

Even with his special, miraculous birth and Nazirite status, Samson will prove to be the judge who is least interested in being a deliverer. He is portrayed as a “self-gratifying brute,” “a prankish womanizer.” “who’s acts of deliverance are rarely better than by-products of his spiteful nature.” The last hope of Israel in Judges is, then, a “judge/deliverer” who chases women instead of enemies and who avenges personal grievances instead of delivering his nation from their oppression.

If the Israelites do not want to be saved, Samson certainly has no motivation to do it. But God will intervene in order to accomplish his plan. Even if Samson will not live for God, God will use his sinful lifestyle to accomplish the beginning of the deliverance of his people.

K. Lawson Younger, NIV Application Commentary

Unfortunately, apathy about spiritual matters is hardly a thing of the past. Many Christians today suffer the same lethargic attitude toward the things of God. They don't want to be saved from this lethargy any more than the Israelites wanted to be saved from theirs! As in the past however, God intervenes today to arouse this people from their dormant state. Just as he stirred up Philistine opposition to stimulate Israel, God may need to stir up opposition to his people to spur them on. Even in doing this God will be manifesting his grace toward his people.



Today's culture has desensitized men and women to spiritual matters, and the church itself has not escaped from being influenced in this desensitizing process.

K. Lawson Younger, NIV Application Commentary

Life can be complicated

God's desire is not

Lost focus leads to apathy

Our importance in the kingdom is as priests

The kingdom is present through His Priests

As priests we bring God near to a people in despair

Crispin Fletcher-Louis, Jesus, Monotheism

## 1Peter 2:11-17

Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup> Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

<sup>13</sup> Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, <sup>14</sup> or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. <sup>15</sup> For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. <sup>16</sup> Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. <sup>17</sup> Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.



Life is not complicated with eyes that can see

God desires to bless His creation

He desires His creation to reflect His glory

We strive toward, not away from

Loving God Entirely

Loving Others Responsively

“As I Have Loved You” John 13:34