



ANOINTED SACRIFICE

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Sermon Link: <https://realfaith.com/sermons/samson-anointed-sacrifice/>

who wants a sermon anybody want a sermon all right who wants two sermons okay congratulations your prayers have been answered we have two sermons today I kid you not I'm going to preach one sermon pray and then preach another sermon we're in Judges chapter 16 we've spent about 5 months going through the Book of Judges we will conclude today looking at the final days of a man named Samson that being said uh let me start by giving you the first sermon and that is the 3,000-year prophetic timeline from Samson's War to war in Israel and in Gaza today and what I want to establish is that the word of God in anticipates the war that is currently raging in Israel and gives us the spiritual significance behind the scenes and also gives us what should be the political solution and so what we're dealing with in the days of Judges is the ancient nation of Israel and this nation continues to this very day let me give you the story from the Old Testament to the present it was about 2,000 BC roughly 4,000 years ago that God spoke to a man named Abraham and his wife Sarah told them to leave their father and mother that he would give them a piece of real estate that we now call the promised land or nation of Israel it's the only land that God decrees the boundaries of and it is roughly the state of Israel is roughly the same size as the uh state of New Jersey so just think of a small population Center for some years the nation of Israel did exist as a nation and then they were displaced during the days of The Exodus God's people went because of famine into the nation of Egypt and there they lived for more than 400 years and then God released them through a series of Supernatural events and sent them back home after a Wandering in the wilderness to return to their Homeland the story then picks up in the days of Judges as they reenter the promised land from that point forward the nation of Israel did exist as a nation and then ceased to exist for 1,300 00 years imagine the United States of America ceasing to exist and then God resurrecting it from the dead 1,300 years later this happened in fact in 1948 and some Christian Bible scholars would say that this is the major prophetic event that indicates that we're living in the last days approaching the second coming of Jesus Christ who is coming to the nation of Israel in 1993 something called the two-state solution was entertained and ultimately implemented and that was that in this particular place in and around the nation of Israel there were Jewish people who do not separate as we do between church and state they wanted to be a Theocratic Nation governed by the laws of the Old Testament but also living in that same vicinity were Arab Muslims who similarly believed in a Theocratic nation and not a separation of church and state but being Muslim they wanted the Quran and Islam and Sharia law not biblical law this led to lots of acrimony and what was proposed as a two-state solution this piece of land belongs to the Arab Muslims this piece of land belongs to the Jewish Hebrews and they can each live according to their convictions this culminated in 2005 President Bush proposed something that was called land for peace and that was that a piece of land within the promised land that was promised to the physical descendants of Abraham ultimately the Jewish people a portion of that land would be given to the Palestinians to the Arabs those who were largely Muslim that was the Gaza Strip and the Assumption and presumption was if there are two states each people group can live in their own land be governed by their own laws operate by their own traditions and that will bring peace the very following year in 2006 uh the Palestinians voted for a government called Hamas Hamas is a terrorist group and Hamas took control of the Gaza Strip as well they then cancelled all future elections and they closed the border to Jews we have studied previously from this Pulpit that Hamas is not just a terrorist group it's also a Hebrew word in the Old Testament for violence it first appears if memory serves me correct in Genesis CH 6 where God was going to send a flood to the the world because God saw that the inclination of the human heart was only Evil all the time furthermore it says that God was grieved because of our behavior and it says that the entire

Earth was filled with Hamas it was a demonic and still is a demonic Spirit of violence we've established from this Pulpit that when people change and things don't it's because the same demons are still at work and that is in fact the Hamas Spirit the Hamas spirit is one of terrorism it is one of violence it is one of death and destruction that brings us to this sermon series I choose my sermons about a year in advance I prayerfully consider them and I chose this sermon series in judges about a year prior and then on October 7th 2023 there was the attack of the nation of Israel there was a terroristic Invasion from the Gaza Strip into the nation of Israel war in Israel occurred for the first time if my memory serves correct in roughly 50 years and that was a prophetic event roughly 1,300 people were killed largely women children the elderly and civilians hundreds were taken hostage many are still being held hostage as well as American citizens and by comparison uh this was bigger for them than 911 was for us their population is so small that the equivalent in our day would be that 40,000 people died on 9/11 in addition that hostages were taken and still being held then following that attack a variety of Rocket attacks have been launched on the nation of Israel now numbering 7,000 rocket attacks in addition they kept giving the body count trying to create uh sympathy globally and publicly for those who are terrorists and or shielding and housing terrorists and let me say this what's happening in the nation of Israel with their neighbor includes terrorists who are terrorizing the nation of Israel those who are covering for and supportive of terrorists and to this day the majority of those who are Palestinians in the Gaza Strip they support Hamas and they want that to be their government that's why they are allowing Hamas and terrorist to hide behind civilian uh populations to protect them in addition there is quite frankly a small percentage of people who do not support terrorism in Hamas they just happen to be there In Harm's Way We need to pray for and support them in addition we do have some Christian brothers and sisters and they're in a very precarious situation for which we are very grieved but the reports kept coming out that a certain number of people had been killed and all of a sudden there was an uproar and an outcry and there were protests on college campuses among those who are educated beyond their intelligence and don't understand exactly what is happening in the spiritual realm and in the geopolitical conflict the United Nations has now haveed that death count and what they don't tell you is this number one they were only reporting the numbers that Hamas gave them let me say this people who are terrorists committed to Jihad working by demonic forces killing innocent civilians raping women incarcerating innocent children and taking grandparents as hostage may also be guilty of lying in addition what they didn't tell us is the number of those who were killed in War what percentage of those included those who were terrorists and so the United Nations is complicit in all of this now this brings me to the Book of Judges the Book of Judges is written about 3,000 years ago and the Book of Judges it is God's intended design and decree for the nation of Israel and it was originally anticipating the fact that when God's people were delivered the Jewish people were delivered from slavery and bondage in Egypt in the book of Exodus as they were sojourning rough 40 years back to their promised land god rose up Joshua God gave a prophetic word to and through Joshua when you occupi the land dispossess those who have possessed it in your absence they work by other gods and they're going to be a problem for you what Jesus was saying ultimately concludes in uh Judges chapter 2 and you can read it for yourself and is in the study guide on Samson I'm summarizing briefly but in judges 2 Jesus comes down from heaven as the angel of the lord we examine this and what he say says is this you cannot have a two-state solution that's what he says I don't know why anyone in the White House is even considering a two-state solution Jesus already said no 3,000 years ago and wrote it in a book so that we could read it today and what Jesus says is you cannot live with these people because they live to

