

5. Now the Lord is going to raise up Samson as a judge.
6. He is from Zorah in Dan's territory.
7. His birth
 - i. His father was there and was named Manoah.
 - ii. Manoah's wife was sterile.
 - iii. The angel of the Lord appeared to her and said, "It may be physically impossible for you to have children now, but you are going to have a son. And he is to be a Nazarite all his life. No razor is to come on his head."
 - iv. She tells Manoah and they are thrilled and they want to know how to rear the boy and the angel of the Lord tells him how.
 - v. And then Samson is born.
8. His parents rear him just like the angel of the Lord had told them to do.
9. But when he grows up, he goes to Timnath and he sees a Philistine girl.
 - i. He is smitten in his heart when he sees her.
 - ii. He goes to his parents and says, "I want to marry that Philistine girl."
 - iii. They say, "What's wrong with you anyway. She is an uncircumcised Philistine. Why do you want to marry her? Look at all the girls in Israel? Why can't you marry one of them?"
 - iv. Samson says, "No. I want to marry her."
 - v. We are told that the Lord had his hand in it.
 - a. Why did the Lord have his hand in it?
 - b. The Lord wanted Samson to marry that Philistine girl so that Samson would be given an occasion to confront the Philistine and deliver the Israelites.
10. Samson's mom and dad go back to Timnath, the place where Samson saw this girl, and they meet her.
11. They go back home and then they go down for the wedding.
 - i. The wedding feast lasts 7 days.
 - ii. When they go down for the wedding, Samson has thirty guests there.
 - iii. He makes a wager with them and says, "I am going to tell you a riddle. And if you can tell me the answer to this riddle, I'll give you 30 under garments and 30 pieces of clothes and if you can't you give them to me."
 - iv. And the riddle simply was this, "Out of the eater, something to eat. Out of the strong, something sweet."
 - v. But these Philistines couldn't figure out what it was.