

It's Complicated, Or Is It - Judges 13:1-25

We like things in life to be neat, consistent and clear.

Reality is often foggy, sporadic and messy.

What do you want in a deliverer?

Israel: No call for deliverance, no act of repentance

He will be: Parent's delight, Parent's concern, God's consistency

Special child, Special requirement, Special purpose

Younger: Samson an unwilling deliverer

His deliverance was fostered by his relational escapades, carnal desires

14:1-15:20: Philistine wife, bet of gain – Philistines win/loss

Remarried wife: revenge, cost crops, Israelites betray him

16:1-31 Lady of the night, Gate on a hill; Delilah dilemma

Give away what is vital to his strength.

Took God's blessing for granted – squandered empowerment

Destroyed a temple, many people and himself

God accomplishes His task of deliverance through a seemingly ungrateful servant.

Spiritual apathy led to squandered spiritual gifts. Played with the gift

Self-gratifying actions did not free Israel from Philistines

Younger Unfortunately not much has changed

Today's culture has desensitized

Life can be complicated, God's desire is not.

Lost focus leads to apathy

Isa 53 He was crushed for our iniquity.

Crispin Fletcher-Louis: Our importance in the kingdom

1 Peter 2:11-17 Everywhere you go God is there for you and in you

It's not complicated with eyes that can see

Desires to bless and for his people to be a blessing - priesthood

Love God Entirely, Love Others Responsively "As I Have Loved You"