destroy you in judges chap 2 verses 1-4 uh I'll just give you a few lines Jesus says you have not obeyed my voice Jesus says when you occupy the land you need to dispossess the occupants Jesus goes on to say I will not drive them out before you if you're not going to obey me I'm not going to cover for you they shall become thorns in your side and their gods that's the word for demon shall be a snare to you 3,000 years ago Jesus Christ came down and said if you allow these people to live in this land they are empowered by demonic forces counterfeit false gods and they will become nothing but a problem to you forever and ever the result was a series in succession of wars in the book Book of Judges and we've looked at three of the main Warrior leaders of God's people we looked at Deborah who is an incredible woman of God Gideon who was a strong man of God and Samson that you'll learn more about today and he's a troubled man of God but God gives him a warrior calling in Judges 13 that he is raised up to do battle against the Philistines the people who are occupying in that day what is today known as the Gaza Strip what we see over and over and over is a series in succession of wars and the Book of Judges covers 12 judges over the course of 300 years written 3,000 years ago and over and over and over it is the Hebrew people against God's enemies at War for a little piece of real estate that today is that same place that we know as the Gaza STP now today there are no Philistines as a nation they were eradicated in two military campaigns uh Samson's entire continuous battle is against the Philistines and the Phil quite frankly uh they are a warrior people that ultimately are destroyed in two waves number one it was Nebuchadnezzar King of Babylon that defeated and nearly destroyed the Philistines and then came Alexander the Great the military commander from Greece and he eradicated the Philistines as a nation the people to this day do not exist continuously but those who were not killed in combat they remained in that area and they intermarried with the Arabs which means today if there is Philistine blood it is among the Palestinians and the Arabs that live in the Gaza Strip 3,000 years later they carry some of that mixed bloodline forward now that being said uh today we are seeing war in Israel and I'll show you the exact geographic location in a moment and I'll give you the cultural consideration behind it but today uh the Hamas government is a terrorist organization as I said supported by the Palestinian people and they are governed by something called the Hamas Charter the Hamas Charter would be like their Declaration of Independence this would be their uh rules for how they are going to rule their Nation I'll give you one line Israel will exist until Islam will obliterate it the day of judgment will not come about until Muslims fight the Jews killing the Jews there is no solution for the Palestinian question except through Jihad which is holy war Hamas is committed to two things this is the foundation of their political party number one kill all the Jews number two take all the land that's it that is their religious commitment from their demon god named Allah and I know that's strong language my job is to tell the truth we live in a world where there's too many cowards in the pulpit and there's not enough prophecy for God's people that's my introduction here we go judges 16:1 Samson went to where Gaza Gaza Samson's war against the Philistines was in the same place that there is war between those who are Jewish of the same family heritage as Samson and those who are God's demonically empowered enemies 3,000 years later the Bible doesn't just tell us what happened but what always happens and the Bible shows us that though people come and go the demons remain the same and 3,000 years later we're dealing with the same spiritual warfare and I'll show it to you so on the um on the left is 3,000 years ago in the days of Samson you'll notice on the left Deborah Gideon and Samson uh we're going to go to war in Israel between Samson and the Philistines for Gaza today that's the Little Dot on the left look on the right that is the modern-day map of Israel in the Middle East the entire shaded section that's the nation of Israel the Gaza Strip guess where that is exactly

