

RABS

Unit 13

Samson

Offered by Liu, Xiaoxia
School of Foreign Languages
Peking University

Stars in the course

- Judges 5:20

¹⁹ The kings came and fought, then fought the kings of Canaan in Taanach by the waters of Megiddo; they took no gain of money.

²⁰ They fought from heaven; the stars in their courses fought against Sisera.

- Sisera was a Canaanite general who was doomed to be defeated by Deborah

Numbers 6 New International Version (NIV)

The Nazirite

6 The LORD said to Moses, ² “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘If a man or woman wants to make a special vow, a vow of dedication to the LORD as a Nazirite, ³ they must abstain from wine and other fermented drink and must not drink vinegar made from wine or other fermented drink. They must not drink grape juice or eat grapes or raisins. ⁴ As long as they remain under their Nazirite vow, they must not eat anything that comes from the grapevine, not even the seeds or skins.

⁵ “During the entire period of their Nazirite vow, no razor may be used on their head. They must be holy until the period of their dedication to the LORD is over; they must let their hair grow long.

Samson

- Nazirite
- Hair –Covenant
- Strength/Weakness

- Out of the strong came forth sweetness.
- Out of the eater, something to eat;
- Out of the strong, something sweet.



Samson's Fight with the Lion
By Lucas Cranach the Elder,
1525

- jawbone of an ass

Judges 15:16

Then Samson said, “With a donkey’s **jawbone** I have made donkeys of them. With a donkey’s **jawbone** I have killed a thousand men.”

- **Smite them hip and thigh**
- **Judges 15:8 (KJV)**

⁸ And he smote them hip and thigh with a great slaughter: and he went down and dwelt in the top of the rock Etam.

- **NIV**

So the Philistines went up and burned her and her father to death. ⁷ Samson said to them, "Since you've acted like this, I swear that I won't stop until I get my revenge on you." ⁸ He attacked them viciously and slaughtered many of them. Then he went down and stayed in a cave in the rock of Etam.

- Delilah

- A seductive, treacherous woman

- The Philistines be upon thee, Samson.



Samson and Delilah
Rubens, 1609



The Blinding of Samson--REMBRANDT 1636

- Samson and pillars of the temple
- Judges 16

²⁸ And Samson called unto the LORD, and said, O Lord God, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.

²⁹ And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and on which it was borne up, of the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left.

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Samuel—Saul—David

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Belial

1 Samuel 1:15-17 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁵ And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD.

¹⁶ Count not thine handmaid for a daughter of Belial: for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief have I spoken hitherto.

¹⁷ Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him.

1 Samuel 1:15-17 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁵ “Not so, my lord,” Hannah replied, “I am a woman who is deeply troubled. I have not been drinking wine or beer; I was pouring out my soul to the LORD. ¹⁶ Do not take your servant for a wicked woman; I have been praying here out of my great anguish and grief.”

¹⁷ Eli answered, “Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him.”

Glory is departed

- 1 Samuel 4 ²¹ She named the boy Ichabod,^[c] saying, “The Glory has departed from Israel” — because of the capture of the ark of God and the deaths of her father-in-law and her husband. ²² She said, “The Glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God has been captured.”

Footnotes:

- a. 1 Samuel 4:7 Or “*Gods have* (see Septuagint)
- b. 1 Samuel 4:18 Traditionally *judged*
- c. 1 Samuel 4:21 *Ichabod* means *no glory*.

- The golden age has passed

Samuel

- a judge (the successor to Eli)
- A prophet (Samuel → Saul → David)
- A priest
- A consultant (after the king is chosen)

King of Kings

- Kings are servants of God

Hebrew superlative (希伯来语最高级形式)

- King of Kings
- Song of songs
- Book of books
- holy of holies
- *in my heart of hearts*
- *the place of all places*
- *“every lad has a friend of friends, a crony of cronies, whom he cherishes in his heart of hearts”*
- *“the evil of evils in our present politics”*
- *“the woman is a horror of horrors”*
- 万王之王 (上帝)
- 歌中之歌 (《雅歌》)
- 书中之书 (《圣经》)
- 至圣之所 (帐幕)
- 在我内心深处 (莎士比亚, 《哈姆雷特》)
- 最受瞩目之地 (奥斯汀小姐, 《曼斯菲尔德山庄》)
- 每一个少年都有一最好的朋友, 最亲切的知交, 他把他牢牢记在心灵的深处 (萨克雷, 《钮可谟一家》)
- 当前政治中的万恶之恶 (勒基, 《民主与自由》)
- 那个女人糟糕透了 (H·詹姆斯, 《两件神奇的事》)

Saul

Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has rejected you as king.—15:23

Man after his own heart

- 1 Samuel 13

¹³ “You have done a foolish thing,” Samuel said. “You have not kept the command the LORD your God gave you; if you had, he would have established your kingdom over Israel for all time. ¹⁴ But now your kingdom will not endure; the LORD has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him ruler of his people, because you have not kept the LORD’s command.”

- A person who shares the same opinions, enthusiasms, or interests as another.

1 Samuel 15

² Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid wait for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.

³ Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.

⁴ And Saul gathered the people together, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah.

⁵ And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and laid wait in the valley.

⁶ And Saul said unto the Kenites, Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them: for ye shewed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt. So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.

⁷ And Saul smote the Amalekites from Havilah until thou comest to Shur, that is over against Egypt.

⁸ And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.

⁹ But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing that was vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

Amalekite

- unknown historically and archaeologically
- In the Bible :
- **Descendant of Amalek** (Grandson of Esau) --one of the Edomite tribes
- The Book of Esther portrays its later villain, Haman, as a descendant of an Amalekite prince

David

- Shepherd
- Musically talented
- Sling, stone
- king of all Israel
- capital in Jerusalem

David and Goliath

- I Samuel 17⁴ A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. His height was six cubits and a span.^[a] ⁵ He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels^[b]; ⁶ on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back. ⁷ His spear shaft was like a weaver's rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels.^[c] His shield bearer went ahead of him.

"I cannot go in these," he said to Saul, "because I am not used to them." So he took them off. ⁴⁰ Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine.

⁴⁸ As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. ⁴⁹ Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground.

