



ANOINTED SPOUSE

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all right this is the word of God amen amen this is the book that God wrote It's the only perfect thing on the Earth and we're going to open God's word today and I just want you to know I love you very much it's an honor to help you learn God's word and I appreciate you giving me the opportunity to help you to learn God's word we're going to be in judges 14 but let me just start by saying this there's times in our life we've all got big decisions to make some of you have been there some of you will be there many of you perhaps are there today and sometimes what we wonder is God what's your will what do you want me to do or not do let me just tell you the first thing you got to do you got to open the word of God and you got to ask God have you spoken about this issue that I'm considering will you give some principles for this decision that I am making and let me just say this God saved me at the age of 19 reading the scripture he has guided and sustained my life ever since I'm now 53 and I will tell you this what you need is in the word of God and before you look anywhere else you need to look into his word and this is particularly true when we make these big gigantic life decisions and here's what I told my kids when they were growing up the second most important decision you ever make is who you marry the most important decision you ever make is who you worship so who your God is well that's your biggest decision who you marry that's your next biggest decision and what happens is God speaks both directly and principally about who he is and about all of life but especially about marriage and what we're going to look at today we're going to look at a man of God named Samson he's making this massive decision who will his bride be who's he going to marry is the man of God and God had already spoken about this and God had already given clear directives and you're going to see that Samson does not open the word of God and as a result he does not obey the will of God and as a result he craters his own life and here's the big idea when we sin we not only break God's heart we also break our own life and that's that's the brutality of Disobedience to the word of God and so before he makes his decision to marry he should read a verse I'll share it with you it's in Deuteronomy 7 God gave this verse before his people entered into the promised land and before the days of judges and Samson God couldn't be clear you shall what not right the Bible just you know tells us some things you're supposed to do and some things you're not supposed to do you shall not intermarry with them the unbelievers giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons for God says here's what's going to happen they would turn away your sons from following me to serve other gods those are demons then the anger of the Lord would be kindled against you here's what God says when you enter into the land don't marry unbelievers and don't let your kids marry unbelievers and this is a massive issue in our our own day and so they enter into the promised land and ultimately these people are going to be living there that are Godless and evil I'm going to say some things that are offensive and then we'll say some more things that are offensive here's the beginning here's what God is saying is don't honor their culture we live in a day of multiculturalism which is a demonic lie and it is that all cultures are good and we should honor all cultures and we should learn from all cultures we call this de leads to diie uh Dei is about honoring it's diversity equity and inclusion and it's about well we don't judge their culture we want to learn from them and we want to we want to be like them and we want to encourage them and we want to honor them and we want to bless them and God says avoid them you don't need to get a minor in Philistine studies then at the end of the day there's a line between those who belong to God and those who don't and what we do in our day we take the most foolish um ridiculous rebellious um cultural considerations and we treat them with respect and instead what we should do is draw a strong line and say don't worship with them don't marry them don't do life with them don't raise children with them and whatever you do don't let them educate and raise your children because

they don't know God and they don't believe the word of God and they don't have the spirit of God and just let me go to a little deeper level of prophetic sort of verbal processing and then we'll get back to the story so what we're going to see here is God says don't honor their culture don't be Multicultural be monocultural obey the Bible don't do life with those who don't obey the Bible and the result is that Samson is going to enter into this land and you're going to see that he then is going to interact with and ultimately intermar with these people as do God's people in Judges 3 we'll get there in a moment just so that you know if you just go a little forward in the story of Samson to judges 16 if the Holy Spirit reminds me correctly if I'm hearing correctly it says twice they took him to Gaza 3,000 years ago the man of God is told don't marry those people they're going to ruin your life you'll show you see in a minute he shows up he marries those people they ruin his life they in actually invade the border into Israel they take him as a prisoner of war and then they hold him hostage in Gaza sound familiar yeah October 7th is exactly what we're living today and ultimately the same people that he was battling are the same people that the Jews are battling today in the exact same place and the point is simply this Samson's Disobedience still has consequence 3,000 years later and the war is the same because the demons are the same and when it says that the battle will be between God and the god Gods that's what it just said in Deuteronomy 7 it's talking about the real God versus the Demonic gods that want to invade Israel take their people and hold them hostage in Gaza see sometimes I just feel inclined to say this that sometimes