where Samson went to war all of this is in the study guide you can have it for free I love you I like to help people learn the Bible now let me tell you a little bit about this little piece of land by comparison um the entire nation of Israel is just a tick under 9,000 square miles guess what size that is Amic County here we are in the United States of America we're in the state of Arizona we're in the county of Maricopa the entire nation of Israel is roughly the same size as Maricopa County in addition uh Gaza the place that is being contested today and was contested in Samson's day it is roughly very close to the same size as Scottsdale the population of Gaza is roughly double that of Scottsdale so just by way of comparison take Scottsdale double the population that's Gaza take the nation of Israel and that is in fact Maricopa County by just sheer size it's just amazing to me that the fulcrum of geopolitical crisis on planet Earth comes down to Maricopa County in Scottsdale and it has been for 3,000 years it's because from there came the promise to Abraham from there uh came the prophet and the law and the Kings and the priests from there came Jesus Christ and to there is coming again our great God and savior the Lord Jesus Christ this is all deeply and profoundly spiritual let me give you one more comparison and then I'll conclude the first sermon um today let me give you an example of what this looks like in our day so here we are for those who are local we're in Scottsdale Arizona what is just to my left and your right a Native American tribal reservation that is a two-state solution let me just make everything that is geopolitically very understood practically a two-state solution is that is a Sovereign Nation it has its own laws it has its own uh government and it it runs its own Affairs and it controls its own economy now on this side of the freeway is Scottsdale Arizona technically legally a separate nation now imagine if that Nation a two-state solution elected a government who had as its platform two commitments number one we're going to kill everyone and number two we're going to take everything we're going to take your house and your business we're going to take your church and your land we're going to kill the men we're going to do whatever we want to the women and we will abuse and use and maybe even enslave the children that was their entire objective of their entire nation and then they would not allow any of us to enter that land and then some years later they attacked an invaded and they killed upwards of 40,000 people and they took our women and children and Grandma and Grandpa and they held them hostage let me ask you men how many options do we have one war that's the only option we have some would say well just wait we did wait and they is that time to plan their Invasion and attack well negotiate with them well their goal is as I said to kill everyone and take everything so what is negotiation they kill half of the people and take half of the stuff that's not a negotiation that's suicide right some would say well just just just wait and see well we've been waiting for 3,000 years I'm sure that they're good people I'm sure they're not well the kids on the college campus are protesting and throwing a fit it's because they've been brainwashed by government schools and they don't know a damn thing that's why what I telling you is this college protesters and White House officials are all wrong in an error because they do not understand and believe the word of God which has spoken to all of these issues for 3,000 years first sermon first sermon I'm going to pray and then we'll do the second sermon okay father God thank you so much that your word speaks not just to a few things but to everything Lord God in this house we honor the word of God and we invite the spirit of God to help us to learn the word of God Lord we pray for everyone especially those in the Middle East right now especially those in and around Israel who are at War Lord we pray first for our Brothers and Sisters in Christ on both sides of the conflict that find themselves in an impossible situation we pray for those few Christian churches that love and serve the Lord Jesus that God you would protect them and you would give strength and courage to their men to lead their families and to protect their women and children Lord God we

pray for our elected officials uh God that they would have wisdom that they would open the word of God and that they would get their directives from King Jesus who's the only one that really understands what in the world is going on in the world Lord we pray against the enemy of servants their works and effects we pray against all the Demonic powers and and forces at work not just in their Nation but ours not just in their border crisis but ours and we say in Jesus' name the Lord rebuke you and Lord I Thank you for the honor of opening your word I pray I would love the people well and that I would teach by the power of the Holy Spirit and as we now pivot to the life of Samson that you would give us an opportunity to examine our own lives in Jesus name amen amen all right second sermon we'll jump back in judges 16 1-3 Samson went to God and there he saw a you read that in church you're naughty naughty people see they didn't tell you this in Sunday school they didn't put this in the kids Bible they never made it into a veggie tail and when they did those plays in the basement at the Baptist Church they never assigned this role um Samson went to Gaza there he saw a prostitute and he went into her well just G breing the gites were told Samson has come here and they surrounded the place and set an ambush for him all night at the Gate of the city they kept quiet all night saying let us wait till the light of the morning then we will kill him so Samson is the warrior for God and he is the the ham he's the Hammer Of God against the Philistines but Samson lay till midnight and at midnight he arose and took hold of the doorpost of the Gate of the city and the two posts pulled them up bar and all put them on his shoulder carried them to the top of the hill that is in the front of hibrion and so this is the beginning of Samson's downfall he's ruling in reigning in Israel for about 20 years and at this point he's probably in his late 30s early 40s he's a grown man but at this point he's he's a he's a strong man but he's also a man that doesn't have much wisdom or surrender to God and so what happens here we see the beginning of his downfall and its arrogance and unrepentance the same thing my friend that will destroy your life and mine it's arrogance and unrepentance we live in a day let me just verbal process for a moment we live in a day that honors Pride we have a whole committed to Pride before pride comes a fall God opposes the proud the Bible has zero good things to say about pride and the proud God opposes the proud but he gives grace to the humble the beginning of the downfall for Samson and us is pride here he has arrogance he defies God he goes into the Philistine City and he goes right to AB BR he's the only believer in town he's the worst Witness in the history of the world and he has no shame and he has no fear of God he has no regard for God the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and if you don't fear God you'll end up being a fool that's tragically the path that he has chosen he takes the city Gates as well and this is interesting because in the ancient world they would fortify a city with something called a wall it was to distinguish between who were citizens and who were not citizens it's a very Antiquated outdated concept there are whole books of the Bible like the book of Nehemiah committed to the importance of building a wall since the White House is an ous they don't understand that they don't believe that right but shots fired it's going to be like this all day I'm just telling you how it's going to go and so what they would do they would create a wall and then they would have a gate and the gate was to determine who got to come in and out of the city it was the way to protect the citizens so what does he do he rips the gates out of their Foundation he carries them up to a hill so that they can be seen by all and he plants them in mockery and what he's saying is you're not safe and your gates are open and you are here to be destroyed in addition he has unrepentance is a man of God supposed to be going to AB brel answer no openly and publicly no shame whatsoever so not only is he with the Philistines he's like the Philistines and the result is he ends up with a prostitute and this is the downfall of this supposed man of God he has a problem with women he doesn't understand women and I and I

