

A Fatal Attraction to Philistines **Judges 16**

Samson's reckless love life nearly gets himself captured. 16:1-3

- Why is Samson in Gaza with a prostitute? What does this suggest?
- Why does Samson take the gates (Gen. 22:17, Neh. 2:3). Why lug them to Hebron? Is it surprising God still empowers him here?

Samson's reckless love life gets himself imprisoned. 16:4-22

- Since threatening/murdering Samson's wife and fighting Samson has proved disastrous, a fortune is offered for his secret.
- See parallels to 14:12-17. What have the Philistines learned that Samson needs to learn? Can we have this problem too?
- Why does Samson divulge the secret to his strength to Delilah since she is hardly subtle in what she is up to? What mistake does Samson make with Delilah that happens so often today?

Note in the OT the Spirit may depart, 1 Sam. 16:14 vs. Eph. 1:13.

Samson's revenge is impressive but gets himself killed. 16:23-31

- See which city Samson was taken to by the Philistines. Why here?
- What is sadly ironic about Samson losing his eyes, 14:3,7?
- Based on Samson's final prayer, what does he still never seem to have figured out about his birth/life? What about us? Consider Rom. 12:1,2, Col. 3:23, Matt. 28:19,20.