we look at our life we're like what I'm not hurting anybody Goda like you have no idea what you're talking about God sees the future and he realizes the consequences of our decisions could have implications for generations and so God told them don't intermar with them don't honor their culture don't don't worship with them don't raise children with them please don't let them educate your children and this is the backdrop of the problem in judges as well as our own day judges 35-6 the people lived among the Canaanites the Hittites the amorites the perizzites the hites and the jebusites if you forget everything the ites of the bad guys those the bad guys um you know and their daughters they took to themselves for wives and their own daughters they gave to their sons and they served their demonic counterfeit false gods dads who are supposed to believe in the Bible and belong to the Lord have daughters unbelieving men show up and say we want to marry your daughter and the dad says okay okay this is the problem it's always the problem and let me say this marriage family in church that's the foundation of civilization right if you destroy marriage which we have done we can't even define marriage if you murder children and mutilate those that are not murdered and have a progressive woke apostate compromised Church there's no foundation on which to build a civilization so the key is strengthen marriage strength in family strength in the church that's the only hope for the world that's the that's the issue so so now we reach the story of Samson judges 14 he's a Believer he's not a good one like if you were to accuse him of belonging to God the evidence would not hold up in court it'd be hard to convict him of being a Believer but now he's got this major decision to make last week we looked at the announcement of his birth and the visitation of Jesus and now we're going to see him as a young man making the second most important decision of his life who's my wife going to be judges 14 uh 1 through 4 Samson went down to timna he's not supposed to go there and at timna he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines these are the people you're not supposed to marry then he came up he told his father and his mother I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at timna now get her for me as my wife no terrible idea dad she's hot so's hell pick another girl right that's that's what he should have said that's what he should have said but 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 and take a wife

from the uncircumcised Phil what about a Christian girl what about a girl who loves Jesus but Samson said to his father get her for me for she is quote right in my eyes we're going to talk about that his 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 let me say this about Samson he should have known how to pick a good woman because his mother was one we saw in Chapter 13 his mom she loved the Lord she prayed she worshiped the Lord Jesus came down and visited with her if Jesus shows up to me with your mom you got a good mom he's got a great mom when he's looking for a wife it should be very simple like hey Mom I'm looking for a girl like you if I meet a girl could you meet with her and tell me if she's the right girl right how many of you you've got a good mom your mom loves the Lord my mom loves the Lord he's got a good mom so he's got a good example he picks the exact opposite of his mom can't blame it on his parents this is his own decision he was born into a believing home his mom and dad were Believers and here what we see is the son bossing the father around did you notice that hey Dad go get that girl let me say this son shouldn't be bossing their fathers around and if they do their fathers should make sure that their sons stop doing that can I get an amen dad amen right if you come home you're like son what would you like me to do today right you need to rethink the whole org chart at your place right everything's out of alignment so what Samson says is go get me that girl now what does dad say that's the wrong girl she doesn't love the Lord she's not a Believer Samson applies a little more pressure his dad is a bit passive he's a bit of a coward he's a bit timid and in this most important decision the father caves and collapses what should the father have done no no you let me just say this man you have to have a voice and sometimes you need to say no let's just practice I just feel like we should practice on the count of three all the men are going to say know with me 1 2 3 no see you did it you can do it again okay and so when somebody who's an unbeliever wants to marry your kid the answer is no it's no instead he says well I don't know what do you want Samson so he fails as a dad okay let me say this the second most important decision your child ever makes is who's who they marry and if they bring someone home that doesn't know the Lord you don't need to pray about it cuz God already spoke to it amen and God said no so just say no in addition what we see here as well is that Samson is entirely driven his entire life with pleasure and sexual attraction to women what he doesn't say is wow she's very smart she got good grade she did her homework I really respect her sat you know it's like she can't read I don't care he's that guy right he's not talking about oh her prayer life is amazing she's filled with the Holy Spirit he's like I we we we're not going to pray together we don't have time for that like he's just that guy and so he's driven repeatedly through his life by just sexual attraction to women it's going to be this woman and then you think it can't get any worse next week pray for me uh the man of God goes to a bavel and hires a prostitute where you're glad you don't have my job I'm supposed to explain that um leave your kids and kids ministry you're like what's a so anyway and then the week after that he hooks up with a chick named Delilah she's a black widow man he gets in her net and she destroys him but all three women they're beautiful and sensual but Godless and controlling okay and so he's a man who is driven by his passions and so let me say this to the men how many of you are single guys single guys raise your hand guys raise your hand some are like I don't know you don't want to go all the way up okay I get it yeah so it's good to marry a couple of things I would say uh this is just fatherly advice I got three uh kids that are married and a couple of grandkids number one marry a woman marry woman marry woman okay are you sure yeah yeah you don't have to pray about it again it's in the book okay so um it's in the book marry a woman marry a woman that you're totally attracted to like her mind she's got wisdom her heart she's loving and gracious and kind