would just say no man does but um but he is attracted to the wrong kind of women he looks at their body not their soul he's looking for a good time and not a good Legacy all he sees is the outward not the inward he wants to sleep with them but he has no desire to pray and worship with them and this begins and and what's tragic in the story of this man's life he had an incredible mother she was a Godly woman he should have just married a gal like his mom and helped his mom should have helped him make the choice but he wouldn't listen we saw early on I believe it was in judges 14 that he chooses a Philistine woman to marry which was a sin against God here he then chooses a Philistine prostitute and you're going to see in just a moment he chooses a black widow of a chick named Delilah she had a huge Instagram following um and she lived in southern hell that's where she lived and the point is this from his story we all flirt with things people in things that we know can destroy us right we all flirt with people and things you're like you know that could hurt you they could hurt you you're like I know but I'm attracted to it in a way that is self-destructive so as we look at Samson he is a judge we not only need judge him we need judge ourselves what are the people and things that we flirt with that could destroy us and his flirtation leads to seduction this sets up the story in chapter 16:5 you'll see it in just a moment it says that Delilah comes to quote seduce him there are two ways to be destroyed one is someone or something you hate overpowers you and destroys you number two someone or something you love you surrender to and it destroys you the greatest threat to you is you the greatest threat to me is me the entire concept of being seduced is that we are LED away and then we are LED astray it's going to be pleasure and joy and comfort that he is seeking that leads to his downfall and he doesn't seek God that being said the story picks up and this is going to be a long section of scripture I get paid by the verse just hang in there we'll wrap it up in a moment judges 16 4-22 after this he picks up another gal after this he loved a woman in the valley of Sorak whose name was Delilah she's a bad woman if you're new to Christian Cy you're like I want to name my daughter after someone in the Bible do your homework do not pick this name and the Lords of the Philistines these are the Pagan demonic rulers came up to her now they're going to hire her as uh an enemy combatant and she's going to be a seductress who's being used in a military campaign to seduce and Destroy uh Samson uh came to her and said to her seduce HIM lead him away lead him astray and see where his great strength lies he's very powerful and by what means we may overpower him how can we destroy this onean wrecking crew that we may bind him to Humble him and we will give you each 1,100 pieces of silver that's 5,500 pieces of silver this is a multi-million dollar payday so Delilah said to Samson please tell me where your great strength lies and how you might be bound that one could subdue you oh that he had a faithful Godly wife but he doesn't Samson said to her if they bind me with seven fresh bow strings that have not been dried then I shall become weak and like any other man then the Lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven fresh bow strings that had not been dried and she bound him with them how does it go story continues now she had men lying in ambush in an inner chamber and she said to him the Philistines are upon you Samson but he snapped the bow strings as the thread of flax snaps when it touches the fire so the secret of his strength was not known then Delilah said to Samson and behold you have mocked me and told me lies isn't it interesting she's a she's a she's a horrible woman who's accusing him of not having character I know no women are like that today these are the old days she also is going to flirtatiously manipulate him let me just ask the men are some men still manipulated by horrible women who are attractive that was rhetorical please tell me how you might be bound and he said to her if they bind me with new ropes have not been used then I shall become weak and be like any other man so Delilah took new ropes and bound him with them and said to him the Philistines are upon you Samson

