

## **Samson's Vengeance**

Judges 15

by Don Falkos

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During the wheat harvest, Samson went to visit his Philistine wife. He wanted to have sex with her, but her father wouldn't let him in. "I thought you hated her, so I gave her to another man. But look, her sister is even more beautiful than she is. Marry her instead."

Samson declined. He went out and caught three hundred foxes. He tied their tails together in pairs and tied a torch to each pair of tails. He lit the torches and set the foxes loose in the wheat fields of the Philistines. All the wheat in the fields was burned up as well as the grain that had already been harvested.

The Philistines executed Samson's wife and her father. So he attacked and killed many of them. Then he went to live in a cave. The Philistines invaded Judah saying, "We want Samson. He must be punished for what he's done."

Three thousand men of Judah went to the cave where Samson was hiding. "We've come to tie you up and hand you over to the Philistines."

"All right," said Samson, "But promise you won't kill me yourselves."

"Agreed," they promised, "We will tie you up and hand you over to them. We will not kill you." They tied him up and led him away. But when they came to the Philistines, the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon Samson and he snapped the ropes that bound him. He picked up the jawbone of a donkey that happened to be lying on the ground and killed a thousand Philistines with it.

Samson was a judge, a leader of Israel for twenty years.