her soul she prais and worships and loves the Lord and you should be physically attracted to her yes but marry the kind of woman that you want your daughters to become and marry the kind of woman that you want your sons to marry so that you don't just have a good time but you leave a good Legacy and Mary woman that you can be one with you agree like this is who our God is and this is what his word says and this is what we're going to do and then serve God together Samson doesn't do that so he chases love his whole life he never finds it he finds sensual woman who women rather who just take advantage of him and ultimately damage him and then destroy him and he dies single childless alone eyes gouged out blinded bitter filled with vengeance committing suicide to also kill his enemies like a suicide bomber okay and let me ask you this where did it all start the day his dad didn't have the courage to say no no and so there is a line in here though that is rather curious and uh we're going to talk about the Providence of God judges 14 for I want to revisit this line so Samson marries a woman he's not supposed to marry the Bible says from God's perspective it was from the Lord for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines at that time the Philistines ruled over Israel it was from the Lord I'll tell you something I told my kids growing up when you study the Bible you need something that I like to call a mystery box and the mystery box is I don't understand okay for some of you this is like a container ship right you're like I got a lot in there okay how many of you even if you're a mature Saint you're reading the Bible you're like I don't understand that okay um and let me say this uh every one of us in reading the Bible is going to have some things that are hard to understand let me give you a line so there's a guy in the New Testament named Peter he was the leader of Jesus' disciples he writes two books of the Bible first and second Peter and if memory serves me correct I think it's around second Peter 3:15 and 16 he says I was reading Paul and he's hard to understand Peter's like oh my gosh head coverings tongues submission oh golly these are difficult right so and if Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit writes two books of the Bible and he's reading the Bible he's like that's hard to understand don't feel bad if you find a few things that are hard to understand it's okay in addition don't pretend like you know okay just please do us all a favor there's always one guy's like I don't know but I'll pretend don't one guy's like I'll just argue no just say I don't know and if you put something in the mystery box it means that maybe later in life as you study you're like oh now I understand it just took me a while to get there sometimes it's not till you die and stand before Jesus and you're just like I don't get it he's like well let me explain because it says in first thians 13 that when we see him we will know as we're fully known we're all going to take our Mystery Box to Heaven be like somebody help right there somebody around here like help me figure this out one of the great mysteries of our faith is divine sovereignty and human responsibility this is one of the great Mysteries and it's on full display here Divine sovereignty is and it says here it was from the Lord human responsibility is you married somebody you weren't supposed to marry you did a wrong thing okay and what we're talking about here is what theologians or Bible teachers will call the permissive or the passive will of God God has an active will where he makes things happen and then he has a passive will where he lets us make decisions and what we see in this is that what Samson is doing and what his father is condoning it's wrong and God used it to get access to the Philistines to destroy them couple of things number one God is so good that he can even use evil for his good okay God is so God is above evil so God is so good that he can even use evil doesn't mean that he decrees evil doesn't mean that he does evil in him is light and there is no Darkness at all but God's good is bigger than our bad God's right is bigger than our wrong number two God is not responsible for human sin and evil what Samson and his dad can't do is say God you made me marry this woman I was like I actually wrote it down in the book and said not to that's your

decision not mine you failed not me let me say this not everything that happens is God's will there are things that are happening right now that are evil and sinful and people will say things naive things like well everything that happens is God's will no it's not no if God says don't and you do that's not God's will that's Disobedience to God's will in addition number three we cannot excuse human sin and evil just because God uses it for good sometimes people will do horrible things God will work it out and they'll be like God worked it out it must have been a good thing no no this is like a guy who keeps drinking and driving and denting his car and takes it to the auto body shop and they fix it and he's like well it's not dented anymore doesn't mean you were right in all the dents you put in the vehicle it just means that somebody was kind enough to to fix your mistakes to to sort of sift out your problems to to iron out your dents but just because God fixed it doesn't mean that it was blessed means that God is gracious so let me say this let me give you some examples of