1 Now Samson went to Gaza and saw a harlot there, and went in to her. 2 When it was told to the Gazites, saying, "Samson has come here," they surrounded the place and lay in wait for him all night at the gate of the city. And they kept silent all night, saying, "Let us wait until the morning light, then we will kill him." 3 Now Samson lay until midnight, and at midnight he arose and took hold of the doors of the city gate and the two posts and pulled them up along with the bars; then he put them on his shoulders and carried them up to the top of the mountain which is opposite Hebron.

Flesh wars after the spirit and the Spirit after the flesh for they are contrary one to one another. Crucify flesh or it will dominate. A paradox to be used of God yet lust kills in end. Jesus revolution *Lonnie Frisbee*—had a natural charisma God used but ended up dying of AIDS. Your sin will find you out Nu 32:23

Samson name means Sun or Sun child—his spiritual life as deliverer, bright & shinning in full strength in defeating Israel's enemy, the Philistines. Yet his carnal, natural man became his downfall dimming the sunlight, end of his life a tragedy yet God's grace permeated the darkness w/ a final brilliant ray of sunlight shone once again.

Samson sees a provocative woman, a harlot...the eyes w/ seeing are never satisfied....and went into her or has sex...loose women become his downfall, his lust for the forbidden...a he-man w/ a she-weakness—he had no reason to be in Gaza

Pr 7:5 That they may keep you from an adulteress, From the foreigner who flatters with her words. 6 For at the window of my house I looked out through my lattice, 7 And I saw among the naive, I discerned among the youths, A young man lacking sense, 8 Passing through the street near her corner; And he takes the way to her house..26 that she has cast down many wounded, yea may strong men have been slain by her

Leaders in the city told Samson in town...maybe came in disguise, snuck in...they shut up the city to kill Samson when he tried to leave. Wakes at midnight realizes what he's done and where he is & goes to the gates, soldiers asleep breaks them loose and carries them 11-12 miles.

We can't tempt the Lord and get away w/ it...as Israel wandered 40 years. Samson does again w/ Delilah what he's done w/ other women. Love is more a lust than a giving of self for the benefit of another. You attract to yourself of like kind. She is out for herself.

4 After this it came about that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah. 5 And the lords of the Philistines came up to her, and said to her, "Entice him, and see where his great strength lies and how we may overpower him that we may bind him to afflict him. Then we will each give you eleven hundred pieces of silver."

Delilah means <u>lustful/delicate/languishing</u>(decay or rot)/<u>mistress</u>. Samson a adrenaline junkie, he a lust junkie—he is a repeat offender. Philistines wanted to know where his strength lay—to gain some hidden <u>spell</u> or <u>charm</u> or <u>amulet</u> <u>Tolkien's Lord of the Rings – to possess the ring meant power & control & domination over the wills of others.</u>

Delilah betrayed Samson w/ silver as Judas did Jesus & w/ a kiss of so-called friendship. Bird-brain is negative but scripture says 'Surely in vain is the net spread in the sight of any bird.' Birds appear to be smarter than Samson—he doesn't see the net spread to front of him to take him in bind him and blind him.

6 So Delilah said to Samson, "Please tell me where your great strength is and how you may be bound to afflict you." 7 And Samson said to her, "If they bind me with seven fresh cords that have not been dried, then I shall become weak and be like any other man." 8 Then the lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven fresh cords that had not been dried, and she bound him with them. 9 Now she had men lying in wait in an inner room. And she said to him, "The Philistines are upon

you, Samson!" But he snapped the cords as a string of tow snaps when it touches fire. So his strength was not discovered. 10 Then Delilah said to Samson, "Behold, you have deceived me and told me lies; now please tell me, how you may be bound." 11 And he said to her, "If they bind me tightly with new ropes which have not been used, then I shall become weak and be like any other man." 12 So Delilah took new ropes and bound him with them and said to him, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" For the men were lying in wait in the inner room. But he snapped the ropes from his arms like a thread. 13 Then Delilah said to Samson, "Up to now you have deceived me and told me lies; tell me how you may be bound." And he said to her, "If you weave the seven locks of my hair with the web and fasten it with a pin, then I shall become weak and be like any other man."

Samson flirting w/ sin---so blinded by the wiles of Delilah he goes along w/ her game. To keep friends w/ ex-girl/boy friend or web acquaintance of opposites behind wife or husbands back is game playing & flirting w/ sin.

Game she plays is w/ his emotions...if you really cared for me you wouldn't lie and tell where your strength lies. If he was rational he'd ask 'why do you want to know?' Why is it so important to you. Samson is blinded by lust which often happens in relationship. Good family w/ kids and wonderful spouse then flirtation at office or gym and leave family for irrational relationship built on emotion and passion. Samson in jeopardy of losing his calling as a Nazarite—separated to God.

