

## Hearts Given Back to God

### Description

Judges 13:1-7

Judges 13 begins a new cycle of sin, judgment, and repentance in the life of Israel. The consequence of this turning away from God will be forty years of constant threat from the Philistines, fierce enemies who had the advantage over Israel in every way. Israel could do nothing to overcome this enemy, only God could.

God sent a messenger to Manoah's wife, reminded her of her barrenness, and announced that God was about to do something amazing. She will give birth to a son (Samson) who will initiate Israel's deliverance from the Philistines. To do so, he will have to be a Nazarite—a person rigorously dedicated to God—until the very end of his life.

Unfortunately, like Israel, Samson failed on many accounts. Yet, when his heart was truly dedicated to God, much was accomplished; God did use Samson to rescue Israel. God will also complete the work He began in and through us. Will our hearts be fully given to Him to do so?

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