

Intro: Desires, Departure, Discipline, Disgrace

BLINDING, BINDING, GRINDING

Disgrace, Deliverance, Destruction

****** A Death in Disgrace.**

The thrill of victory, and the agony of defeat

Judges 16:28

Sampson has enjoyed the thrill of victory of escaping the Philistines and carrying the city gates up the hill. The enemies were very afraid.

Now he is about to experience for the first time the agony of defeat!

****** The story of foolish desires.**

Attracted to a filthy female like flies to garbage.

Valley of Sorek- Hebrews and Philistines lived in compromise.

Philistines wanted to know the source of his strength

Satan's trap ---- Deliah aggressive, persistent, fragile.

Philistines offered 1100 pieces of silver (\$750,000).

Temptation comes in attractive pkgs.

*******The Departure of God's Presence**

One expensive hair cut! Strength sapped

He sows greed. Deception, indifference., Lust. Reaped a bumper crop.

*******The discipline of Sampson**

--Blinding _common practice.

--Binding Humbled, low agony of defeat

Consequences of wrong choices – responsibility

---Grinding Lowest, hardest form of slave labor

“Broad path that leads to destruction. (Matthew 7:1)

***** The disgrace/deliverance of Samson**

His potential destroyed wild wayward life robbed him.

Sin mocked and made fun of him. What a tragedy! Mocked by world.

Weak Christians are a tragedy

We must focus on the Lord.

But

God was not finished with Samson

V22 His hair- symbol of vows – began to grow again.

**Badge of service – but -His strength was not from hair
but from God**

He grieved for his sin and failure - as did David!

Forgiven focus on sin. Restored - focused on service.

“Prayed for one more chance!

The Spirit of God came upon him.

*******The destruction of dagon’s house.**

Large crowd - human sacrifice - drinking “ We want Samson!”

A sport site Strength for a little help push pillars!!!!

3000 + died

Conclusion: His blindness brought sight

His bondage set him free

His blindness gave him light

His bleakness brought **him warmth**