



Great Starts and Difficult Endings Judges 13

Judges 13:24-25 (ESV)

“And the woman bore a son and called his name Samson. And the young man grew, and the LORD blessed him. And the Spirit of the LORD began to stir him.”

Judges 13:1-3 (ESV)

And the people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, so the LORD gave them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years. There was a certain man of Zorah, of the tribe of the Danites, whose name was Manoah. And his wife was barren and had no children. And the angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, "Behold, you are barren and have not borne children, but you shall conceive and bear a son.

Samson: The Great Start

I. A God-Ordained Beginning

The Supernatural Plan

Judges 13:3-5 (ESV)

"Behold, you are barren and have not borne children, but you shall conceive and bear a son. Therefore be careful and drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, for behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb, and he shall begin to save Israel from the hand of the Philistines."

Psalm 139:16 (NIV)

Your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!

The Spiritually-minded Parents

- They Prayed
- They Learned
- They Believed
- They Worshipped

II. A God-Given Blessing

Judges 13:24 (ESV)

And the woman bore a son and called his name Samson. And the young man grew, and the LORD blessed him.

Luke 2:52 (NIV)

And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Deuteronomy 6:10-12 (NIV)

When the LORD your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, — a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant — then when you eat and are satisfied, be careful that you do not forget the LORD, who brought you out of the land of slavery.

III. A God-Centered Burden

Judges 13:25 (ESV)

“And the Spirit of the LORD began to stir him...”

1 Kings 15:5 (ESV)

“David did what was right in the eyes of the LORD and did not turn aside from anything that he commanded him all the days of his life, ...

....except in the matter of Uriah the Hittite.”

