

SAMSON—2

Supernatural strength, divine calling.

Incredibly strong man with a dangerously weak will!

Lust: I want it. Entitlement: I deserve it. Pride: I can handle it.

- **SAMSON WAS EMOTION DRIVEN NOT SPIRIT LED.**

Don't like to think of ourselves as emotional. Women are emotional.

Both emotional. Women talk. Men act.

3 guys flipped me off!

Paul in Romans 7: Want engage w/ kids—tired & just veg.

Do something stupid, say something stupid—can't apologize

Don't want to blow up—happens.

16 So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. 17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.

Gal 5:16-17

Before the wedding, hanging w/30 Philistine men.

Battle of the wits! Riddle.

Wager: 7 days! 30 linen garments and 30 sets of clothes.

"Out of the eater, something to eat; out of the strong, something sweet." For three days they could not give the answer. Judges 14:14

Philistines threatened wife—trick him or we'll burn family.

Wife #1 strategy of brides everywhere. When in doubt—cry. (7 days)

18 Before sunset on the seventh day the men of the town said to him, "What is sweeter than honey? What is stronger than a lion?" Samson said to them, "If you had not plowed with my heifer, you would not have solved my riddle." Judges 14:18 (React flesh... respond spirit)

TWO EMOTIONS THAT TAKE STRONG MEN DOWN

1) SAMSON BURNED WITH ANGER.

...(Samson) went down to Ashkelon, struck down thirty of their men, stripped them of their belongings and gave their clothes to those who had explained the riddle. Burning with anger, he went up to his father's house. 20 And Samson's wife was given to the friend who had attended him at his wedding. Judg 14:19b-20

Really harm them! Ties 150 pair of foxes w/ torch destroyed harvest.
Philistines found out Samson did this: Burned girl & her father death.

Anger cost him! And those he loved.

Many men: Anger is a default emotion.

Embarrassment turns to anger. Hurt turns to anger.

Hateful on facebook, Explode at children, shouting match wife.

What's there to be angry about?

He went to Philistine territory.

He picked the girl.

He decided to marry her.

He taunted the Philistines with riddle.

He named the price.

He is the only one who knew the secret.

He gave the secret away.

He left his bride at the altar!

Angry at himself—taking it out on everyone else!

Mad at your boss—don't like your job.

Ticked ur wife won't give u more physical attention—her emotional.

Mad at God—unwise decisions!

If that's you—own it.

Emotion driven—not spirit led.

2) SAMSON WAS FILLED WITH PRIDE.

15 Finding a fresh jawbone of a donkey, he grabbed it and struck down a thousand men. 16 Then Samson said, "With a donkey's jawbone I have made donkeys of them. With a donkey's jawbone I have killed a thousand men." Judges 15:15-16 (A, crooked letter)

A man's pride is always born out of his insecurities!

We want to prove ourselves!
Don't know how to receive help!

We want to be the main character in the story! Control!
God is the main character! It's all about him.

I know—two biggest problems: Anger and Pride
Took me down! In need. Afraid.
Emotion driven—not Spirit Led.

SAMSON IS IN NEED

- **IF YOU LET YOUR NEEDS DRIVE YOU TO GOD, GOD WILL MEET YOUR DEEPEST NEEDS.**

Life is over... no hope... Thirsty—going to die.

18 Because he was very thirsty, he cried out to the Lord, "You have given your servant this great victory. Must I now die of thirst and fall into the hands of the uncircumcised?" 19 Then God opened up the hollow place in Lehi, and water came out of it. When Samson drank, his strength returned and he revived. Judges 15:18-19a

So the spring was called En Hakkore, and it is still there in Lehi. 20 Samson led Israel for twenty years in the days of the Philistines.

20 years of peace, 20 years of prosperity, relative freedom. Midlife. Begins to feel restless.

12 They said to him, "We've come to tie you up and hand you over to the Philistines." Samson said, "Swear to me that you won't kill me yourselves." 13 "Agreed," they answered. "We will only tie you up and hand you over to them. We will not kill you." So they bound him with two new ropes and led him up from the rock. 14 As he approached Lehi, the Philistines came toward him shouting. The Spirit of the Lord came upon him in power. The ropes on his arms became like charred flax, and the bindings dropped from his hands.

Judges 15:18-20

The memorial of this, in the name Samson gave to this upstart fountain, En-hakkore, the well of him that cried, thereby keeping in remembrance both his own distress, which occasioned him to cry, and God's favour to him, in answer to his cry. Many a spring of comfort God opens to his people, which may fitly be called by this name; it is the well of him that cried. Samson had given a name to the place which denoted him great and triumphant—Ramath-lehi, the lifting up of the jaw-bone; but here he gives it another name, which denotes him needy and dependent.

- Withdrawing from family and friends
 - Working longer hours
 - Spending more time away from home
 - Consuming more alcohol
- Behaving recklessly and/or violently