God's Divine sovereignty and human responsibility give you a few texts Genesis 50:20 Joseph says to his brothers you meant what evil human responsibility you meant evil against me but God Divine sovereignty meant it for good okay here's another one this is a sort of classic verse we Romans 8:28 we know that for those who love God all things work together for good the question is Saint is everything that happens in our life good no but God works it out for good this is a mind melting verse and it shows the Providence of God acts 20:23 Jesus delivered up ACC according to the definite plan and for knowledge of God that's the sovereignty of God you crucified and killed by the hands of Lawless men human responsibility at the cross of Jesus everybody who participated in the murder of Jesus was lawless doing evil and God was Sovereign and he used it for good and Jesus died in our place for our sins to pay our debt to God so here's what I want you to know when it comes to Divine sovereignty and human responsibility I don't want you to be what is known as a fatalist and that is well it doesn't matter what I do God's in charge no what you do matters very much matters very much Samson Marrying an unbelieving woman is going to cause pain for decades of his life in addition I don't want you to use the sovereignty of God as an excuse well it doesn't matter what I do God's in charge no it does matter Samson here is a man of God he's setting a terrible horrific example this would be like a Christian politician or a Christian leader a Christian Pastor intentionally Marrying an unbeliever in a very public way than setting an example telling everyone else you can do the same thing and they're not supposed to but I do want the sovereignty of God to be a hope and an encouragement and what it means is this even if you get it wrong God can make it right even if you break it God can fix it even if you kill it God can resurrect it and so I don't want this to be an excuse or a license for us to sin but when we do I want it to be a hope and encouragement that God always gets the last word and our God is a gracious God okay back to the story then Samson judges 14 5-9 he went what direction down we're going to talk about this with his father and mother to timna they should not have been following their son he was not going in the will of God and they came to The Vineyards of timna and behold a young lion came toward him roaring then the spirit of the Lord rushed upon him he has these temporary powerful anointings where he has spiritual power and although he had nothing in his hand he tore the lion in pieces as one tears a young goat that's this is this is a one-man Wrecking Crew but he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done now he's covert then he went down and talked with the woman and she was right in Samson's eyes after some days he returned to taker that's marriage he's not a real romantic I take her that's he's that guy he just reminds me of a gim BR I just see him with a tank top on roids never missing leg day but never going to church he's got a protein shake he couldn't win a spelling bee at a kindergarten um and he always dates gals and clear heels that's just how I see him anyways just a thought just a thought okay probably had a

neck tattoo and he turned aside there's dudes right now in the church do it they're like oh gosh oh gosh oh gosh honey I'm going to go sit in the other side so they don't think we're together okay great great go we're glad to have you [Music] um um after some days he returned to Taker and he turned aside to see the carcass of the lion and behold there was a swarm of bees in the body of the lion and honeys so he set up a comb there um he scraped it out and into his hands and he went on eating as he went and he came to his father and mother and gave some to them and they ate but he did not tell them that he had scraped the honey from the carcass of the lion here's what we see with Samson he has power but not character he has power but not character power is something that God gives him it's a gift it's an anointing in the spirit character is something that you need to work out with God the Bible says this um work out your salvation with fear and trembling for it is God who works in you to Will and to do according to his good pleasure let me say this I feel inclined to say this many Christians Chase power and instead they should Chase character a lot of people like I want to cast out demons I want to speak in tongues I want to do healings I want to call down fire from heaven it's like it's like well why don't you love or forgive or bless or be generous or encourage or tell the truth or serve and so let me say this Samson is a model of a Believer who has power but not character and let me tell you this I would not encourage you to chase power I would encourage you to chase character and if God wants to give you power praise be to God but there's nothing more dangerous than someone that has character excuse me that has power but no character and Samson is a tremendously concerning example and there are whole there are whole teams and tribes and traditions within Christianity they're just chasing power and signs and wonders and miracles and deliverance and healing and they're like power power power it's like what about character because here's here's Samson he marries an unbeliever and then he violates his na aite vow he's not supposed to touch a dead corpse and azerite vow is given in Judges 13 and it's articulated in numbers 6 so he's not doing any of the things that God told him to do and he's doing the things that God told him not to do and here he lies to his parents and what he says is um nothing you guys need to know that sometimes lying is silence right so you're like I didn't tell a lie well if you didn't tell the truth that's just another form of lying they're not supposed to touch a corpse he touches a dead body of an animal and then he brings the honey to his parents he doesn't tell them now he's ritually made them unclean and defile so what he is he's he's a man without character let me say it another way Samson