

{07} Judges

King James Version

King James Paraphrase

(3) And Samson lay till midnight, and arose at midnight, and took the doors of the gate of the city, and the two posts, and went away with them, bar and all, and put *them* upon his shoulders, and carried them up to the top of an hill that *is* before Hebron.  
 (4) And it came to pass afterward, that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose name *was* Delilah.  
 (5) And the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and said unto her, Entice him, and see wherein his great strength *lieth*, and by what *means* we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him: and we will give thee every one of us eleven hundred *pieces* of silver.  
 (6) And Delilah said to Samson, Tell me, I pray thee, wherein thy great strength *lieth*, and wherewith thou mightest be bound to afflict thee.  
 (7) And Samson said unto her, If they bind me with seven green withs that were never dried, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.  
 (8) Then the lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven green withs which had not been dried, and she bound him with them.  
 (9) Now *there were* men lying in wait, abiding with her in the chamber. And she said unto him, The Philistines *be* upon thee, Samson. And he brake the withs, as a thread of tow is broken when it toucheth the fire. So his strength was not known.

(3) And Samson lay until midnight, and arose at midnight, and took the doors of the gate of the city, and the two posts, and went away with them, bar and all, and put *them* upon his shoulders, and carried them up to the top of an hill that *is* before Hebron.  
 (4) And it came to pass afterward, 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 in what his great strength *lies*, and by what *means* we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him: and every one of us will give you eleven hundred *pieces* of silver.  
 (6) And Delilah said to Samson, I ask you to tell me, in what your great strength *lies*, and with what you might be bound to afflict you.  
 (7) And Samson said to her, If they bind me with seven green ropes that were never dried, then I shall be weak, and be as another man.  
 (8) Then the lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven green ropes which had not been dried, and she bound him with them.  
 (9) Now *there were* men lying in wait, staying with her in the chamber. And she said to him, The Philistines *are* upon you, Samson. And he broke the ropes, as a thread of tow {flax}<sup>a</sup> is broken when it touches the fire. So his strength was not known.

16:9a – tow – flax – actually the part of the flax that is discarded -flax is a plant that is dried and used as thread to weave cloth

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(10) And Delilah said unto Samson, Behold, thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: now tell me, I pray thee, wherewith thou mightest be bound.

(11) And he said unto her, If they bind me fast with new ropes that never were occupied, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.

(12) Delilah therefore took new ropes, and bound him therewith, and said unto him, The Philistines *be* upon thee, Samson. And *there were* liers in wait abiding in the chamber. And he brake them from off his arms like a thread.

(13) And Delilah said unto Samson, Hitherto thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: tell me wherewith thou mightest be bound. And he said unto her, If thou weavest the seven locks of my head with the web.

(14) And she fastened *it* with the pin, and said unto him, The Philistines *be* upon thee, Samson. And he awaked out of his sleep, and went away with the pin of the beam, and with the web.

(15) And she said unto him, How canst thou say, I love thee, when thine heart *is* not with me? thou hast mocked me these three times, and hast not told me wherein thy great strength *lieth*.

(16) And it came to pass, when she pressed him daily with her words, and urged him, so that his soul was vexed unto death;

(10) And Delilah said to Samson, See, you have mocked me, and told me lies: now I ask you tell me with what you might be bound.

(11) And he said to her, If they bind me fast with new ropes that never were used, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.

(12) Delilah therefore took new ropes, and bound him with them, and said to him, The Philistines *are* upon you, Samson. And *there were* ambushers staying in the chamber. And he broke them from off his arms like a thread.

(13) And Delilah said to Samson, Up until now you have mocked me, and told me lies: tell me what you might be bound with. And he said to her, If you weave the seven locks of my head with the web.

(14) And she fastened *it* with the pin, and said to him, The Philistines *are* upon you, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and went away with the pin of the beam, and with the web.

(15) And she said to him, How can you say, I love you, when your heart *is* not with me? you have mocked me these three times, and have not told me in what your great strength *lies*.

(16) And it came to pass, when she pressed him daily with her words, and urged him, so that his soul was troubled to death;

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(17) That he told her all his heart, and said unto her, There hath not come a razor upon mine head; for I *have been* a Nazarite unto God from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any *other* man.

(18) And when Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called for the lords of the Philistines, saying, Come up this once, for he hath shewed me all his heart. Then the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and brought money in their hand.

(19) And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; and she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him.

(20) And she said, The Philistines *be* upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that the LORD was departed from him.

(21) But the Philistines took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison house.

