

SERIES: Judges  
**Samson: The Weak Victor**  
Judges 16

**Samson and Delilah: The Pattern of Sin Continues (16:1-21)**

- Samson's heart used God's blessings as a reason to forget God.
  - In grace, God takes even our weaknesses and failures and uses them **for** us.
  - In sin, we take even his gifts and strengths and use them **against** him.
- Samson was unable to see how dependent he was on God's grace.
  - He had come to see his strength as a right, not a **gift**.
- Notice the trajectory of sin...
  - Sin **binds**.
  - Sin **blinds**.
  - Sin **grinds**.

**God's Grace: Samson's Hair Grows Back (16:22)**

- Samson's strength had not come from the vows he made, but from the **God** he made them to.
- The God of the Bible is a God of **grace**, who is faithful to us even when we are unfaithful to him.

**The Victorious Defeat: Samson Brings the House Down (16:23-31)**

**What Does the Story of Samson Teach Us?**

- **We are our own worst enemy.**
- **The world needed someone greater than Samson.**
  - The high expectations of Samson were finally met in Jesus Christ.
    - Jesus was born miraculously.
    - Jesus has incredible strength- over demons, disease, and death.
    - Both were betrayed by someone who acted as a friend for pieces of silver and handed over to Gentile oppressors.
    - Both were chained and tortured, and put on public display to be mocked.
    - Both were asked to perform (though Jesus, unlike Samson, refused).
    - Like Samson, he died with his arms outstretched.
    - And through that death, when it looked like he was defeated, actually defeated the enemy.
  - But unlike Samson...
    - Jesus was not put in chains for his sin; he was put in chains for **ours**.
    - Samson was a strong man made weak through his own sin; Jesus was the mighty God who voluntarily became weak to save us from the chains of our sin.
    - With Samson's burial, his rule was over. But with Jesus' burial, the story had only just begun. Jesus rules **beyond** his grave, not just before it.
- **It is never too late to cry out to God.**

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