

## An Essay on Samson

(Judges 13-16)

By Thangno

**T**he story of Samson is one of great victory on one hand and of terrible tragedy on the other. First, he was a Nazirite, set apart to God from birth (Judges 13:5), and yet he continually broke his vow. Second, even though he almost always gave in to his temptations, he made peace with God with in his dying moments.

The historical account of Samson is found in the Book of Judges, chapters 13-16. The setting is in the land of Israel, in around approx. 12th century B.C. After many years of peace, the people of Israel again began to worship idols and foreign gods, and as a punishment God allowed them to once more pass under the power of their enemies. The seventh oppression which befell the Israelites came from the Philistines; a strong and warlike people who occupied territory southwest of Israel between the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan River.

Now Lord delivered the Israelites into the hands of the Philistines for 40 years and the people began to crave for someone to deliver them and return Israel to its former glory.

That someone was to be Samson. Samson's birth itself was a miracle. He was born to the wife of Manoah, who was barren and had borne no children. But that was no barrier for God. Since Samson's parents were god-fearing and loyal in a time of spiritual decadence in Israel, God answered their prayers and chose them to have a son. In fact, Samson is one of the few in Scripture whose birth was divinely foretold to the parents. He shares this honour with Isaac, John the Baptist and Jesus to name a few.

Being a Nazirite, Samson was forbidden to touch wine and his hair was to grow long and never be cut. His purpose was to save the people of Israel and bring peace to the troubled land.

Samson's story begins with a violation of God's law. He wants to marry a Philistine girl from Timnah, doing so against his parents' wishes and in violation of God's law about intermarriage with pagans. His mother and father accompany him past the vineyards of Timnah to obtain his new wife when a young lion attacks Samson and is killed by him (this was the first recorded instance of Samson's God gifted strength). By passing the vineyards of Timnah, he invited temptation to violate the portion of the Nazirite vow forbidding the touching/drinking of alcohol. It might have been possible that had he not openly walked into temptation, he could have avoided the lion.

However, his parents did not know that the mar-

riage was all God's plan all along, as he was seeking an occasion to move against the Philistines. Samson then throws what is the equivalent of a 'bachelor party' for his Philistine friends. This was literally a drinking feast. If Samson didn't break his Nazirite vow by partaking in the wine, he certainly put himself in a situation where it would be easy to do so. He then posed a riddle to the guests and offered generous rewards to anyone able to solve it.

"Out of the eater came something to eat, and out of the strong came something sweet" (Judges 14:14). This was a clever riddle and Samson showed that even if he was weak morally, he was not weak intellectually. The guests were unable to solve it and resorted to threatening Samson's wife with dire consequences unless she coaxed it out of him. He finally told her after her constant nagging. A woman easily manipulated the world's strongest man; this weakness of Samson will later be his downfall. One can observe several things from this episode-

- The willingness of Samson's wife to side with her people against Samson shows a fundamental weakness in their marriage. She did not fulfill the idea essential to marriage of leaving one's father and mother behind to be joined in a one flesh relationship (Genesis 2:24).

- This also shows why it was wrong for Samson to marry a Philistine. We cannot expect someone who does not love the God of Israel to build a marriage based on God's principles.

- However, we also see the reason Samson's wife cooperated against her husband was also somewhat complicated; she acted out of fear because of their threat.

Sutzop diing...

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**'KHRIS' SUANGPHUM, A WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR  
THE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, DELHI,  
ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK'**

Website : cocdelhi.org

Enkaitu : Jamson Guite | Panpihtu : Kham minthang | Jangthang

## BIBLE CLASS

Class	Teacher
Adult	:Siamkhanmuan Guite
Senior	: L. James Guite
Junior	: Chiinngaihkim
Beginner:	Nemngaihlian & Suanching

**Toupani' Thilpiak**  
(27/11/2016) - ₹ 21,151 /-

## BIAKNA PROGRAMME

**Toupani' 04/12/2016**

Hun-uk thumna : Thangzalam  
Lapi : Mungmuanlian  
Thilpiak : Dongkhanlian  
Theihgigena : Pauminlun  
Thugen : Lang James  
Thumna : Thongsindong

## BIAKNA PROGRAMME

**Kiginni 10/12/2016**

Hun-uk thumna : Nekkhothang  
Lapi : Thongsindong  
Thugen : Pauliansiam  
Thumna : Jangthang

