

CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us

Unwise

Unclean

Unfettered

Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Pointing to Jesus

Associates with sinners

Sold out for silver

Victory through death

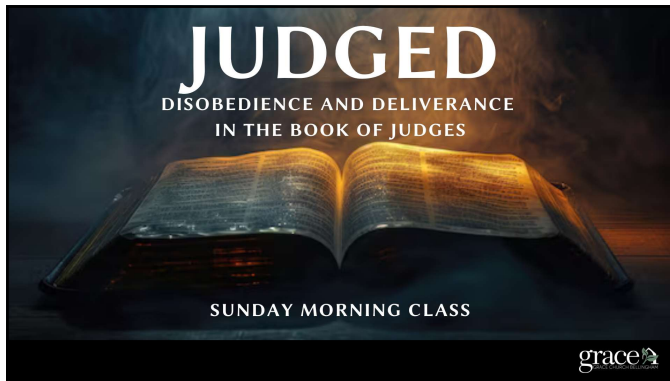
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

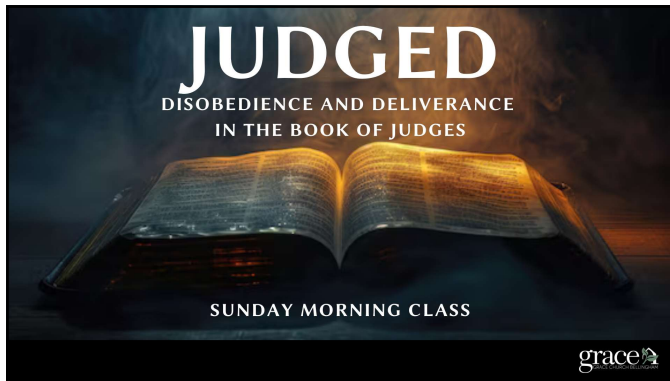
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

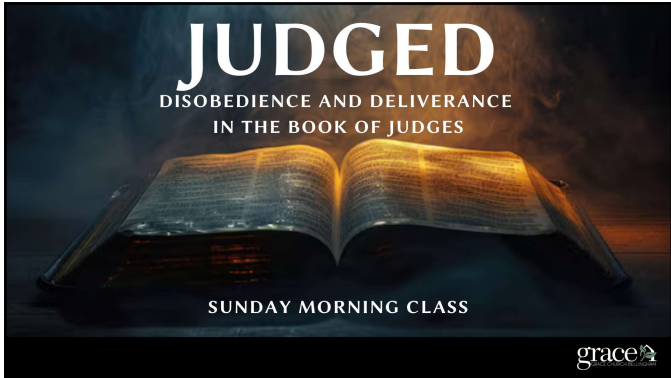
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

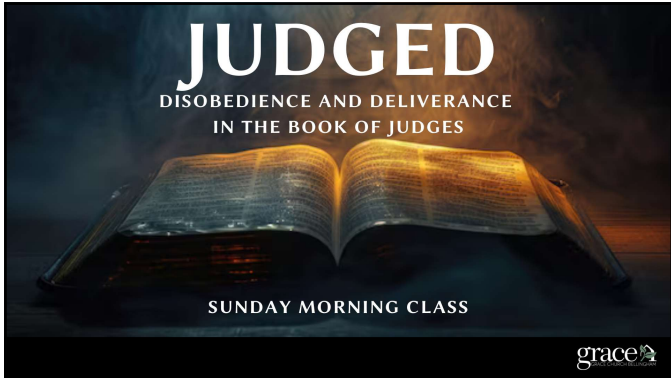
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life. ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

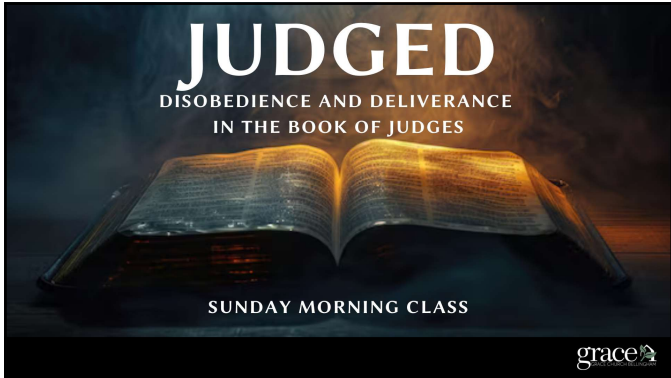
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life. ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

