



**Learning Wisdom
from
the Mistakes of Samson
by
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Wisdom

■ Proverbs 4:5-7 (NKJV)

- ⁵ Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth.
- ⁶ Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you; Love her, and she will keep you.
- ⁷ Wisdom *is* the principal thing; *Therefore* get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.

Wisdom

- We get wisdom
 - From God's word
 - From our own experiences
 - From the experiences of others



**Learn wisdom from
the
mistakes of Samson**



Background

Background

- **Samson lived during a period where everyone did what was right in their own eyes.**
 - Judges 21:25 (NKJV)
²⁵ In those days *there was* no king in Israel; everyone did *what was* right in his own eyes.

Background

■ **He was a child given by God**

➤ Judges 13:3 (NKJV)

³ And the Angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, "Indeed now, you are barren and have borne no children, but you shall conceive and bear a son.

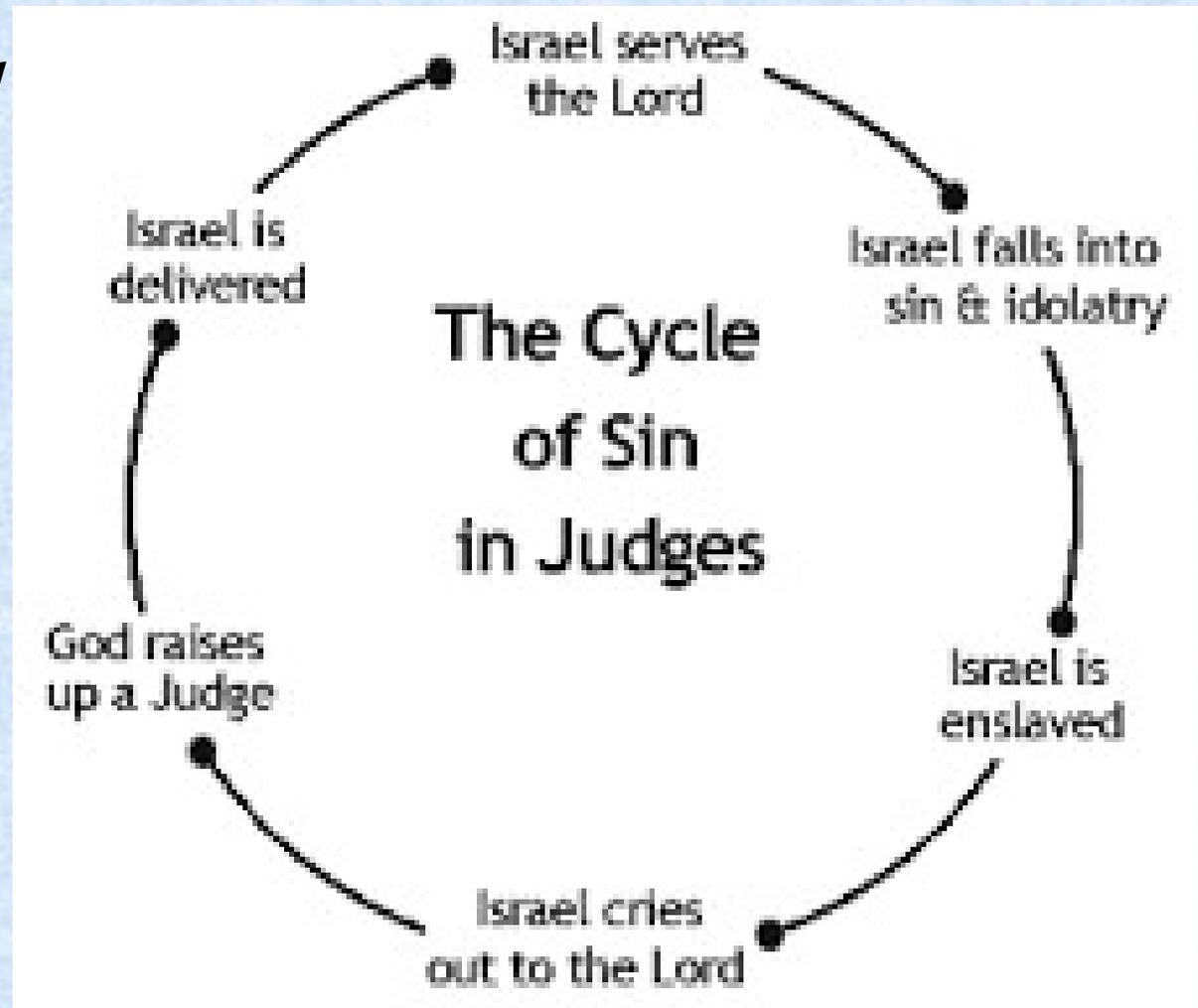
Background

■ **Had a Nazirite vow from his birth**

- Not to drink wine or any unclean thing (Num. 6:3-4)
- Avoid contact with a dead body (6:6)
- Refrain from cutting their hair as a sign of their vow (6:5).

Background

- **Samson was a judge or deliverer during the days of Philistine oppression.**



Background

■ **He did some powerful things**

- Went to Ashkelon and killed 30 enemy
(Judges 14:19)
- Killed 1000 with a jawbone of a donkey
(Judges 15:15)

Samson Died in Disgrace!





What happened?

What happened?

■ **His parents indulged him**

➤ His parents started right – asked for help

■ Judges 13:8 (NKJV)

⁸ Then Manoah prayed to the LORD, and said, "O my Lord, please let the Man of God whom You sent come to us again **and teach us what we shall do for the child who will be born.**"

What happened?

- His parents started right But made terrible mistakes

➤ **Parents didn't discipline him**

- Proverbs 3:12 (NKJV)

¹² For whom the LORD loves He corrects,
Just as a father the son *in whom* he
delights.<

What happened?

■ **Parents indulged him**

➤ Judges 14:2-3 (NKJV)

² So he went up and told his father and mother, saying, "I have seen a woman in Timnah of the daughters of the Philistines; now therefore, get her for me as a wife."

➤ ³ Then his father and mother said to him, "*Is there* no woman among the daughters of your brethren, or among all my people, that you must go and get a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?"

➤ **And Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she pleases me well." <**

What happened?

- **His women corrupted him**
 - **None of his wives really loved him**
 - 1st riddle (Judges 14:15-17)
 - Delilah (Judges 16:4-20)
 - **Why should they?**
 - Backgrounds, purpose & goals were different
 - Same thing happens today!

What happened?

■ **His greatest enemy - himself**

- Ungrateful (Judges 14:6-9) broke his vow
- Indulgent (Judges 14:2) "get her for me"
- Wasted time (Judges 14:12) riddles
- Wasted ability (Judges 15:20) his purpose



WHAT SAMSON MISSED

- The love of a good woman
- Personal self-worth
- A relationship with God



CONCLUSION

Think of what he might have been!