

SAMSON

A LIFE WELL WASTED
JUDGES 13-16

And the people of Israel *again* did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, so the Lord gave them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years.

Judges 13 v 1

And the angel of the Lord appeared to the woman and said to her, "Behold, you are barren and have not borne children, but you shall conceive and bear a son."

Judges 13 v 3



Therefore be careful and drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, for behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a **Nazirite** to God from the womb, and he shall begin to save Israel from the hand of the Philistines.

Judges 13 v 4-6



NAZIRITE VOW

NUMBERS 6

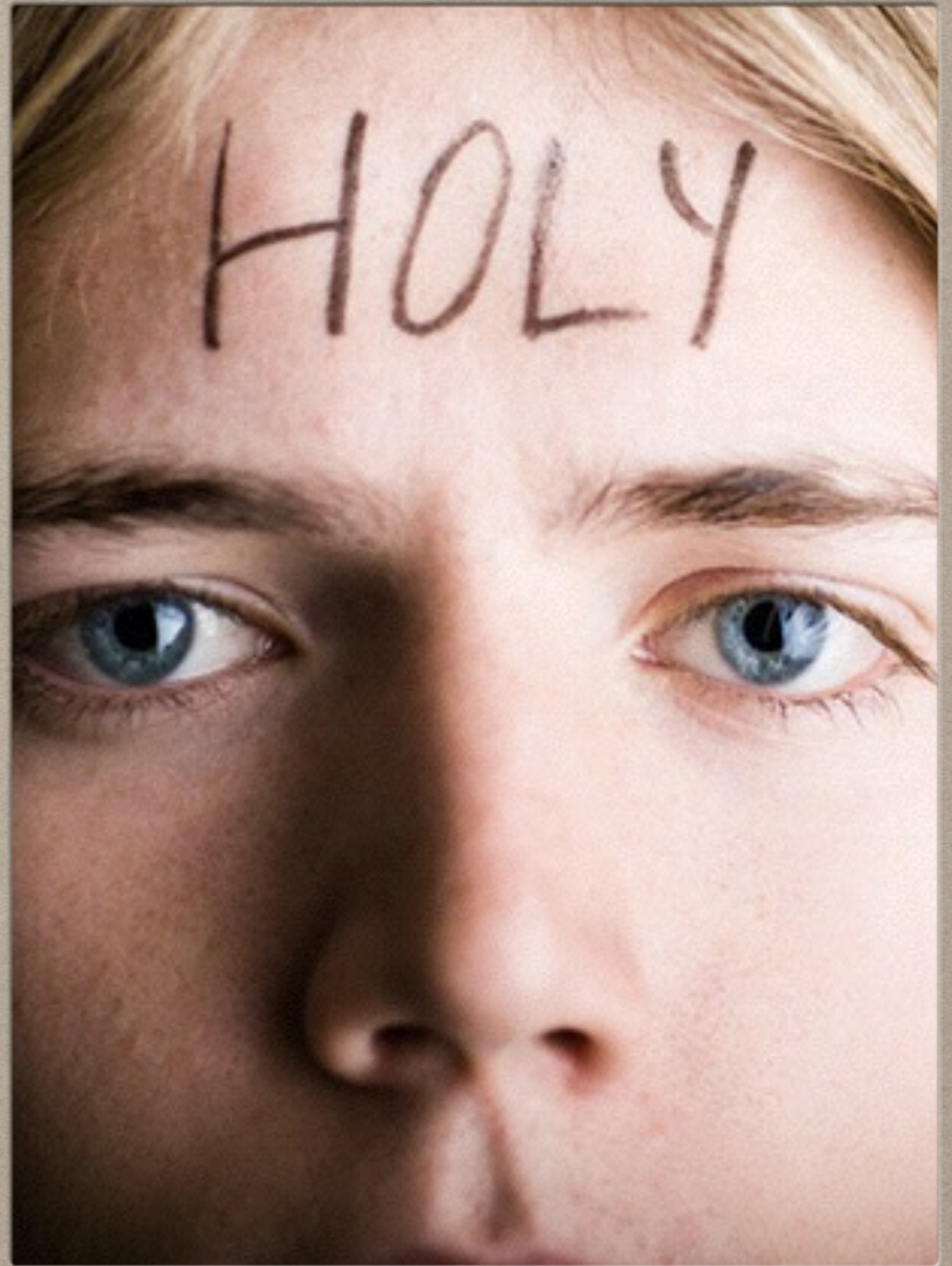
set apart

no alcohol

no grapes

no haircuts

no dead bodies





SAMSON

IN TIMNAH

SAMSON IN TIMNAH

- the woman in the town
- the lion in the vineyard
- the riddle at the feast
- the revenge in Lehi

MAKING MISTAKES

- letting his **desires** guide his **lifestyle**

For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.

Romans 7:15

MAKING MISTAKES

- letting his **desires** guide his **lifestyle**
- letting his **eyes** guide his **heart**

"Blessed are the *pure* in heart, for they shall
see God."

Matthew 5:8

"If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell."

Matthew 5:29

“The eye is the *lamp* of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of *darkness*.....”

Matthew 6:22-23

....as we look not to the things that are ***seen***
but to the things that are ***unseen***. For the
things that are seen are ***transient***, but the
things that are unseen are ***eternal***.

2 Corinthians 4:18

MAKING MISTAKES

- letting his **desires** guide his **lifestyle**
- letting his **eyes** guide his **heart**
- letting his **pride** guide his **actions**

"An eye for an eye only ends up making the whole world blind."

Mahatma Gandhi

"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles."

Matthew 5:38-41

MAKING MISTAKES

- letting his **desires** guide his **lifestyle**
- letting his **eyes** guide his **heart**
- letting his **pride** guide his **actions**

SAMSON IN GAZA

- the prostitute in Gaza
- the ambush in the brothel
- the gates to Hebron

Like a dog that returns to his vomit is a fool who
repeats his folly.

Proverbs 26:11

But just experiencing God's wonder and grace didn't seem to mean much- most of them were defeated by temptation during the hard times in the desert, and God was not pleased.

1 Corinthians 10:1-5

The same thing could happen to us. We must be on guard so that we never get caught up in wanting our own way as they did.

1 Corinthians 10:1-5

These are all warning markers-DANGER!- in our history books, written down so that we don't repeat their mistakes. Our positions in the story are parallel- they at the beginning, we at the end- and we are just as capable of messing it up as they were. *Don't be so naive and self-confident. You're not exempt.* You could fall flat on your face as easily as anyone else. Forget about self-confidence; it's useless. Cultivate God-confidence.

1 Corinthians 10:11-12

"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.....Let me die with the Philistines."

SAMSON

IN VALLEY OF SOREK

RECEIVING REDEMPTION

- God works through weaknesses and sins

RECEIVING REDEMPTION

- God works through weaknesses and sins
- God is faithful even when we are not

No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. *God is faithful*, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

1 Corinthians 10:13

RECEIVING REDEMPTION

- God works through weaknesses and sins
- God is faithful even when we are not
- God doesn't require perfection, but deserves our best

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?

Romans 6:1-2

**There is therefore now no condemnation for
those who are in Christ Jesus.**

Romans 8:1

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:5-9

*Therefore GO and make
DISCIPLES of all nations.....and
teaching them to obey everything
I have commanded you. And
surely I am with you always, to the
very end of the age.*

Jesus, Matthew 28:16-20