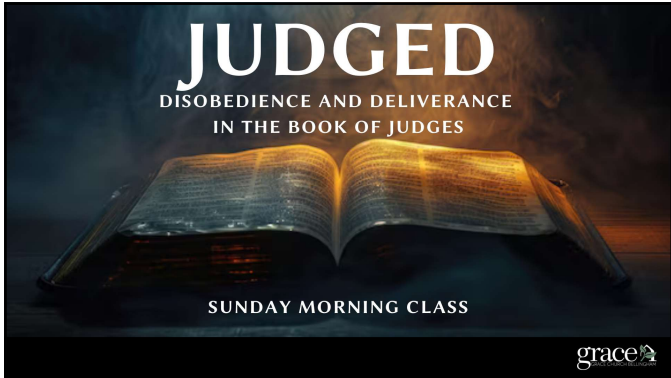
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

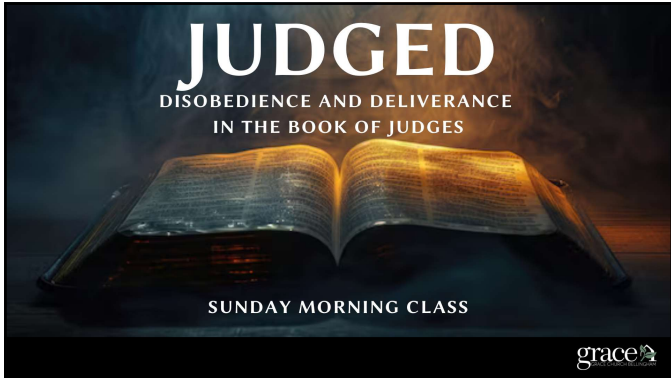
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

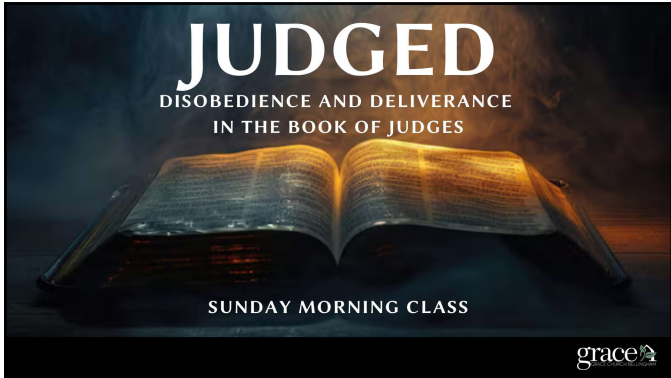
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

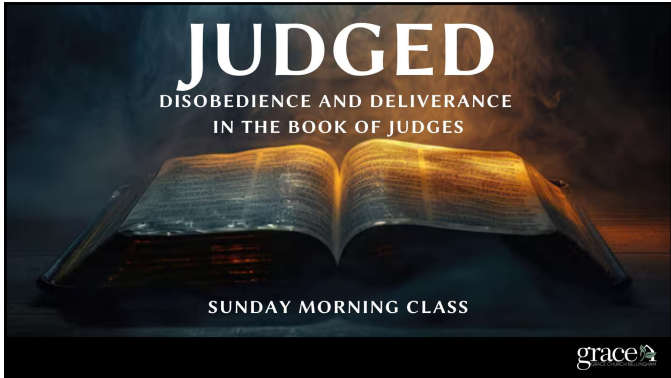
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

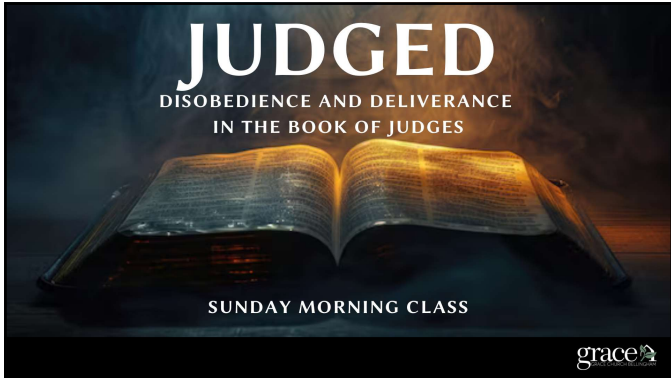
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

