

A Tough Question Answered

How is Samson's slaughter of people justified?

Judges 15

Introduction:

- A. Last week we learned that the Holy Spirit will never lead you to do a sinful d_____.
1. Gal 5:20 lists outbursts of a_____ as a sinful deed.
 2. Gal 5:23 list self-c_____ as a fruit of the Spirit.
- B. In light of the above, how is Samson's slaughter of people justified?

Did Samson kill 30 Philistines in Ashkelon out of uncontrolled anger? (14:19-15:2)

- A. Samson's anger
1. His anger burned a_____ killing the 30 Philistines.
 2. His anger was interpreted by his bride's father as h_____ toward his daughter since he did not consummate the marriage.
- B. Samson killing of the 30 Philistines was justified
1. A result of the Holy Spirit coming upon him m_____.
 2. Was the e_____ number needed to fulfill his word of providing 30 changes of clothes.

Did Samson kill the Philistines in Timnah out of uncontrolled anger? (15:1-8)

- A. Samson's reaction to the father giving his bride to another man.
1. There is no indication that this reaction was of the S_____.
 2. Samson calls attention to h_____ - *I will be blameless* (v. 3)
 3. Samson's action of burning the grain fields, vineyards, and groves of trees was s_____.
- B. Samson's reaction to Timnah's leaders burning to death his stolen bride and her father.
1. There is no indication that this reaction is of the S_____.
 2. Samson calls his reaction r_____ (v. 7).
 3. Samson strikes the leaders of Timnah ruthlessly (lit. hip and joint) with a great slaughter indicating c_____ (v. 8).
 4. Samson's reaction was s_____ (Deut 32:35; Rom 12:19).

Did Samson kill the 1000 Philistine soldiers out of uncontrolled anger? (15:9-20)

- A. A large Philistine army sets up camp in J_____.
1. The Israelite leaders question this action and find out that all they want is S_____.

2. The Israelite leaders a_____ to bring Samson to them.
- B. 3000 men of Judah go to Samson
1. They tell Samson that the Philistines r_____ over them.
 2. They must not believe that God chose Samson to d_____ them from the rule of the Philistines.
 3. Samson agrees to allow them to tie him up and bring him to the Philistine military camp.
- C. Samson's reaction to the soldiers shouting and rushing toward him.
1. A result of the Spirit coming upon him m_____
 2. Takes a f_____ jawbone of a donkey and kills 1000 soldiers.
 3. He credits his success to _____ (v. 18)
 4. He calls himself God's s_____
- D. Samson j_____ Israel for 20 years (v. 20 – an indication that he was recognized by Israel as God's deliverer)

Did Samson kill the thousands of Philistines out of uncontrolled anger? (16:28-30)

- A. At the end of the 20 years, Samson falls into gross sin and God w_____ from him.
1. He l_____ his superhuman strength.
 2. He is captured by the Philistines and they g_____ out his eyes and chain him.
- B. The Philistines have a victory celebration
1. They give credit to their g_____, Dagon (v. 24).
 2. They make a spectacle out of Samson before the several t_____ that are gathered.
- C. Samson cries out to the Lord
1. Asks God to give him his s_____ back and God answers his prayer.
 2. Asks God to let him d_____ in his last act as judge and God answers his prayer.
- D. Samson brings down the h_____, killing himself along with thousands of Philistines.

How is Samson any different than those today who kill in the name of God?

- A. God had promised to make a people for Himself through Abraham and Sarah and give to his descendants a land.
1. God told Abraham that his descendants would have to leave the land and live in a foreign land and would be en_____ 400 years (Gen 15:13,14).

2. God chose M_____ to bring God's people out of Egypt and into the promised land (Ex 3-14)
 - a. God put p_____ upon Egypt to demonstrate His identity as the one true God and the powerlessness of their gods.
 - b. Pharaoh lets the people go out and news of God's power spreads to surrounding nations.
- B. Moses brings God's people back to the promised land (Numbers 13,14)
 1. They refuse to enter because the inhabitants were g_____.
 2. God punishes them by delaying their entry by _____ years.
- C. God brings people to the promised land under Joshua
 1. The people in the land are still t_____ of the God of Israel yet did not leave in that 40 year period.
 2. God commands Israel to drive the inhabitants out.
- D. The people of Israel do not drive all the inhabitants out and end up mixing their w_____ of God with the pagan gods of the inhabitants (the book of Judges)
 1. God punishes them by raising up people groups to o_____ them.
 2. After many years of oppression, Israel cries out to God for deliverance and God raises up a j_____.
 3. The deliverance of these judges are done in a m_____ way so that both Israel and the oppressing nation know that it is God's doing.
- E. Militant Muslims kill in the name of Allah
 1. It is not done m_____.
 2. There is massive loss of life on both sides.
- F. The Crusades were done in the name of Christ.
 1. Killings were not done m_____.
 2. There was massive loss of life on both sides.

Conclusion:

- A. In the future, God is going to wage war on all the a_____ of the earth (Rev 19)
- B. In the meantime, Jesus has declared that He will save people from every t_____, tongue, nation, and clan (Rev 5:9,10). HOW?
 1. Through the g_____ message - it is the power of God for salvation (Rom 1:16)
 2. By you and me l_____ those around us, sharing the gospel when there is opportunity, and cooperating in advancing the gospel to every people group of the world (Matt 28:18-20).