and the men lying in Ambush were in an inner chamber but he snapped the ropes off uh his arms like a thread then Delila how many of you guys at this point would just say you know what I picked the wrong girl then Delilah said to Samson until now you have mocked me and told me lies you have no character that interesting sometimes the people that hold you want to let me say this sometimes the people that want to hold you accountable they're the most ungodly of all tell me how you might be bound and he said to her if you weave the Seven Locks of my head I don't know how the guy comes up with this stuff he's very creative with a web and fasten it tight with a pin now now he's gonna I don't know what he's doing this I mean this is like a banana clip you know and I just think if something was to rob a man's strength it probably would be a banana clip but this is not the way it's going to go then I shall become weak and like any other man so while he slept uh Delilah took the Seven Locks of his head and wov them into the web and she made them tight with a pin and said to him the Philistines are upon you Samson but he awoke from his sleep and pulled away the pin the loom and the web and she said to him how can you say I love you oh my gosh okay the women are laughing the men are like dang it I know her and she's here with me ah ah that was funny for some of you uh when your heart is not with me I met her in Old Town yeah I know that's philis that's a Philistine Outpost I know it's going to be like this all day I'm just telling you you've mocked me these three times and you've not told me where your great strength lies now she's crying lot of Tears a lot of emotion when she pressed him hard with her words day after day and urged him his soul was vexed to death and he told her all his heart and said to a razor now he's going to he's actually going to divulge The Secret of his success a razor has never come upon my head never got a haircut for I've been a Nazarite to God I'll explain that from my mother's womb if my head is shaved then my strength will lead me and I shall become weak like any other man when Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart she sent and called the Lords of the Philistines saying come up again for he's told me all his heart then the Lords of the Philistines came up to her and brought the money in their hands Payday for her she made him sleep on her knees just see it this mighty man of God is taken down by a woman she's beautiful and seductive she's probably caressing his hair as he sleeps and she called a man and had him shave off the Seven Locks of his head then she began to torment him it's the same word used for demons some people torment you because they're tormented sometimes tormented people torment people this is demonic she began to torment him and his strength left him he's never been weak and now he is and she said the Philistines are upon you Samson and he woke from his sleep and said I will go out as at other times and shake myself free and this is the haunting line that we'll revisit but he did not know that the Lord had left him he' left the Lord so many times that he didn't even know when the Lord had left him the Philistines seized him gouged out his eyes and brought him down to Gaza all of this is spiritual spiritual warfare and bound him with bronze shackles and he grounded the mill in the prison but the hair of his head began to grow again after it had been shaved here's the story of the life of Samson his downfall begins with a sense of entitlement okay entitlement is this I'm owed our entire uh culture is running on entitlement why this is why our culture is running into debt and destruction and and what he's doing here he's presuming upon the grace of God God chose me to be uh his son and his servant as a result I can do whatever I want and God will always show up and deliver me and provide for me and protect me let me say this um you reap what you sow God will not be deceived God will not be mocked that ultimately just because God has been gracious to you does not mean that he owes his grace to you just because you've gotten away with something multiple times doesn't mean that there won't be a lck last time this is a warning to you and I love you and I'm your pastor and it's an honor to teach you the word of God but we look at his life and it seems like he

gets to do whatever he wants for so long that he doesn't think that God is ever going to stop showing up to clean up the mess that he makes and many of us live that way Romans 6:12 asked this pregnant proverbial question are we to continue in sin the grace May abound the answer is by no means what he's doing here he's sinning and God gives Grace and he sins and he God God gives Grace and he sins and God gives Grace and this goes on for 40 years and then one day God says no more Grace today you will now reap what you sow my strength will be removed from you and you're going to just struggle and suffer as a mere man and let me say this Samson has sin patterns in his life that he has never repented of you and I all have sin patterns in our life that we need to repent of he would see a woman who was forbidden in Genesis 3 it was forbidden fruit for Samson it was forbidden woman for us it's all forbidden something or someone and he would lust after those women he would pursue those women and he would compromise his convictions for those women we've all got a sin pattern and his sin pattern is he's attracted to the worst kind of women and then he picks them and then he tolerates them and then eventually one of them destroys him and I would just ask you to look at your own life and I soberly assess mine this week what are the sin patterns in your life maybe it's every week or every month or every quarter or every year you fall into that same self-destructive pattern of behavior believe you you and I let me just say this friends the greatest threat to you is you the greatest threat to me is me at the end of the day what destroys Samson is Samson we could spend all our day screaming about the news and yelling at the government and you know just sort of frustrated with the universe but when we get up in the morning to brush our teeth and look in the mirror that's the person that is the greatest threat to us and if we have unrepentant sin patterns in our life and we're abusing the grace of God eventually God is not necessarily obligated to give us his grace because Grace is unmerited favor it's undeserved love and let me say this as well my friend we all need to use the grace of God but we should not abuse the grace of God we're all Sinners by nature and choice we all have false flaws and failures I'm not going to tell you that I'm a man that doesn't need the grace of God I need the grace of God and so we we are invited by the love of God to use the grace of God but we need to be very careful that we don't abuse the grace of God Samson is abusing the grace of God he just keeps sleeping with Philistines and prostitutes uh at various points in his story we've seen him gambling with Philistines murdering people drinking heavily hiring prostitutes like he's abusing the grace of God he's not a guy who's having a bad day and needs God's help he's a god he's a guy who's decided that he's going to live his entire life with one middle finger to the sky expecting God every day to be good to him some people will do this in our day well I can do what I want I can't lose my salvation I could do whatever I want God will forgive me I could do whatever I want God says he'll never leave me nor forsake me the the point is this God's grace is to be used but not abused God owes no one and he owes nothing let me hit the point of Samson's hair where he loses his strength there's nothing supernatural mystical about this this is very practical and what he says is that he had a Nazarite vow this goes all the way back to Judges 13 he says he has it from birth so Jesus Christ came down on two occasions in Judges 13 as quote unquote the angel or messenger or word of the Lord spoke to his parents and said he is going to be set apart he's going to be a warrior he's going to do battle with the Philistines to deliver God's people in addition he will have a Nazarite vow if you want to know about Nazarite vow go to Numbers Chapter 6 Nazarite vow includes some additional Commandments from God that supersede the normal Citizen and it includes things like no consuming any alcohol no touching a dead corpse and also no getting a haircut Samson repeatedly intentionally violates every one of the Covenant considerations of the Nazarite vow the only one he's not broken is the haircut and he's about to break it and so what happens is after

