

Genesis 3:6-8

**Genesis 3:8** – And they heard the sound of **the Lord God walking in the garden** in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves **from the presence of the Lord God** among the trees of the garden.

- If we kept reading, we'd see that God talks with Adam and Eve
- God spoke with Adam and Eve at the end of **Genesis 1:28-30** – “...And God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it...”
- God spoke with Adam again in **Genesis 2:16-17** – “...the Lord God...saying, You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, 17 but...”
- God spent time with Adam as he named the animals **Genesis 2:18-20**
- The original design was for man to be with God
- God desires us to be in His presence. He wants a relationship with us, to dwell with us, to commune with us
- In **V.8** we see a God that walks with us
- What would it be like if we could walk with God?

## Judges 13:1-5

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- **V.1** - Philistine in Hebrew “Philistia” – pentapolis of Gaza, Ashkelon, Ashdod, Ekron, and Gath
- Philistine in Greek is where we get “Palestine”
- **V.2-3** – What I want us to see in Samson is just how much we underestimate our potential in walking with God
- We worry about so many small things, but what could our life be like if we walk with God, if we would walk in lockstep with Him and allow God to empower us
- Samson is going to show us just one attribute of God (extreme strength) that He is willing to provide us with to accomplish His will
- Because of sin, we get caught up in this world’s troubles and forget just how powerful our God is, and that He’s willing to give us strength to overcome
- Nothing is impossible with God (to do God’s will)
- Samson did not walk with God, but at times, God walked with Samson

## Judges 13:1-5

- **V.4-5a.** – Like you and me, God created Samson for a purpose
- Nazarite vow – 1) abstain from wine or strong drink, not even grape juice or grapes, 2) could not go near a dead body, 3) could not cut his hair
- Samson was special because He was especially set apart to walk with God
- The NT equivalent of a Nazarite vow for us **Romans 12:1** - “...offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God...”
- **V.5b.** – The Philistines were usually superior to the Israelites
- They were often used by God to punish Israel (**V.1**)
- But now, God wants to “save Israel from the hand of the Philistines.”
- So God is going use one man, Samson, to begin this work
- David will finish the job later

## Judges 13:13-25

- **V.13-14**
- **V.15-18** – (NET) *The angel of the Lord said to him, “You should not ask me my name because you cannot comprehend it.”*
- **V.19-22** – Adam and Eve had it. They could walk with God in all His glory
- Sinful men know they can't be with God
- **Isaiah 6:5** - I said, “Woe to me! I am destroyed, for my lips are contaminated by sin, and I live among people whose lips are contaminated by sin. My eyes have seen the king, the Lord of Heaven’s Armies.”
- **Luke 5:8** - But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord.
- **V.23-25** – When God moved in (walked with) Samson, he was the strongest man ever to walk the Earth
- When God was not with him, he was as weak as any of us

## Judges 14-15

- V.1-3 – “for she is right in my eyes.”
- V.4- – God providentially overrules our sin and brings His will to pass in spite of it
- V.5 – Should Samson have been in the vineyards? Was he walking with God?
- V.6 – Was God walking with Samson?
- V.7-9
- V.10-18 – The Philistines solve Sampson’s riddle
- V.19
- 15:1-13 – Samson’s wife is given to another man, so he burns down the Philistine’s wheat storage and fields
- The Philistines then burn his wife and her father
- Samson kills those Philistines for revenge
- The Philistines then go after the Israelites, so they turn over Samson bound with rope
- V.14-15

## Judges 16

- V.1-3
- V.4-6
- V.15-20
- V.21
- V.22-30 – Samson finally turns to God

## Judges 16

- V.1-3
- V.4-6
- V.15-20
- V.21
- V.22-30 – Samson finally turns to God
- Samson is an example of what God can do through any believer if God walks with you
- God took one man and began the destruction of an entire nation that had dominated the Israelites for 200 years
- Adam and Eve enjoyed the full array of God's glory until they sinned
- Once sin entered the world, instead of enjoying God's pleasure (Eden), like Samson, we now seek our own pleasure and not God
- We now have worldly eyes
- **Romans 3:11** - no one understands; **no one seeks for God.**
- Although we do not seek God, God does seek us

**Genesis 3:8** – And they heard the sound of **the Lord God walking in the garden** in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves **from the presence of the Lord God** among the trees of the garden.

- This verse shows that God comes to us, to walk with us, to be with us
- He seeks us
- We should be astounded that a Holy God pursues sinful people like us, Samson
- Us seeking God goes against everything the Bible teaches
- If we had a choice, we would not choose God
- In fact, that's exactly what Adam and Eve prove out
- Adam and Eve were our best shot and they didn't choose God either
- By God's grace, God desires us
- **John 17:24** - Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, **may be with me where I am, to see my glory** that you have given me...
- That is our hope!

# Daniel 7

## Daniel 7

Ezekiel 34:11 - For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, **I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out.**

1 Peter 3:18 - For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that **he might bring us to God**

- The Bible's story is about how God will bring us back to God
- Our salvation is from sin to glory

Revelation 21:3 - ...Behold, **the dwelling place of God is with man.** He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.

“We do not want merely to see beauty, though, God knows, even that is bounty enough. We want something else which can hardly be put into words – to be united with the beauty we see, to pass into it, to receive it into ourselves, to bathe in it, to become part of it.” - C. S. Lewis

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- Do you feel like you've let God down?
- When you think of God, do you think, “Get away from me, I am a sinful man?”
- More sinful than Samson, Adam and Eve?
- If you're a believer, God indwells you at salvation and walks with you always

Psalm 23



- Maybe you're here today and hearing my words and it's making you uncomfortable because you know you are not walking with God
- That uneasiness is God seeking you out
- He knows all the things you've done wrong
- He knows you're trying to hide from Him among the very trees that He provided for you
- But God desires you to be with Him in the end, and He's trying to prick your heart right now
- He wants to walk with you and restore that right relationship He had before sinned entered the world
- If you'll just call out to Him like Samson did
- Pray to Him and accept Him as your Lord