

Questions for Judges 16:1-31

1. Why did Samson decide to visit a Philistine harlot? Was he still acting under the direction of the Spirit of the Lord or was this truly a mistake that God rescues him from because of his God-given strength? How far away did Samson carry the gates of the city? (Verses 1-3)

2. What separates this account from the account of Samson's first wife? Why might the Bible tell us Delilah's name? Why does Samson lie about the source of his strength, which he does seemingly for the fun of it? (Verses 4-14)

3. How does Delilah get Samson to divulge the source of his strength? Why does Samson tell her his secret despite knowing what she has done the past 3 times? Why might he say that his hair, rather than God, is the source of his power? (Verses 15-17)

4. What did Delilah do to Samson to cause his strength to leave him? What did the Philistines do to him after the Lord leaves him? Why are we told that his hair began to grow back? (Verses 18-22)

5. Discuss how Samson's mistake gave the Philistines reason to worship their false god. Why did the Philistines call for Samson and what did they do to him? (Verses 23-27)

6. Why did Samson pray that he could avenge his two eyes, as opposed to more spiritual reasons? Why does God answer the prayer of Samson? Why is it significant that Samson's family came there, found him, and buried him in the tomb of his father? (Verses 28-31)