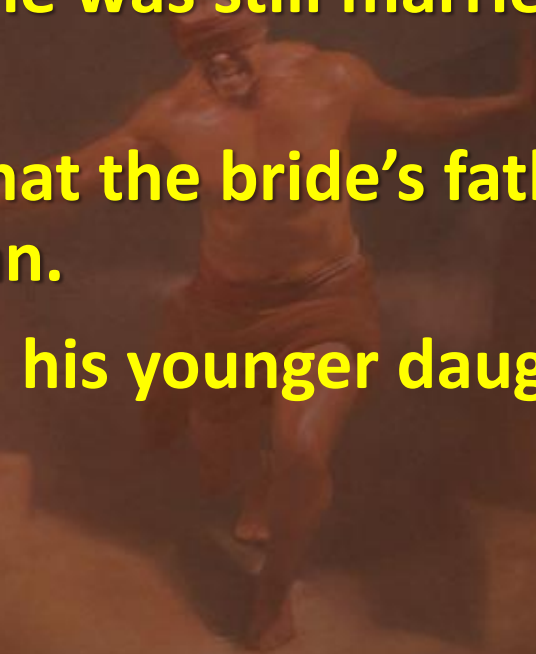
A man with a blindfold and a cloth around his waist stands in a stone archway. He has a pained or determined expression. The background is a bright blue sky. The scene is lit with dramatic, low-key lighting, emphasizing the man's form and the texture of the stone.

Revenge Is Sweet or Maybe Not

Judges 15:1-8, 1 Samuel 12

Samson Reconsiders His Marriage

- During the wheat harvest, Samson headed back to his bride's hometown.
- Samson believed he was still married and brought his wife a gift.
- Samson learned that the bride's father had given her to another man.
- The father offered his younger daughter as a replacement.



Revenge

- Samson felt he had done nothing wrong by honoring his wager.
- Samson was convinced that he had paid them back as they deserved when he set the foxes loose.
- The Philistines were not happy when their grain harvest, olives, and vineyards were destroyed.
- Samson's bride and her father paid for his revenge.

Second Act of Revenge

- Samson heard about what the Philistines did took revenge again.
- Samson attacked the Philistines viciously and slaughtered many of them.
- After the attack, Samson retired to “*a cave in the rock of Etam.*”
- Revenge rarely leads to justice but traps the recipients in a never-ending cycle of violence.
- Revenge left Samson with a bitter aftertaste.

Conclusion

- **No matter how messy things seem to be in our world, we must remember that God is in control.**
- **We must pray and cling to God's Word when fears come our way.**
- **We need to watch out for sins, anger, and revenge as they will just repeat themselves and lead to bad consequences.**