has no regard for personal Holiness and he doesn't have any problem causing other people to sin against God and be Unholy including his own mom and dad the result is if you don't have personal Holiness you will self-destruct it doesn't matter how gifted you are it doesn't matter how powerful you are it doesn't matter how anointed you are it doesn't matter how many lions you can rip apart with your bare hands if you don't have personal Holiness the greatest threat to you is you and that's the sad story of Samson I just I love you I'm your pastor but let me just tell you this for me this entire story of Samson is just a conviction of a personal call Holiness God where are compromises in my life where are blind spots where are disobediences where are bad habits because he's a Believer and he has the Holy Spirit and he self-destructs that should give us all a bit of warning like you can be a believer with the Holy Spirit and self-destruct if you don't cultivate character and personal Holiness the story then continues judges 14:10 through 2 his father went down they keep going down we're going to talk about that to the woman and Samson prepared a feast there for so the young men used to do he's doing the same thing as all the Philistine guys he's not acting like a Believer as soon as the people saw him they brought 30 companions to be with him so now he's going to hang out with 30 Philistine guys and Samson said to them now let me put a riddle to you now he's gambling let me just say this if you're the

man of God drinking and gambling with the Phil at the very least you're a terrible witness he says if you can tell me what it is within the seven days of the feast and find it out then I will give you 30 linen garments and 30 changes of clothes but if you cannot tell me what it is then you shall give me 30 linen garments and 30 changes of clothes so they said to him put your riddle that we may hear it now they're gambling and he said to them out of the eater came something to eat out of the strong came something sweet story continues and in 3 days they could not solve the riddle it's cuz it's crazy okay some be like oh that's interesting no just look at the guy he's not that smart this is probably not a riddle this is just a guy at the gym who's had a few drinks okay on the fourth day he they said to who Samson's wife entice your husband to tell us what the riddle is lest we burn you in your father's house with fire see again there are certain cultures that are evil there are certain certain cultures that are demonic there are certain cultures that are corrupt apparently in Philistine 30 guys can burn a woman and her father to the ground in the house if she doesn't do what they tell them have you invited us here to impoverish us and Samson's wife wept over him now she's going to get emotional and said you I would do a girl voice but I can't like I just am incapable I and I stay in my gender LAN so you just so listen with a girl voice filter uh you only hate me you see you see the manipulation you see the tears the puppy eyes the the pouty lip you do not love me okay there's some convicted women and some honest men who are now testifying that they have experienced this from an emotional woman you women know this for a man emotions are like Kryptonite to Superman you're like just stop crying I'll do whatever you say you have put a riddle to my people and have not told me what it is and he said to her behold I have not told my father nor my mother and shall I tell you now she what oh now we got a lot of drama lot of Tears lot of emotions lot of feels she went before him the seven days she's just crying and their feast lasted on the seventh day he told her because she pressed him hard the end of the day she's crying so he tells her then she told the riddle to her people and the men of the city said to him on the seventh day before the sun went down what is sweeter than honey what is stronger than a line he said to them if you had not plowed with my heer you would not have found out my riddle and the spirit of the Lord rushed upon him strength and power he went down to a he went down again to ascalon struck down 30 random dudes in the town murdered them stole their clothes took their spoil and gave the garments to those who told the riddle in what's his only emotion hot anger he went back to his father's house and Samson's wife was given to His companion who had been his best man okay some of you like I grew up in church we didn't cover this in Sunday school they just said he was strong I know I know I know right right and out there somewhere on the internet somebody's like I had a son I was going to name him Samson cuz he's strong I probably should have read the whole story yes you should you should read the whole story okay so he's a Believer without character is it possible to be a believer without character yes now I'll say this as a pastor I I don't like saying that I don't like giving hey there's Believers with character unbelievers I like those two categories the category I don't like is believer without character but he's a Believer without character his marriage he marries an unbelieving manipulative woman and ultimately what does he do at the end he abandons her he's like God I can't he's like Dad sorry Dad I can't live without her he marries her he's like I'm gone he leaves town abandons her he's a total deadbeat husband it's months or years the dad's like I don't know where he's at he's not coming back so then Dad marries her off to another guy the best man at the wedding next man up literally how's he doing as a husband he's an F minus on his best day here who does he pick as his friends 30 Philistine guys and what does he do he drinks with them and gambles with them now part of his Nazarite vow Judges 13 referring to number six you're not supposed to drink alcohol and he's doing exactly what God

