with the subject matter
- Samson of the Tribe of Dan, the Appendices focus on the actions of the Tribe of Dan

ISRAEL NEEDED A KING



- All mankind NEEDS a king!!
- *“At that time there was no king in Israel”*
- *“....thus every man did what was right in his own eyes”*
- Judges 17-21 by modern standards is a PREFACE to the Book of Judges



THE STORY OF MIKHAYAHU

- *Mikhayahu* = who is like God
- Name quickly changes to *Micah* = who is like
- Micah has stolen 1100 pieces of silver from his mother
- His mother spoke a curse on the thief, and Micah overheard it
- J.A.Motyer “.....a curse is an active agent for hurt..”

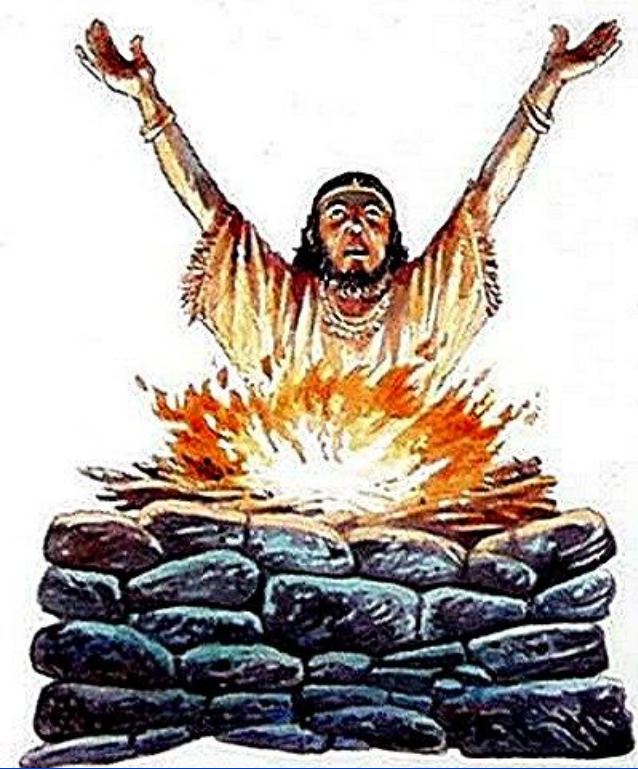


THE POTENT CURSE OF A PARENT



- By allowing her son to hear her curse, she made a way out for him
- Son confesses, mother neutralizes her curse with a blessing
- ***Mikhayahu's*** honorable name is now removed from him because of his poor character
- Mother dedicates the returned silver to YHWH, but then uses 20% to have an image made and keeps the remainder

THE BEIT-ELOHIM



- Beit-Elohim = house of god
- Family set up their own home sanctuary, including image, ephod, and even a son as a priest
- Were Micah's family thinking they were doing evil? NO!
- They thought they were being especially PIOUS!



IGNORING THE PARTS WE DON'T LIKE



- Micah's family **KNEW** the Torah, they just liked some parts better than others
- Christianity's wrong turn occurred in the same way
- Yeshua declared plainly that the Torah remains intact (Matt.5:17-19)
- Judaism's wrong turn was making Rabbinical authority above God's
- The Bible declares men are not to add or subtract from God's Word (Deut.4:1-2)