an entire life of saving Samson from himself and Samson repeatedly breaking every command that God gave him by the Nazarite vow it's like God says you know what I'm done this is enough and so his strength is by the anointing power of the Holy Spirit we'll examine this in conclusion but the symbol of the Covenant is his hair so there are Covenant relationships that have symbols for example I'm married I'm in a covenant of marriage with my best friend Grace this ring is the symbol of our covenant so for him the symbol of his Covenant that everybody could see was no haircuts in that day men all cut their hair if Samson has his hair uncut everyone could see it he's a big giant famous man it's like why why does that guy not get any haircuts death metal band you know is he from the 80s you know what you know who is this guy you know and they would have to say well he has a Nazarite bow he's not allowed to get any haircut it's one way of God establishing an external visible symbol of an internal Covenant commitment as soon as he has his hair cut and shaved he so disregarded defiled and Dishonored the Nazarite that God removes his anointing and blessing and power from him and God had finally have enough God had finally had enough with Samson and and let me say this I I love you but let me warn you some of you you don't know when God is going to have enough of you see for 40 years Samson woke up every day and God's grace was there and God's anointing power was there and God's strength was there and he would go to war and he would win every single time and then one day God said we're done you're on your own now some of you have been abusing the grace of God not just using it but abusing it and let me say this you just don't know when his grace will no longer be available to you and you can't get angry at God for not giving his grace because again Grace is unmar favor it's undeserved love it's a gift you can't curse God for not giving you something you don't deserve that's good and so as a result the day comes and let me say for all of us if we're sinning continually habitually unrepentantly eventually there's a day that comes and God says from this point forward you're on your own I'm out that's this day for this man the story continues now the Lords of the Philistines judges 16 23-31 the Lords of the Philistines gathered together to offer a great sacrifice to deon deon was originally the demon god of the Canaanites when the Philistines overtook the Canaanites they adopted Deon as their God deon is the god the demon god of grain and that was the foundation of their economy if you are a farmer or you live let's say in a state that has agriculture as its primary export uh if the crops succeed you succeed if the crops fail you fail so they worship deon their God that's a powerful demonic Spirit that's a counterfeit God an to Rejoice they're holding a church service to Deon and they they see all of this as profoundly spiritual and they said our Our God so it's our God versus Samson's God has given Samson our enemy into our hand for them this was all spiritual warfare it's our God against Samson's God when Samson defeated us his God defeated Our God but now that we've defeated and encap and we've captured Samson now our God has defeated their God and when the people saw him they what they praised their God they're having church let me say this sometimes pagans worship better than Christians sometimes Christians don't go to church but sometimes pagans do sometimes our God shows up and we don't praise him and their God shows up and they do for they said quote our God are demons some people worship demons we're going to get into this into the real God series coming up there are powerful counterfeit demonic spirits that allow Supernatural and Powerful things to happen in other religions and spiritualities and all of it's a counterfeit and it's demonic that's what it's talking about here our God has given our enemy into our hand the ravager of our country who has killed many of us and when their hearts were merry they had a few drinks and they're having a good time they said call Samson that he may entertain us let's make fun of this guy let's turn him into a circus Sideshow act so they called Samson out of the prison and he entertained them they made him

stand between the pillars and Samson said to the the young man who held him by the hand let me feel the pillars on which the house rests that I may lean against him why does he need help because they gouged his eyes out now the house was full of men and women this is a giant worship event to a demon god all the Lords let me explain I'll explain this in a moment but these are five Lords Lords of the Philistines were there and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women who looked on while Samson entertained this is like a massive party at their version of the white house everybody's having a good time their demonic worship band is playing they've got brand new songs written to dayone this is a national holiday then Samson called to the Lord one of the few times that he prays he finally prays and let me say this sometimes sometimes you're so humiliated that you're finally willing to pray my encouragement to you would be pray before you humiliated so you don't have to be humiliated but even when we are humiliated we can still pray and our God hears and answers us and he said oh Lord God finally a little humility please remember me feels like God has forgotten him I just feel like the Holy Spirit wants me to tell some of you I just feel like I'm supposed to say this you think that God has forgotten you he hasn't if he's away from you it's not because he has walked away from you but because you have walked away from him that's the story of Samson please remember me God remembers you and please strengthen me only this once God I don't deserve your power your anointing your strength but just one more time oh God that I may be Avenged to the Philistines for my two eyes he's vengeful he's bitter he's angry and Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested and he leaned his weight against them his right hand on the one his left hand on the other and Samson said horrifying phrase let me die with the Philistines I'll tell you what I don't want that I want to die with my wife and kids and grandkids I don't want to die with my enemies then he bowed with all his strength and the house fell upon the Lords and upon all the people who were in it so the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those that he killed during his life then his brothers and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried in between zor and ashto in the Tomb of manoah his father he had judged Israel 20 years he judged Israel longer than anyone else let me set the backdrop as we head somewhere near what is potentially a conclusion um the backdrop for all of this is spiritual warfare it's the real God versus the demon god of deon the entire backdrop is spiritual warfare and so deon is worshiped by the Philistines as their primary God so when they defeat Samson they believe that their God has defeated the real God and then they make him a grinder a grinder is this deon was the god of grain you would take grain and you would grind it so that you could turn it into flour so that you could use it to cook and nourish your your citizenry so what do they take with Samson and his strength they shackle him and then he's blind and they put him on a large Millstone so he spends his days grinding grain as a worship act to the demon god Deon that is the god of grain he is now let me say this about Samson we'll deal with this in a moment up until this point we've never seen him worship okay the Holy Spirit just showed me this I just thought I never thought of this just hit me first time we see him worshipping he's forced to worship Deon his grinding on the millstone is their way of mocking him and his God the Philistines here uh we see that in his death he kills the heads of the five nations they're called the Lords this will kind of blow your mind so the Philistines they didn't have a national government they had a coalition of five Lords it was five families anybody watched The Godfather okay now if you haven't I'm not saying you should you haven't I'm not saying you shouldn't I'm just telling you there's this movie called The Godfather and and and it's a mafia movie and everything's run by five families and each family has got a father ahead to use the language of the Bible a lord the Philistines are organized like the mafia they don't work together they have five families and these