forbid him to do the Bible says this do not be deceived bad company corrupts good character let me say this show me your friends I'll show you your future he's got no believing friends the guys that he picks are unbelievers who will drink and gamble with him he needs new friends in addition how's his emotional life he's only got one emotion one emotion in his entire life is mentioned hot anger not just anger God's like 10 D's anger at a 10 here's his emotions he has two asleep and hot anger that's his emotional life so he's not a well person let me say this I'll talk about this a little more real men this week but some of you men you have you have had great success in life because of hot anger but it's broken all your relationships it's broken your wife it's broken your kids it's broken your friends and and maybe you've succeeded in the military or you have succeeded in the marketplace but you've failed at home because hot anger does not build relationships in addition um here's what he does he gets a gambling debt how does he pay off his gambling debt murder you're like what he's like I need clothes you're wearing clothes I would just recommend maybe go buy some clothes you know I'll just tell you murdering guys for their clothes not really God's best furthermore undressing men I'm out okay just I'm out like I'll go get them off a rack not a dude that's just me I know that sounds judgy but I just have like 30 dudes like after undressing a few I'd be like that's it I'm going to I'm going to the store you know I'm going to the store at that point I'd even go to Target you know like I'd even go to Target like I mean I don't know I mean maybe not you know I mean either way it's highly offensive you know uh naked guy Target same thing anyways um probably shouldn't have said that but it's going to be on the live stream okay I'm having fun I don't know you know so all right yeah this is what happens when you verbal process for a living okay so so let me summarize let me try to make it spiritual can I do that let me try Okay let me see if I can get all the toothpaste back in the tube here okay so let's summarize the life of Samson uh how to break your life and uh just if you're taking notes don't do this okay like this is the anti- example but here's what he does number one erase any lines between the world and the church here's what he does let me explain this there's the church it's supposed to have the culture of Heaven there's the world it has the culture of H in between is the word of God and it is supposed to separate uh the Char from the world what Samson does he just removes the word of God and what happens is the church collapses into the world all of a sudden you're like he's marrying an unbeliever he's hanging out in a pagan place he's drinking and gambling with unbelievers he's murdering guys you're like how did that happen very easy remove that which separates the world from the church and this is why the word of God my friend is is so powerful and important and let me say this there are some who don't want to remove the word but they want to reduce the word they want to compromise on some things that the Bible is very clear about and let me say this the church belongs to God the word of God belongs to God the people of God belong to God okay this is not my word it's his word this is not my house it's his house you are not my people you're his people and our job my job is to make sure that we open the word and we hold the line so that there can be a church for God's people and they don't collapse into the world number two don't practice obedience or repentance okay question is Samson obeying no so if you want to live a blessed life it's very simple obedience and repentance and and It ultimately is this take what God say and Obey it and when you don't repent and get back to obeying it God blesses people who are under the authority of his word a lot of people like I want God to bless me God would love to bless you obey him just like any good parent looks at a kid and says if you want to do the right thing I'll help you if you want to do the wrong thing I can't help you so please do the right thing and when you do the wrong thing come back and make it right and so ultimately if you want to live a blessed life it's obedience and repentance does he obey no does he repent never never well you'll see in the life

of Samson he's always talking about everybody else's sin never his own all his bitterness and Vengeance and anger he's so worried about everybody else he's not paying attention to himself we can do this in our day I just I feel like I'm supposed to say this we every day just on our phones as like The Rage of the day like what stupid thing are the Philistines doing right right and then as we head into an election it's politics and stupidity and we could just every day just be so upset it's like yeah but what about you because I'll tell you this we're not going to stand before God and give an account for things that are not our responsibility but we will stand before God and give an account for us okay and so ultimately it's obedience and repentance number three uh how to break your life number three do what's right in your eyes I'll prove it to you here's what Samson says next one please uh judges 14:3 she is right in my eyes was that woman that he picked as a wife was that choice right in God's eyes no here's the problem in the entire nation of Israel this is the last line of Judges so it's the theme of the entire book and 300 years of history and I would say it also explains the United States of America today everyone did what was right in his own eyes everybody's like looks good to me this is what I think this is what I feel this is what I want let me just say who cares the question is what's right in his eyes I mean people all the time are like you offended me I disagree my opinion is I'm like who cares you went to Community College you know like who cares you're 23 everything you know could fit on a 3x5 card and half of it's wrong that's just what I think you know who cares people are like but I I I I I strongly believe I don't care see here's the deal we need to take god seriously but not everybody else amen and it's like let me say this this is the lens through which we look to see what's right in God's eyes oh marriage sex gender family politics finances spirituality God let me get