

*Wednesday Night*

**H O U S E**  
**O F P R A Y E R**



*The Birth of Samson*

*Judges 13*

Again, the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD delivered them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years. Now there was a certain man from Zorah, of the family of the Danites, whose name *was* Manoah; and his wife *was* barren and had no children.

Judges 13:1-5

And the Angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, "Indeed now, you are barren and have borne no children, but you shall conceive and bear a son. Now therefore, please be careful not to drink wine or *similar* drink, and not to eat anything unclean.

Judges 13:1-5

**For behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. And no razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb; and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines**

**Judges 13:1-5**

**Judges 13 is less about Samson's strength and more about God's sovereign grace, Israel's silence, and a deliverer announced before repentance ever appears.**

***“Grace that precedes reform is God moving when His people are spiritually dull.” (Guzik)***

Introduction

**Spiritual Dullness is what happens when sacred things are still present, but they no longer move us.**

**So instead of holiness producing worship, it produces routine.**

**Instead of grace producing gratitude, it produces assumption.**

Introduction

**Israel has been in the promised land for approximately  
300-350 years**

**Gone through six cycles of: *sin* → *oppression* → *deliverance***

Background

**Israel has grown comfortable in bondage.**

*“Sin is a deadly evil; if it does not make us loathe ourselves, it ought to make us fear ourselves.”(Spurgeon)*

**The most dangerous place spiritually isn't rebellion –  
it's in indifferent resignation.**

Judges 13:1

**God chooses to reveal Himself to a nameless, barren,  
overlooked woman.**

**The angel's declaration comes before prayer for deliverance  
and Samson is called before his character is revealed.**

Judges 13:2-5

**God's callings are rooted in grace, not performance. Although calling comes first, God never intends calling to remain disconnected from conduct.**

***"Be holy, for I am holy" (1 Pet 1:15-16)***

Judges 13:2-5

**You don't need full clarity to walk in obedience, just reverence.**

***“God is too good to be unkind and too wise to be mistaken. And when we cannot trace His hand, we must trust His heart.”***

***(Spurgeon)***

**Pro 3:5-6**

Judges 13:6-7

# Manoah's Prayer

**Genuine**  
**God-directed**  
**&**  
**Reverent**

...wants **instruction**, before  
**submission**

...**assumes** *more information* is  
needed before obedience

...wants clarity **rather than**  
**trusting** what God has  
already said.

Judges 13:8-14

**Judges 13 reminds us that many times we are not really waiting on new revelation – we are hesitating to act on what we already know.**

Judges 13:8-14

*For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

Isa 9:6

Pre-incarnate appearance of Christ; a “Christophany”

Judges 13:15-18

**God reveals Himself enough to be trusted, but not enough to be contained.**

*"For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.*

*(Isa 55:9)*

Judges 13:15-18

Revelation leads to worship, not control.

Josh 5:13-15

*“Joshua fell on his face and worshiped”*

Eze 1:28

*“When I saw it, I fell on my face.”*

Judges 13:19-21

Isa 6:1-5

*“Woe is me! For I am undone!”*

**Revelation 1:17**

*“When I saw Him, I fell at His feet as though dead.”*

**You don't analyze holy moments; you fall on your face.**

Judges 13:19-21

**Fear often shouts theology without listening to evidence;  
faith quietly reasons from grace.**

**“Faith remembers what fear forgets.”**

**Judges 13:22-23**

Samson is born.

The Spirit of the LORD **begins to stir him.**

God is preparing a deliverer – but he is going to be flawed.

Judges 13:24-25

God Often Acts Before We Ask

**Stop Waiting to “Feel Ready” Before Coming Back to God**

**“God’s kindness is meant to lead you to repentance.”**

**Rom 2:4**

reflections

## **Calling Is Not the Same as Character**

**Calling gives direction; character determines durability**

reflections

## **God Uses the Overlooked**

**Being overlooked by people does not mean you are overlooked by God. In fact, it may be the very reason God can trust you.**

**Stop Disqualifying Yourself Because Others Overlook You**

reflections

## **Revelation Leads to Worship**

**When God truly reveals Himself, the proper response is not analysis, argument, or activity – it is worship**

**Don't Stop at Insight – Let it Move You to Awe**

reflections

## **Beware of Familiarity That Dulls Wonder**

Familiarity without reverence leads to spiritual dullness.

*The greatest enemy of faith is not doubt, but familiarity  
because it breeds indifference.*

reflections

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