

Judges 13

This material (*chs. 13-16*) is about Samson and is the longest passage on one judge that we find in this book

Judges 13.1-7

V1 – **What pattern do we see here?** The Israelites were falling back into their old ways

-**What enemy did God turn loose on the Israelites?** The Philistines

-**For how long?** 40 years

V2 – The first of 7 episodes about the life of Samson **Judge #12**

-**What was the name of Samson's father?** Manoah

-**What are we told about his wife?** She was barren (no children)

V3 – **What indicated that her child would be special?** An angel announced the news

-**Other examples of this:**

-Isaac – *Gen 17.2, 9-10*

-John the Baptist – *Luke 1.11-17*

-Jesus Christ – *Luke 1.26*

V4 – **Restrictions from the angel?** No wine or strong drink; no unclean food (according to Levitical law)

V5 – **What other restriction was there?** He would be under the Nazarite Vow – *Num. 6.1-21*

-Basically the Nazarite Vow: no product of the grape vine (and no strong drink); could not shave or cut their hair; could not touch a dead body or anything else "unclean"

-**What would be the job of her son?** To free the Israelites from the Philistines

V6 – Notice: The angel was a man (not a woman, as many people perceive angels to be)

-**What did the woman do?** Told her husband about the angel

-**What did she say about the angel?** Awesome appearance

-She did not ask the angel where he came from

V7 – She reported the message of the angel to her husband

Judges 13.8-14

V8 – **What did Manoah pray for?** That God would send the angel back to tell them how to raise the boy to be born to them

V9 – The Lord answered the prayer

-The angel appeared to the woman (the husband was not around)

V10 – The woman reported this to her husband

V 11 – Manoah went to speak to the angel

V 12 – **What did Manoah ask the angel?** What kind of life would the boy have?

V 13 – The angel told the woman to listen to all that the angel had said

V 14 – A review

- What does this show about how God views the unborn child?** As a child (not a gob of protoplasm or a "product of conception")
- Because of that, what the woman did before the birth of the child was important to God
- In other words, the child was in existence from the moment of conception (same with John the Baptist, Jesus Christ, the prophet Jeremiah, etc.)

Judges 13.15-20

V 15 – **What did Manoah suggest?** To offer a lamb as a sacrifice to the angel

V 16 – **Answer of the angel?** I cannot eat – offer a sacrifice to the Lord

V 17 – **What did Manoah want to know?** The name of the angel

- Why?** So that he could honor the angel when the child was born

V 18 – **Answer from the angel?** My name is wonderful

- Read Isaiah 9.6** – wonderful, counselor, etc.
- See also Psalm 139.6**

V 19 – An animal was sacrificed – the angel worked a miracle

V 20 – **What was the miracle?** The angel ascended to heaven in the flame of the fire

- What did Manoah and his wife do?** Fell on their faces on the ground

Judges 13.21-24

V 21 – The angel did not return to Manoah and his wife

V 22 – **Reaction of Manoah and his wife?** Thought they would die, because they had seen God

V 23 – **Reply of the wife?** God had an opportunity to kill us and didn't

Lessons:

1. Manoah wanted God's help in raising the child
2. The child was human from conception.

3. They might have seen a pre-incarnate appearance of Jesus Christ

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