your lens in front of me let me look at both the world and myself through your word and then I can figure out what's right in your eyes number four how to ruin everything uh keep going downward right okay you chuckled cuz you met this person how many of you uh let me just ask this you know somebody and you're like they just keep going like it's just complete self-destruction and at some point like surely they're going to hit rock bottom you're like oh my gosh they they just keep going they don't turn around they don't repent they don't [Music] change this is what we read in judges 4 14 verse 1 verse 5 verse 7 verse 10 verse 19 quote went down you and I if we do what is right in our own eyes just keep going down in judges 14 every time Samson goes down physically he's going down morally and spiritually we're not good we're bad we're not getting better we're getting worse we're not the solution we're the problem if number one we remove the line of God's word between the world and the church we don't practice obedience or repentance we do what is right in our eyes ultimately it gets worse and worse and worse and darker and darker and darker that's right that's the days of the judges that's the United States of America that's the woke apostate church and that's counterfeit cultural Christianity that's what it is so is there any hope there is how to save our world let's go back to the story number one looking at Samson uh get men saved under the word filled with the spirit that's what should have happened Samson was saved is he is he constantly filled by the power of the Holy Spirit demonstrating and manifesting the character of Christ no is he under the authority of the word of God no so it all starts with the men and this is why I have a massive heart for the men and I love and I appreciate and I'm I'm motivated to reach and to serve men I believe that if you get everyone but the men you lose if you get the men first they get the women and children and I believe that what we see in the Lord Jesus Christ is God knew that there was a great crisis and sin problem on the earth and he had to decide what his solution would be and so God came as a man that must mean that Solutions Begin by God sending men and what is happening in Israel is the men are not marrying Godly women they are not raising their children to love and honor God so until the men get

straightened out everything is crooked okay once men get saved meet Jesus they get filled with the Holy Spirit and they come under the authority of God's word then those men start to become part of the solution and they stop being part of the problem number two marry Godly women Samson should have picked a Godly woman for those of you guys who are single pick not just a woman but a Godly woman okay and let me just say this and sometimes guys are just all they're like Samson like it's all about the body let me just tell you a few things gravity is undefeated [Music] okay okay shots fired okay so and at some point you're going to talk to her so you hope that she has a brain okay and at some point you're going to pray with her so you hope she has soul and at some point you're going to raise kids with her so you hope that she's a good woman and mother and wife an example and at some point as a man you're going to get shot and if she loves the Lord and she loves you she's going to be steadfast and loyal and faithful and encouraging and helpful and a tremendous and incredible blessing to you and so I'll just tell you guys most of the time when you're single and you're looking for a woman you have no idea what you're looking for okay Samson had no idea what he was looking for number three have Godly Offspring and then you can go up and up and up and up for Generations the last book of the Old Testament says that God is seeking through marriage Godly Offspring so if a man loves the Lord marries a woman who loves the Lord they raise Godly children to love the Lord guess what happens every generation goes up like oh well you know we were new Believers and we did a lot wrong but then we met Jesus and we raised our kids to love the Lord okay they weren't abused and don't have all the trauma and they know the Bible Well they start at a better place than we did and then they had kids and our grandkids grew up with three generations loving Jesus and praying and worshiping and teaching them the Bible and blessing them and then and then there's generational wealth cuz we're blowing it on our vices and our divorces all of a sudden instead of and let me just say this this is so hopeful for us cuz the world is going down we can go up there can be hope for our kids and there can be hope for their future there could be hope for our grandkids there could be hope for their future cuz we're not the world we're the church we're not going down to hell we're going up to heaven that's who we are and then men pastor and provide for your family that's what he should have done instead he abandons his wife never even has a child she gets remarried he doesn't even know he comes back and he's just abandoned his wife she's now remarried he's not even there to protect her next week you'll see the Philistine men come back and they burn her to death in her father's house and her husband wasn't even there to defend her let me get near my conclusion most of the stories that we tell at the end and they lived ever after happily ever after and that's a lie it's a lie not everybody's story ends happily ever after you decide what the ending to your life story is and the story of Samson's life is is brutal you you'll see it in chapter 16 he's bitter he's vengeful he's a prisoner of war he's Shackled In the Temple of deon his eyes are gouged out by a beautiful woman that seduced him and destroyed him and he pushes The Columns of the temple down on himself to murder a few thousand enemies and he dies a bitter lonely single childless vengeful broken old man two things for those of you who are not yet Christians the story of Samson is a little story that's part of the big story of the Bible and the hero is not Samson his name is Jesus and they have some things in common number one there was a Divi there was a Divine announcement that a son was to be born both with Samson and Jesus both mothers for Samson and Jesus they conceived by a miracle Samson's mother was bar and jesus' mother was a virgin both men were anointed in the Holy Spirit we read repeatedly that Samson was empowered temporarily repeatedly by the power of the Holy Spirit Jesus Christ well the word Christ means the anointed one in addition Samson died for his sin but Jesus died for our sin yeah Jesus had no sin and when he died he died for our

