

JUDGES 13:8-9, 12, 18 -- GOD WANTS TO USE SAMSON - OBEDIENCE IS REQUIRED!!

Jdg 13:8-9 Then Manoah prayed to the LORD, and said, "O my Lord, please let the Man of God whom You sent come to us again and teach us what we shall do for the child who will be born."
[9] And God listened to the voice of Manoah, and the Angel of God came to the woman again as she was sitting in the field; but Manoah her husband was not with her. [12] Manoah said, "Now let Your words come to pass! What will be the boy's rule of life, and his work?" [18] And the Angel of the LORD said to him, "Why do you ask My name, seeing it is wonderful?"

3/17/18 Sat Morn Prayer – Phil Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com

HIS NAME IS WONDERFUL!

*His Name is Wonderful; His Name is Wonderful; His Name is Wonderful; Jesus My Lord
He is the Mighty King; Master of everything; His Name is Wonderful; Jesus My Lord*

*He's the Great shepherd; The Rock of All Ages; Almighty God is He; Bow down before Him;
Love and adore Him; His Name is Wonderful; Jesus My Lord (2x) Jesus My Lord*

The Biblical Setting: - The Angel of the LORD (64X-Hagar, Moses, Abraham, Balaam, Joshua, Gideon, Elijah, Zechariah) announces the birth of Samson to Manoah. In Chapter 12 we see a series of judges reigning for only a short time: Jephthah–6 yrs; Ibzan-7 yrs; Elon-10 yrs; Abdon-8 yrs. Then in **Chapter 13:1 (first of 4 chapters given to Samson)**, we see the LORD delivering the Israelites into the hands of the Philistines for 40 years. But God wanted to use a godly Danite couple, Manoah and his wife, who was barren and had no children, to raise up Samson to deliver Israel. The Angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and told her that she will conceive and bear a son! She was to be careful not to drink wine or similar drink, and not to eat anything unclean. Also that no razor was to come on the head of her son as he was to be a Nazarite to God from the womb. – A LIFE LONG VOW! - And he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines. We see here such an emphasis on purity! **"Be separate, come out from among them!"**

Jdg 13:8 Then Manoah prayed to the LORD, and said, "O my Lord, please let the Man of God whom You sent come to us again and teach us what we shall do for the child who will be born."

Manoah earnestly prayed for it. The Angel of the LORD reconfirms the words spoken before. He was not incredulous or doubting the story his wife told him; he knew she was a virtuous woman, and therefore the *heart of her husband did safely trust in her*; he knew she would not go about to impose upon him, but,

- He takes it for granted that this child of promise shall be given them, and speaks without hesitation of the child that shall be born. There was *not found so great faith*, no, not in Zechariah, a priest, then in waiting at the altar of the Lord, and to whom the angel himself appeared, as was in this honest Danite. *Blessed are those that have not seen and yet, as Manoah here, have believed.*
- All his care is what they should do to the child that should be born. Good men are more interested and desirous to know the duty that is to be done by them than to know the events that shall occur concerning them; for duty is ours, events are God's.
- He therefore prays to God to send the same blessed messenger again, to give them further instructions concerning the management of this Nazarite, fearing lest his wife's joy for the promise might have made her forget some part of the precept, in which he was desirous to be fully informed, and lie under no mistake: **"O my Lord, please let the Man of God whom You sent come to us again and teach us."** Those that have heard from heaven cannot but wish to hear again and to again meet with the Man of God. Notice that Manoah does not go or send his servants to find out this Man of God, but seeks Him upon his knees, prays to God to send Him, and, thus seeking, finds Him.

Jdg 13:9 And God listened to the voice of Manoah, and the Angel of God came to the woman again as she was sitting in the field; but Manoah her husband was not with her.

God graciously granted it: God will not fail some way or other to guide those by his counsel that are sincerely desirous to know their duty, and apply themselves to him to teach them.

- **The angel appears the second time also to the wife**, when she is sitting alone, probably tending the flocks, or otherwise well employed in the field where she has retired. Solitude is often a good opportunity of communion with God; good people have thought themselves never less alone than when alone, if God be with them.
- **She goes in all haste to call her husband**, doubtless humbly asking this blessed messenger to stay until she should return and her husband with her, Jdg 13:10, Jdg 13:11. She did not desire Him to go with her to her husband, but would bring her husband to Him. Those that would meet with God must attend where He is pleased to manifest Himself. Manoah is not disgusted that the angel did not this second time appear to him, but very willingly goes after his wife to the Man of God.
- **Manoah having come to the angel**, and being satisfied by him that He was the same that had appeared to his wife, does, with all humility. Welcomes the promise Jdg 13:12: Now let Your words come to pass; this was the language, not only of his desire, but of his faith, like that of Mary, Luk 1:38. "Be it according to Your word. Lord, I take hold on what You have said, and depend upon it; let it come to pass." He asks that the instructions given might be repeated: What will be the boy's rule of life, and his work? The directions were given to his wife, but he looks upon himself as concerned to assist her in the careful management of this promised child.
- Those to whom God has given children must be very careful how they raise them, that they may drive out the foolishness that is bound up in their hearts, form their minds and manners well, and train them in the way wherein they should go. So pious parents will beg Divine assistance. "Lord, teach us how we may raise our children, that they may be Nazarites, and living sacrifices to You."
- The angel repeats the directions He had before given Jdg 13-14: Of all that I said to the woman let her be careful. [14] She may not eat anything that comes from the vine, nor may she drink wine or similar drink, nor eat anything unclean. All that I commanded her let her observe."
- Beware and observe; take heed not only of drinking wine or strong drink, but of eating anything that comes of the vine. Those that would preserve themselves pure must keep at a distance from that which borders upon sin or leads to it. When she was with child of a Nazarite, she must not eat any unclean thing; so those in whom Christ is formed must carefully cleanse themselves from all filthiness of flesh and spirit, and do nothing to the prejudice of that new man.

Jdg. 13:12, 18 Manoah said, "Now let Your words come to pass! What will be the boy's rule of life, and his work?" [18] And the Angel of the LORD said to him, "Why do you ask My name, seeing it is wonderful?"

- God honored Manoah's request for confirmation. But He did not answer this request to know the future. He simply called Manoah and his wife to obey what God already told them to do.
- seeing it is wonderful?" the Angel of the LORD shows Himself to be none other than Jesus, in taking the name wonderful, Isa 9:6.

SUMMARY:

- How would you respond to the wonderful news that a son would be born to end your barrenness?
- Would you believe the news as Manoah did? Notice the responsibility taken by the father.
- Would you be more concerned in how to raise the child or simply be more overjoyed with the fact that you're going to have a son?
- How concerned would you be with the obedience that God is requiring? To impose the rite of the Nazarite vow on your son for his whole life?
- Good men are more interested and desirous to know the duty that is to be done by them than to know the events that shall occur concerning them! Duty is ours, events are God's!
- When grown, Samson despised all of this wonderful heritage! Instead of putting himself in God's hands to accomplish his God-given task, he chose to live to please himself. How tragic!
- Is He and His name, "*wonderful*" to you?

Pray Today For: Our Church, Nationally/locally; Our Nation: Our leaders; Police officers/military. Supreme Ct.

Please Note: You may see/download any of the past notes/audio of the Bible Prayer Devotionals by going to: www.ptwente.com.