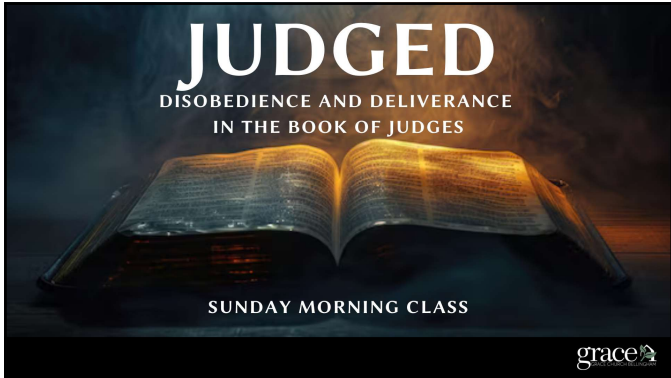
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

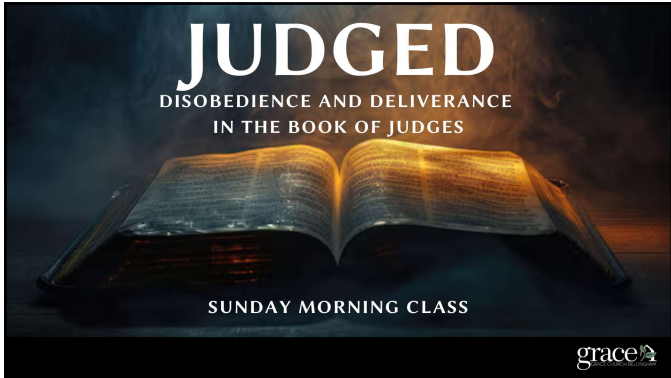
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

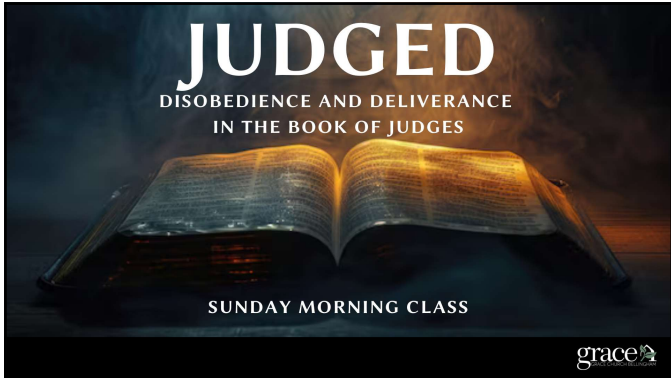
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

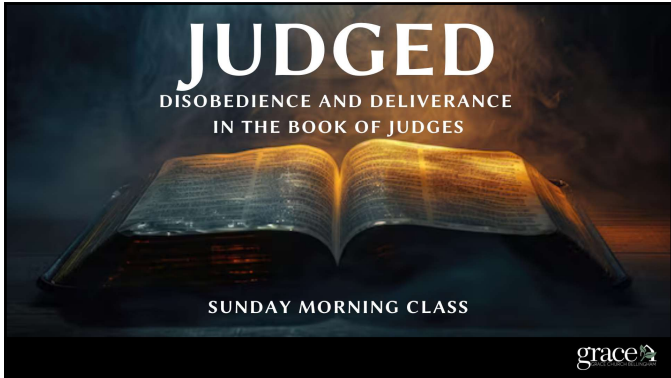
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

