

DEFEATED: The Downfall of Samson

Week 1: PRIDE

INTRODUCTION:

- A. What is a hero? Who would be on your list of personal heroes?
- B. When we study through the Bible we see many men and women who did things we would say made them a hero.
- C. Samson had all the makings for being a hero, but he also had all the weaknesses that can lead to defeat.
- D. How did it get to this point for Samson? What led to his unfortunate ending (Judg. 16:23-31)?

Samson was Blessed with Potential (Judg. 13:1-5; 24-25).

- A. Samson was going to be a blessing to Manoah and his wife who was barren (13:2-3; Gen. 11:30; 25:21; 29:31; I Sam. 1:5-6; Lk. 1:7).
- B. Samson was going to be dedicated to God from his very beginning (13:4-5a; Num. 6:1-8).
- C. Samson was going to be used by God to begin to deliver the nation of Israel (13:5b).
- D. Samson was blessed by the Lord (13:24-25; 16:24).
- E. Samson lived during a time when every man did what was right in his own eyes (17:6; 21:25).

Samson was Plagued with Pride (Judg. 14:1-17)

- A. Samson refused to listen to others (14:1-4; Deut. 7:1-5).
- B. Samson ignored the commands of God (14:5-9; Psa. 119:2-3).
- C. Samson involved others in his disobedience (14:9b-10; Rom. 14:21).
- D. Samson thought he could get away with anything (14:11-14).

Three Things to Remember About Pride:

- A. Pride will cause you to think you always know what is best (Prov. 12:15; Prov. 15:22).
- B. Pride will cause you to disregard what you know is right (Jam. 4:17).
- C. Pride will cause you to do things you regret (Prov. 14:12; 16:25).

CONCLUSION:

- A. Samson may have been one of the most physically strongest men to ever live, but he was also certainly one of the weakest spiritually.
- B. Pride will take us places we never really want to go.
- C. Put your pride aside, and give your life to Jesus. Make the choice to live for Him.