five fathers Lords heads of the families as suits them work together but often times oppose each other in this moment when they come together to mock Samson to worship their demon god it's one of the only times that the heads of the five families are all under the same roof and Samson pulls down the pillars and he kills the heads of all the five families this this would be like a Godfather movie where Samson shows up and kills the five heads of the five families in the Mafia That's exactly what's happening in addition what we're seeing here is National decline this is the opposite of the myth of the progressive agenda and I hit this all the time but it's important to revisit the myth of the progressive agenda is this we're good give us time we'll make it better well what we see here is Samson is the end of three 300 years ruled by 12 judges have things gotten better or worse worse because we're not good we're bad and we don't believe in evolution but Devolution and we don't believe that just giving people more time will result in more good because if people are evil giving them more time will result in more evil what we're seeing here is a nation in Decline and I hit this a while ago but the story of Samson picks up about 260 is years into the history of the nation of Israel the United States of America today is about 250 years old and so the reign of Samson shows the decline of a Nation from the point at which roughly we find ourselves today that being said the reason that they were in Decline is they accepted Comfort pleasure compromise and an oppressive government they worked with the Philistines they're like you know what they're good in bed they generate income as long as we don't pick a fight with them they kind of make our life easy God's people had surrendered to comfort and pleasure and prosperity and they were oppressed by a Godless government and they they didn't fight back just think of this as a verbal process with you did anyone ever fight at Samson's side no I just I remind myself as we're nearing our conclusion there was an occasion previous in the story when 3,000 armed Hebrew men showed up to arrest Samson not to fight with him even God's men are like hey you know what we're okay with our enemies we'll just let them oppress us because they're good and bed and they generate Revenue their women are good and bed their men generate Revenue so we're willing to sacrifice all of our convictions for our comfort and what we saw previously in the Book of Judges is that God would withdraw his hand of BL blessing and provision and then pain and problems would come to the people and for those of you who have been with us what would the people often do then in response to their suffering they cry out to the Lord we saw this in Judges 3 judges 4 judges 6 and judges 10 Samson it is the darkest days in judges it is 40 Years of his life it is 20 years of his Reign people never cry out to God they never stop and say God maybe we're the problem you know God may maybe maybe economically we're struggling because we're sinning God maybe we have horrible politicians because this is what we deserve God maybe we have open borders because we have closed Hearts they never consider that maybe they need to repent of their sin and return to their God no one stops in the days of Samson and the people don't stop to turn from sin trust in the Lord and cry out to him let me say that the the problems that they have and the problems that we have they're not going to be politically solved because they're spiritually caused until there is repentance of sin and faith in and obedience to Jesus Christ as king and judge there will not be a healthy flourishing civilization or Nation amen this is why as Christians yes we do want to be politically involved and I've got a series coming up where I'll talk about Jesus in politics but at the end of the day we believe that the preaching of the Gospel is the only hope for the culture in the nation We Believe until there is Revival there will not be reform when he was given the Templeton prize Alexander sulin said this it's an interesting quote over half a century ago while I was still a child I recall hearing a number of older people offer the following explanation for the great disasters that had befallen Russia he says and I quote men have forgotten God that's why all