14 So while he slept, Delilah took the seven locks of his hair and wove them into the web. And she fastened it with the pin, and said to him, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" But he awoke from his sleep and pulled out the pin of the loom and the web. 15 Then she said to him, "How can you say, 'I love you,' when your heart is not with me? You have deceived me these three times and have not told me where your great strength is." 16 And it came about when she pressed him daily with her words and urged him, that his soul was annoyed to death. 17 So he told her all that was in his heart and said to her, "A razor has never come on my head, for I have been a Nazirite to God from my mother's womb. If I am shaved, then my strength will leave me and I shall become weak and be like any other man." 18 When Delilah saw that he had told her all that was in his heart, she sent and called the lords of the Philistines, saying, "Come up once more, for he has told me all that is in his heart." Then the lords of the Philistines came up to her, and brought the money in their hands.

She now pouts & questions his love for her—insecurity seeks to prove sincerity w/ gifts, pledges, promises, assurances that they will do anything for them that their sincerity not be questioned. *NLT Pr 23:27A prostitute is a dangerous trap; a promiscuous woman is as dangerous as falling into a narrow well.* 

Satan ruins many a good man by rocking them to sleep and robbing them of their good name & taking away all they had achieved in their life & making them a captive to his will. When we sleep our enemy does not.

You would think Samson would have enough sense to get out of this relationship. Insight enough to realize this is a bad lady to be hooked up w/. People in bad relationships often blame themselves.

19 And she made him sleep on her knees, and called for a man and had him shave off the seven locks of his hair. Then she began to afflict him, and his strength left him. 20 And she said, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" And he awoke from his sleep and said, "I will go out as at other times and shake myself free." But he did not know that the LORD had departed from him. 21 Then the Philistines seized him and gouged out his eyes; and they brought him down to Gaza and bound him with bronze chains, and he was a grinder in the prison. 22 However, the hair of his head began to grow again after it was shaved off.

2Sam 7:14"I will be a father to him and he will be a son to Me; when he commits iniquity, I will correct him with the rod of men and the strokes of the sons of men,

Sad when we can go on w/ our life w/ God and because we've quenched or grieved the spirit we know not that God has departed.

22-31 When a person looses it all, alone, lonely, deserted by all, betrayed by ones closest, blinded to spiritual things & grinding at the mills of the worldly enemies, gives time to think about what we had, God's favor and

ministry and where we are now & the spiritual hairs begin to grow, can't undo the past but can be used for whatever God has now.

Belshazzar was cut off when he was praising his man-made gods, Dan. 5:4.

David, who, when he had provoked the Spirit of grace to withdraw, prayed (Ps. 51:12), Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with thy free Spirit.

The more we flirt w/ temptation the more our resolve is weakened until it's snare blinds, binds and we grind at the altar of the enemy

Samson died praying, so did our blessed Saviour; but Samson prayed for vengeance, Christ for forgiveness.

Dagon buried in it. This would give a great check to the insolence of the survivors, and, if Israel had but had so much sense and spirit left them as to improve the advantages of this juncture, they might now have thrown off the Philistines' yoke.

Samson may very well be justified, and brought in not guilty of any sinful murder either of himself or the Philistines. He was a public person, a declared enemy to the Philistines, against whom he might therefore take all advantages. They were now in the most barbarous manner making war upon him; all present were aiding and abetting, and justly die with him.

Christ was plainly typified. He pulled down the devil's kingdom, as Samson did Dagon's temple; and, when he died, he obtained the most glorious victory over the powers of darkness. Then when his arms were stretched out upon the cross, as Samson's to the two pillars, he gave a fatal shake to the gates of hell, and, *through death, destroyed him that had the power of death, that is, the devil* (Heb. 2:14, 15), and herein exceeded Samson, that he not only died with the Philistines, but rose again to triumph over them.

57 chevy Nomad – school flirt Pr 6:26 For on account of a harlot one is reduced to a loaf of bread.

Gaza last town sw of Palestine on road Jerusalem to Egypt-guard room on side gate – in morning when open rush, kill him Hebron 10mi away

16-Dagon fishgod head chest hands of human-body fish=fertility and reproductive to sailors—praise dagon for capture of Samson and his God—superior to Jehovah.

26 Sport, dance before them—he playing along, pretending to be tired, rest on pillar. Beams rest on pillars w/ flat roof 3000 great strain – hair began to grow, he called on Lord in humility.

23 Now the lords of the Philistines assembled to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god, and to rejoice, for they said, "Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hands." 24 When the people saw him, they praised their god, for they said, "Our god has given our enemy into our hands, Even the destroyer of our country, Who has slain many of us." 25 It so happened when they were in high spirits, that they said, "Call for Samson, that he may amuse us." So they called for Samson from the prison, and he entertained them. And they made him stand between the pillars. 26 Then Samson said to the boy who was holding his hand, "Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them." 27 Now the house was full of men and women, and all the lords of the Philistines were there. And about 3,000 men and women were on the roof looking on while Samson was amusing them. 28 Then Samson called to the LORD and said, "O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me just this time, O God, that I may at once be avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes." 29 And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and braced himself against them, the one with his right hand and the other with his left. 30 And Samson said, "Let me die with the Philistines!" And he bent with all his might so that the house fell on the lords and all the people who were in it. So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he killed in his life, 31 Then his brothers and all his father's household came down, took him, brought him up, and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. Thus he had judged Israel twenty years.