sin today Samson's body lay in a grave but Jesus' body does not Jesus defeated death and forgave sin and opened heaven and right now Jesus Christ is ruling and reigning in addition Samson was a judge and Jesus is the greater Samson and he is the greater judge and you and I will all die and we will stand before Jesus Christ Our judge and Justice will be served in one of two ways number one if you don't repent of sin and receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior you will go to hell and you will be tormented and there will be Eternal consequences for your sinful rebellious Disobedience number two you can repent of your sin and receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior and then your penalty and debt to God will have been paid at the cross of Jesus Christ where he suffered and died in our place for our sins and the reason why God has you hearing this message is he wants your future to not be like Samson's he wants your eternity not to be like Samson's it is too late for Samson he is dead it is not too late for you you are here to repent of sin and receive Jesus Christ as Lord Savior and judge and I'll bring the band up as well for those of us who are Christians this is now an opportunity for you to judge yourself and to ask yourself is there any compromise in my life are there any bad habits are there any relationships are there any behaviors that are displeasing to you let me close with these haunting lines at the beginning of Samson's life in Judges 13:25 when he is a little boy it says this the spirit of the Lord began to stir him so he's a little boy and God Saves him and the spirit of God begins to convict him and grow him and mature him but throughout the course of his life he ignores God at the end of his life as an older man Judges 16:20 he did not know that the Lord had left him friends deep breath that should haunt you to think that God was in my life and for decades I was so rebellious against him I was so Callis and hard-hearted that when he left I did not recognize his absence because I had ignored him so long and I had not been aware of his presence if I had to summarize his life I believe it is a tragic example of the principle in Ephesians 4:30 which says and I quote do not grieve the holy spirit of God by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption from the stirring as a young boy to the complete and utter lack of awareness of God's presence as a grown man every day he just grieves the holy spirit that that word in the original Hebrew or excuse me Greek of the New Testament it actually can be translated um mental distress anxiety or trauma let me tell you God loves you more than you love you God's plan for you is better than your plan for you and every day that the holy spirit is speaking to you and convicting you and trying to mature you and grow you and grow in personal Holiness and character every moment that that you ignore him that you resist him that you fight him you're grieving him how many of you know someone you love them very dearly and they're just self-destructing and it breaks your heart like please don't do that it's not too late let me help you God feels like that every day God sees Samson and every day he's grieved Like Son don't do that son I'm here to help it's not too late please turn Please be aware of my presence please live by my power I love you with my whole heart and I believe that this is a Divine moment that was on God's calendar to meet with you and to meet with me and for us to examine and judge ourselves God is there anywhere I'm grieving the Holy Spirit do I have insensitivity do I have a Hardness of Heart do I have bad relationships and behaviors and excuses and are there are there decisions that I have made that I'm so hard-hearted and stubborn that I'm not willing to to own and repent of and apologize for and this is a moment for you to just repent God I'm sorry I'm wrong you're right I don't want to break your heart and I don't want to break my life and I don't want you to turn on your phone and I don't want you to leave I want you to just sit in God's presence and I want you to invite the Holy Spirit to help you judge yourself and if there's anything that he convicts you of or reveals to you I want you to just give it to him and ask him to forgive you and to empower you and make a covenant with him today that the future will look different than the past and if you're here with

someone that you've sinned against them maybe even it's your spouse apologize to them and and
and reconcile with them and if you need to kneel kneel if you need to sing sing you want to raise
your hands raise your hands you want to take communion take communion for those who are
online this isn't just a sermon but it's an invitation to meet with god father I thank you that your
word is true and I thank you that it tells us not just what Samson's life was like but it instead War
warns us what our life will be like if we keep grieving the Holy Spirit if we keep hardening our
heart if we keep stiffening our neck if we keep closing our ears God these are dear people that
you love I thank you for the honor to teach them your word Holy Spirit we invite you to come
right now to make this a sacred place of meeting with your people Holy Spirit Come and judge
us and reveal to us the ways that we have wandered and cause us to to return through repentance
and to walk forward with obedience and holy spirit I pray that this is a Divine sacred meeting
right now and that lives and destinies and Legacies would be changed in jesus' name amen