Amun: Janglet inn  
RK Puram Sec. 12

## BIAKNA PROGRAMME

**Toupani' 11/12/2016**

Hun-uk thumna : Nekkhothang  
Lapi : Thongsindong  
Thilpiak : Pauminthang  
Theihgigena : Lamsuanmung  
Thugen : Jamson  
Thumna : Kammuanlal

## MEETING OM DIING

❖ Saptuam business meeting kha khat a akalnihna a kineihzel ahihman in ahongtung diing tu kiginni pen a meeting neih hinawn diing hi. Hiai hun a thutuamtuam genkhawm ahih diing banah kumnawn Chiang a business vaipawm diing sehna leng omngal diing hi. Tua ahihman in unaute'n i ngaikhok diing ua tamthei bangpen tel i sawm diing uh.

## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

**Toupa tuh phat un! Toupa kiang ah kipahthu gen un;  
amah a hoih zia in' a iitna tuh taangtawn  
daih ahi (Sam 106:1).**

## THU TUAMTUAM

### NAUMIN PHUAK UH

❖ Kal paita Toupani biakna zoh in unaupa Khamlianmangte'n atanu uh min phuahna nei uhi. Hiai hun ah unaute ngainatak a ahong chial dungzui un unaute tamkhop va kihoh in naumin phuahna program vakik uap hi. Naungek min a paneu unaupa Li-anminthang in phuak a, a min diing in **Thangngaihching** phuak hi. Annek khawmna leng om ngal hi.

### PAI HOIHZEL

❖ Tulai in lapu lian a i neih uh unaupa Thongsindong pina in solfa sinna neihtouh zel in om. La vai diing dan nasatak a kisinna kinei lel a, vuak guk a vaidan tan kisiam veksimta hi. Hiai solfa sinna nakpitak in kiphatuampih ahihman in unaupa Thongsindong tung ah kipahthu i gen uh. Tun i leng thudang ahong omkei leh aban sutzop in omnawn diing hi.

❖ Kiginni kikhop leng tuni tan hoihtak in paitouzel hi. Kikhom kitam thei mahmah ahihman in i innte un hon dawllou dekdekta hi. Tua ahihman in kiginni kikhop theihna diing mun dawp a alemtang omleh huai a kikhop diing chih business meeting a leng genkhak in om hi. Tamsem i kikhom diing uh.

❖ Tuailai lamte'n leng Toupani khat hal a program a neihzel pen uh tunitan lamzangtak in paitou zel hi. Maban a leng ahon sutzop ua, tamsem tel a ahon phattuampih touzel uh i lamem uhi.

## THU TUAMTUAM

### KIPAHMAN PIAK HITA

❖ Tuailaite Essay kigelh demna a kipahman kal paita Toupani biak-khawmna zoh in piakkhiakna om hi. Unaupa Thangzalam leh unaupa Thongsindongte'n hon sai uhi.

Khatna la unaupa Pauminlun leh unaupa Thangno kiang ah kipahman in vaidangka teng 3000 tuak piak hi a, nihna la unaupa Sei Robert leh unaupa Mungmuanliante kiang ah vai dangka teng 2000 tuak piak in om hi. Huan, thumna la unaupa Thanglian kiang ah vai dangka teng 1000 piak in om hi.

### HONGZIN UH

❖ Unaupa Tawnsianpau-te innkuan a omna uh Phaphund, Uttar Pradesh akipan in unaupa Khamlianmangte naumin phuak diing zia in Delhi hong zin uhi. Tun i lak uah omlel uh.

❖ Unaunu Dimtinngai leh a tate unaunu Venting, unaunu Pakhoi leh unaunu Nemhoi-te Chandigarh apan in biakkhawmna siim ding leh tanaute veh diing in Delhi hongzin ua kal paita Toupani in unaute biakna ah hongtel uhi. Amau kal paita sepawnni in Chandigarh lam ah honna kiksaw nawnnta uhi.

❖ Kal paita sintawpni nitak in Lamka apan in unaunu Thang Mary leh unaupa Andrew-te exam diing poimoh neihzia in Delhi hongzin uhi. Tun ilak uah omlel ua bangtan om diing uh hiam chih theihhilou hi.