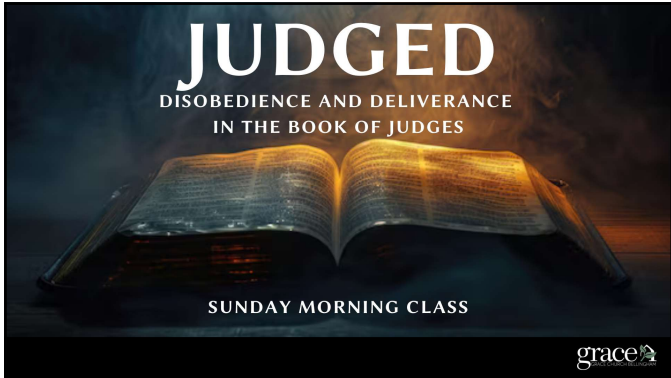
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

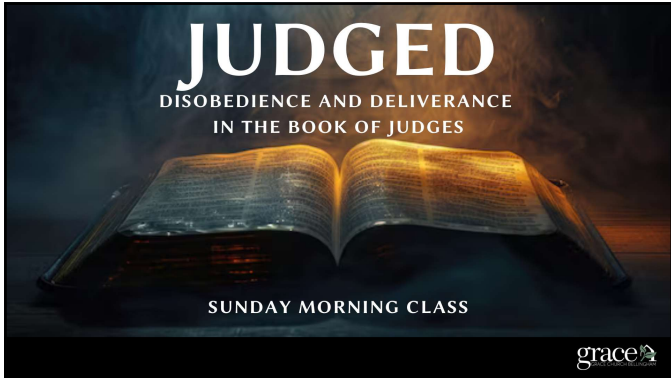
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

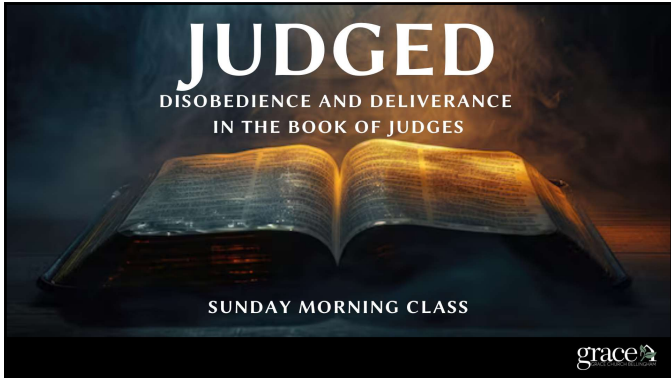
Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many



CHAPTER 13: INCONCEIVABLE?

The Hero	
Why?	
Name?	Samson
Implications?	The vow
	The mission
	The blessing
	The...hero?

Spirit of the Lord!

SAMSON, OR GOD?

Judges 14 Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." ³But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she is right in my eyes."

⁴His father and mother did not know that it was from the LORD, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.

.... And what does that mean about God?

SAMSON'S STORY: A RIDDLE (14)

Samson

Father and Mother

Wife (and the Philistines)

Spirit of the Lord (v.6,19)

Seriously?

SAMSON'S STORY: FOX TORCHES (15)

What do you think of Samson?

"Spirit of the Lord" doing what?

And his faith? (v.18)

SAMSON'S JUDGESHIP (15)

Judges 15:²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

What do you think of him as a judge?

End of the story?

Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered

Unstoppable... why?

SAMSON: POSTSCRIPT? (CH. 16)

“And there he saw a prostitute”

“After this he loved a woman...”

Upstanding? Positive? Moral of story?
And why is this the part everyone knows?
Are we like Samson... more interested in THIS?

Judges 16:²⁰ And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, that he may entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. ²⁶ And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained.

Mockery. Humiliation.

AND THE FINALE: 16:23-31

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. **So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.** ³¹ Then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Like Us
Unwise
Unclean
Unfettered
Yet... used

Romans 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

ENCOURAGED BY SAMSON?

Pointing to Jesus
Associates with sinners
Sold out for silver
Victory through death
One man for many

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

“And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” (Hebrews 10:10)

JUDGES AS PICTURES OF A SAVIOR

Judge	Upside Down Story	Picture
Othniel	Temporary	Deliverance
Ehud	Unexpected Means	Left-handed power
Deborah/Barak	Unwilling	Seemingly insignificant
Gideon	Uncertain	Small overcomes huge
(Abimelech)	(yech)	(and people are lost)
Jephthah	Banditry & a wrong vow	Death for an offspring
Samson	Yeah. Whatever this is.	One death for many