REAL HEROES FOR DARK DAYS

A STUDY OF JUDGES

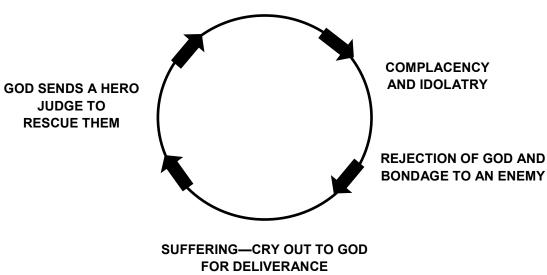
#10: SAMSON: THE TRAGEDY OF WASTED POTENTIAL (PT. 2)

JUDGES 13-16

JIM HINTON

1. THE DESTRUCTIVE CYCLE OF ISRAEL'S SIN CONTINUES

FAITHFULNESS—PEACE—PROSPERITY



II. SAMSON: THE TRAGEDY OF WASTED POTENITAL—JUDGES 13-16

- 1. Act One: Samson's thrilling beginning (13:1-25)
 - ⇒ His birth was predicted by The Angel of the Lord (v.1-3)
 - ⇒ He had godly parents (v.4-5a; 8-23)
 - ⇒ God had a special purpose for his life (v.5b-25)

	Our character, basically, is a composite of our habits. "Sow a thought, reap an action; sow an action, reap a habit; sow a habit, reap a character; sow a character, reap a destiny," the maxim goes.
	Habits are powerful factors in our lives. Because they are consistent, often unconscious patterns, they constantly, daily, express our character and produce our effectiveness or ineffectiveness. Stephen Covey in The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People
	The chains of habit are too weak to be felt until they are too strong to be broken. Samuel Johnsor
	Samson made a habit of
	Worldly attitudes:
	Good understanding wins favor, but the way of the unfaithful is hard. Proverbs 13:15 (NIV)
	Impulsive decisions:
	Moral compromise:
	Trivializing godliness:
3.	Act Three: Samson's tragic end (16:23-31)

2. Act Two: Samson's turbulent life (14:1-16:22)