



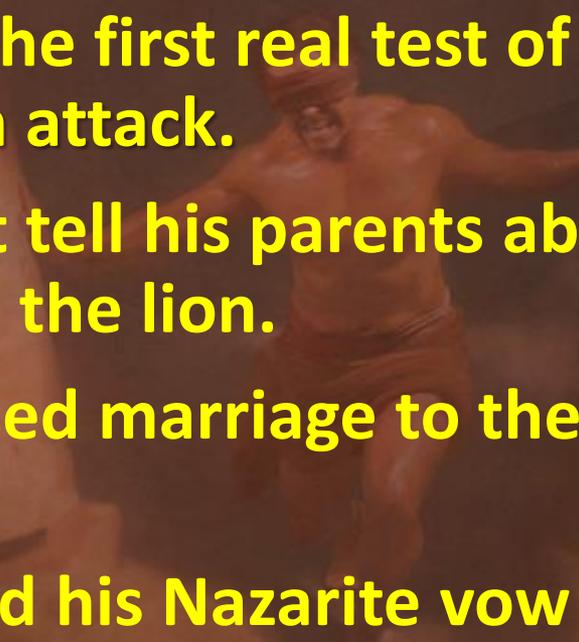
Trouble in Timnah

Judges 14

Trouble #1

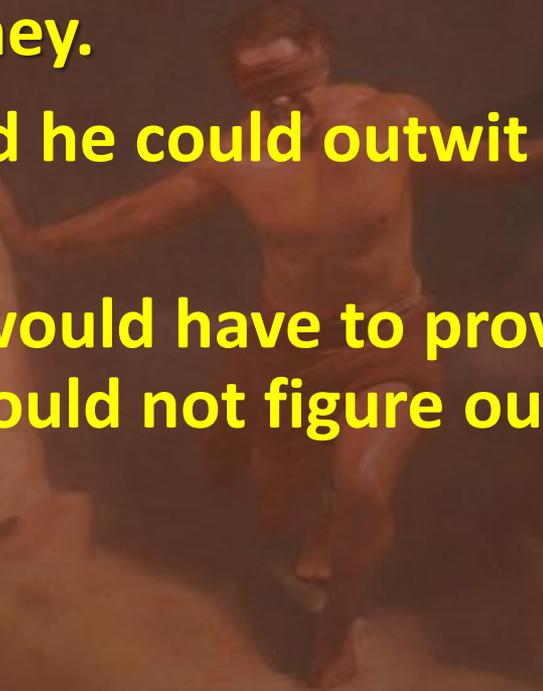
- Samson might have been going to Timnah for political reasons.
- Samson became attracted to a Philistine woman.
- This was wrong because:
 - Intermarriage with pagans was strictly forbidden in the Law of Moses.
 - There was no indication that she was attracted to him.
 - His parents did not want him to marry a Philistine.
- God allowed Samson to follow his own course.
- Samson was going to accomplish God's will though he did not know it.

Trouble #2

- Samson's parents relented to his wishes and went with him to Timnah.
 - Samson faced the first real test of his strength by defeating a lion attack.
 - Samson did not tell his parents about his encounter with the lion.
 - Samson proposed marriage to the Philistine woman.
 - Samson violated his Nazarite vow by eating honey from a dead animal.
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- A statue of Samson, a muscular man with a lion's mane, standing in a dramatic pose. The statue is made of a reddish-brown material and is set against a dark, textured background. The lighting highlights the contours of his body and the texture of the mane.

The Wedding

- Only Samson's father, came to the wedding.
- Samson gave a feast and asked a riddle about the lion and the honey.
- Samson believed he could outwit the Philistines with his riddle.
- The Philistines would have to provide 30 sets of clothes if they could not figure out the riddle in time.



The Deceit

- The Philistines put pressure on Samson's bride to help them get the answer.
- The Philistines threatened to burn her and her father's household.
- His bride threw a tantrum until Samson had enough and told her the answer.
- The Philistines waited until just before the deadline of the seventh day to tell him the answer to the riddle.

Conclusion

- **The Spirit of the LORD came upon Samson for the second time.**
- **Samson killed 30 Philistines and gave their clothing to the wedding guests.**
- **The bride's father gave her to the "best man."**
- **Samson left Timnath with nothing but heartache.**