of this has happened that's why all of this has happened we speak to the men men this is a word for you and me as we've been examining and real men and thank you men for joining us and thank you to the to the men who join us online Samson terrifies me because without submission to God's word I'd be a lot like him I would be an angry violent dangerous perverted horrible lonely man and and I would ask you this men based upon what the world says is Samson living the dream he is he's the strongest man on Earth how many of you would like to be the World's Strongest Man every guy who does Leg Day wishes he could push the stack that Samson can push he's the strongest man on Earth does he ever lose a fight no he's got unprecedented power he can he could he he he doesn't worry about anyone or anything is he famous he's very famous does he get to sleep with beautiful women yeah he does let me say this the dream is the Nightmare and the strength is the weakness many men just think if I was strong if I was powerful if I was famous and I could have all the women I wanted that would be amazing no that would be destruction right let Samson serve as an example to you I hit this a few weeks ago the reason that we don't teach Samson is we don't know how to teach Samson Bible teachers meaningless well but doing poorly they open the Bible and they're like be like Samson please don't please don't don't go to Gaza find a prostitute get your eyes gouged out grind for Dagon and then murder mafia families like all right whatever you do do something else okay he's a man who wins and he loses couple of things as we near close God does perfect work through imperfect people I hope that's an encouragement to you Samson is far from perfect but God does perfect work through imperfect people so there's hope for you and me uh what we learned from Samson is you can live for pleasure or God but not both you can live for pleasure or God but not both he lives for pleasure and that ends his life God sent us here friends to influence culture but culture is always trying to influence us the problem with Samson is he didn't influence Philistine culture Philistine culture influenced him if you live with the Philistines you'll die with the Philistines I don't want you to die with the Philistines and the most important day is your last day we just saw the last day of Samson the last day of your life is the most important life he's totally alone he has no wife he has no kids he has no grandkids he has no co-laborers and co-workers his are gouged out he's angry vengeful depressed and the last thing he does is commit suicide so that he can murder his enemies what's really haunting and shocking about the story of Samson at the end it says after he died his family came and claimed the body what's interesting is there's no appearance of them from judges 14 when he's a young man until the end of his life he got to the point that he was so unhealthy and so isolated and so dangerous and so self-destructive that his family had nothing to do with him he didn't even get a visit from his family until he was dead and then they came to see him well this sets the stage first and foremost um with the 12 judges over 300 years we still don't have the leader we need ultimately this sets the stage for a king so the king that is coming is not just a judge but a king and his name is David and he's got his own problems he likes adultery and murder and on his deathbed he puts out a hit on his enemies the moral of the story is this it doesn't matter who you get they're not Jesus we still need Jesus so the entire backdrop is we need Jesus to come to be a better judge than Samson and to be a better King than David let me bring the band up and let me hit a couple of things in closing let me give you two let's say three themes from his life first is his eyes judges 143 she the Philistine woman is right in my eyes judges 16:1 Samson went to aaza and there he saw eyes a prostitute judges 16:28 please strengthen me only this once God that I may be Avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes and then here's the last line This is the summary of the days of Judges that explains the United States of America precisely everyone did did what was right in his own eyes do you know where Samson's problems began in his eyes he's like it seems good to me that's what I think that's what I see that's

what I want he never asked what's right in the sight of God he only did what was right in his own eyes and eventually they gouged out his eyes number two he began living by God's anointing and then he abandoned God's anointing so God abandoned him judges 13:25 when he's a little boy and here's the big idea you cannot lose your salvation but you can lose your anointing the anointing is the power of God's presence in your life you could still go to heaven but it's going to hurt like hell until you get there unless you live by the power of God if the Holy Spirit decides that he's going to let you do life without him that's going to be a bad life for you when he's a little boy judges 13:25 the spirit of the Lord began to stir him judges 14:6 these next three verses are as a grown man then the spirit of the Lord rushed upon Him judges 14:19 the spirit of the Lord rushed upon Him judges 15:14 the spirit of the Lord rushed upon Him judges 16:20 he did not know that the Lord had left him he grew so insensitive to the powerful presence of God the holy spirit that when God left he didn't even know and lastly what we see is that it is the enemies of God who worship and not the man of God again we never Mery in Samson's life him stopping to worship God these are the three keys for you my friend and I'll close here and we'll release the live stream and I'll pray for you and we could spend some time in worship if you wake up every day and do what is right in your own eyes if you don't have a sensitivity to the Holy Spirit and you live by your own power and you stop worshipping God you will self-destruct and I love you with my whole heart I truly do the same is true for me this is very concerning for me like where am I living doing what is right in my own eyes but not right in the eyes of God where have I become so hardened and insensitive to the leading and the conviction of the holy spirit that if he left me I wouldn't even know and am I living to worship God it's interesting the pagans worship a lot better than the Believers at the End of This Book so I want you to ask Holy Spirit show me where I'm where I'm wrong in your eyes Holy Spirit anoint me to to live by your power and holy spirit help me to live as a worshipper of Jesus Christ so that I don't destroy myself father thank you for the Book of Judges thank you for this Old Testament book that is 3,000 years old and it couldn't be more timely and contemporary I thank you that it talks about Gaza and two-state solution and all the geopolitical issues that we're facing I thank you that it speaks about spiritual warfare and the real God versus the Demonic counterfeits I I thank you that it tells us about cultural National moral decline that it warns us as a nation at this place in our history and I thank you God that it's also so personal it's just for us to to look through your word and to and to evaluate our life through your eyes to repent of our sin to return to our Lord and savior to live under your powerful Holy Spirit anointing and worship you so that we don't destroy ourselves and God I pray right now for a sacred meeting between you and your people in jesus' name amen