(22) Howbeit the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaven.

(23) Then the lords of the Philistines gathered them together for to offer a great sacrifice unto Dagon their god, and to rejoice: for they said, Our god hath delivered Samson our enemy into our hand.

(17) That he told her all his heart, and said to her, There has not come a razor upon my head; because I *have been* a Nazarite to God from my mother's womb: if I am shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any *other* man.

(18) And when Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called for the lords of the Philistines, saying, Come up this once, because he has shown me all his heart. Then the lords of the Philistines came up to her, and brought money in their hand.

(19) And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; and she began to afflict {beat} him, and his strength went from him.

(20) And she said, The Philistines *are* upon you, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. But he did not know that the LORD {Jehovah} had departed from him.

(21) And the Philistines took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he ground {grain} in the prison house.

(22) However the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaven.

(23) Then the lords of the Philistines gathered themselves together to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god, and to rejoice: because they said, Our god has delivered Samson our enemy into our hand.

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(24) And when the people saw him, they praised their god: for they said, Our god hath delivered into our hands our enemy, and the destroyer of our country, which slew many of us.

(25) And it came to pass, when their hearts were merry, that they said, Call for Samson, that he may make us sport. And they called for Samson out of the prison house; and he made them sport: and they set him between the pillars.

(26) And Samson said unto the lad that held him by the hand, Suffer me that I may feel the pillars whereupon the house standeth, that I may lean upon them.

(27) Now the house was full of men and women; and all the lords of the Philistines *were* there; and *there were* upon the roof about three thousand men and women, that beheld while Samson made sport.

(28) And Samson called unto the LORD, and said, O Lord GOD, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.

(29) And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and on which it was borne up, of the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left.

(24) And when the people saw him, they praised their god: because they said, Our god has delivered into our hands our enemy, and the destroyer of our country, who killed many of us.

(25) And it came to pass, when their hearts were merry, that they said, Call for Samson, that he may make sport for us. And they called for Samson out of the prison house; and he made them sport: and they set him between the pillars.

(26) And Samson said to the lad who held him by the hand, Allow me that I may feel the pillars upon which the house stands, that I may lean upon them.

(27) Now the house was full of men and women; and all the lords of the Philistines *were* there; and *there were* upon the roof about three thousand men and women, that watched while Samson made sport.

(28) And Samson called to the LORD {Jehovah}, and said, O Lord GOD {Jehovah}, I ask You to remember me, and strengthen me, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.

(29) And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and on which it was borne up, of the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left.

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(30) And Samson said, Let me die with the Philistines. And he bowed himself with *all his* might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that *were* therein. So the dead which he slew at his death were more than *they* which he slew in his life.

(31) Then his brethren and all the house of his father came down, and took him, and brought *him* up, and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the buryingplace of Manoah his father. And he judged Israel twenty years.

**Chapter 17**

(1) And there was a man of mount Ephraim, whose name *was* Micah.

(2) And he said unto his mother, The eleven hundred *shekels* of silver that were taken from thee, about which thou cursedst, and spakest of also in mine ears, behold, the silver *is* with me; I took it. And his mother said, Blessed *be thou* of the LORD, my son.

(3) And when he had restored the eleven hundred *shekels* of silver to his mother, his mother said, I had wholly dedicated the silver unto the LORD from my hand for my son, to make a graven image and a molten image: now therefore I will restore it unto thee.

(30) And Samson said, Let me die with the Philistines. And he bowed himself with *all his* might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that *were* in it. So the dead which he killed at his death were more than *those* which he killed in his life.

(31) Then his brothers and all the house of his father came down, and took him, and brought *him* up, and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the burying place of Manoah his father. And he judged Israel twenty years.

**Chapter 17**

(1) And there was a man of mount Ephraim, whose name *was* Micah.

(2) And he said to his mother, The eleven hundred *shekels* {about 27.5 lbs; 12.5 kg.}<sup>a</sup> of silver that were taken from you, about which you cursed, and spoke of also in my ears, indeed, the silver *is* with me; I took it. And his mother said, Blessed are *you* of the LORD {Jehovah}, my son.

(3) And when he had restored the eleven hundred *shekels* {about 27.5 lbs; 12.5 kg.} of silver to his mother, his mother said, I had wholly dedicated the silver to the LORD {Jehovah} from my hand for my son, to make a graven image and a molten image: now therefore I will restore it to you.

17:2a – shekel – about 0.4 ounces; 11.4 grams – see [Appendix J: Bible Weights and Measures](#)

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