

- And So - Let's Read Together:
 - Judges 13 - Where The Angel Of The Lord:
 - Is Mentioned Specifically 11 Times!
 - And Is Referred To As:
 - The Angel Of God:
 - 2 More Times!

4. It Is Clear:

- From What We Just Read:
 - That The Parents God Gave To Samson:
 - Were People Of Faith!
 - Who Not Only:
 - Believed In The Words Of The Lord!
 - They Sought After:
 - The Words Of The Lord!
 - And - When The Angel Of The Lord:
 - Came To Them:
 - He Appeared Once Again:
 - As A Man With A Message!
 - This Was Clearly The Perception:
 - Of Manoah's Wife:
 - In 13:6 - When She Told Her Husband:
 - That "A Man Of God Came Unto Me!"
 - She Initially Believed That:
 - He Was One Of God's Prophets!
 - And So Did Manoah!
 - But - Even Then:
 - There Was Something Different:
 - About That Man!
 - Because She Added That:
 - "His Countenance Was Like The Countenance Of An Angel Of God, Very Terrible!"
 - Or - Awesome!

5. And - As We Continued To Read:

- His Countenance:
 - Kept Getting More & More Awesome!
- Until - When Manoah Asked For His Name:
 - The Angel Of The Lord - In 13:18:
 - Asked Him - "Why Askest Thou Thus After My Name, Seeing It Is Secret?"
 - The Word Translated "Secret" Here In The King James:
 - Is Elsewhere Translated "Wonderful!"
 - This Means That:
 - His Name Was:
 - Unique And Extraordinary:
 - Even - Beyond Understanding And Comprehension!
- In Other Words:
 - His Name Was "Wonderful!"
 - But Even More:
 - So Was His Nature!
 - Because - Then We Were Told:
 - In 13:19 - That As:
 - "Manoah took a kid with a meat offering, and offered [it] upon a rock unto the LORD: and [the angel] did wondrously; and Manoah and his wife looked on!"
 - "Wondrously" Comes From The Same Hebrew Root Word That We Found In The Previous Verse!
 - And - It Means That He Did Something:
 - Amazing & Miraculous!
 - Something Beyond Their Comprehension!
 - He Did Something Only God Could Do!

- 6. And - This Shows Us That:
 - Through The Name & The Nature Of:
 - This Man & Angel Of God:
 - That He Was Someone:
 - “Wonderful” In Himself!
 - In 13:22 - Manoah Finally Recognized & Identified:
 - This Man & This Messenger:
 - As God! “We Shall Surely Die,” He Said, “Because We Have Seen God!”
 - The One Who Came To Them:
 - Was Christ!
 - Whose Name - According To Isaiah 9:6:
 - “Shall Be Called Wonderful!”
 - Because - As God - “Only Doeth Wondrous Things!” (Psalm 72:18)

- 7. And - This Is The Message:
 - He Came To Bring Manoah & His Wife:
 - And - All The Rest Of His People:
 - On That Day!
 - And - This Is The Message:
 - That He Has For Us:
 - Even Today!
 - That - Christ Is Wonderful!
 - And - All He Does:
 - Is Wonderful!
 - And - He Deserves Our Petitions & Our Praise!
 - Because - In This Chapter:
 - We Find Two Main Ways:
 - That Christ Displays His Wonder!
 - To Them Then & To Us Now!

* And - The First Way Is Through:

- 1. ***The Wonder Of His Glory!***
 - The Wonder Of His Glory:
 - As God!
 - All Throughout This Chapter:
 - Manoah & His Wife Experienced Things:
 - From This Man:
 - That Could Only Have Come From God!
 - They Sensed:
 - The Glory Of His Ways:
 - Back In 13:6 - When Manoah’s Wife Told Him:
 - That - “A man of God came unto me, and his countenance [was] like the countenance of an angel of God, very terrible!”
 - There Was Something About:
 - The Very Appearance Of This Man:
 - That Caused Her To Be Filled With:
 - Awe & Even A Bit Of Fear!
 - Perhaps It Was:
 - The Suddenness Of His Appearance!
 - And Even - The Abruptness:
 - Of His Disappearance!
 - Perhaps There Was Something In:
 - The Splendor Of His Appearance!
 - That Caused Her To Be Filled With Awe!
 - Whatever It Was:
 - Both She And Her Husband:
 - Sensed The Glory Of His Ways!
 - They Sensed Something:
 - Divine In His Presence!

- Also:

- They Heard:

- The Glory Of His Words!
 - The Message That This Messenger Of The Lord:
 - Came To Give:
 - Was A Glorious Message!
 - Because - First & Foremost:
- It Was A Promise! A Promise Of Blessing:
 - For Her & Her Husband!
 - In 13:3 - We Are Told That - "The angel of the LORD appeared unto the woman, and said unto her, Behold now, thou [art] barren, and bearest not: but thou shalt conceive, and bear a son!"
 - What Encouraging Words:
 - To A Woman Who Had Not:
 - And Could Not:
 - Have Any Children!
 - Though She Was Barren:
 - "Thou Shalt Conceive!"
 - What Encouraging Words:
 - To A Couple Who Had No:
 - Heir!
 - Though They Had No Child:
 - She Would "Bear A Son!"
 - As Proverbs 25:25 Reminds Us:
 - "As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so [is] good news from a far country!"
 - Especially When That News Is From Heaven & From Christ Himself!
 - But - Not Only Was His Message:
 - A Promise! Also:
- It Was A Precept!
 - This Man Standing Before Her:
 - Had The Authority To Command Her:
 - To Commit Herself And Her Son:
 - To The Lord In A Special Way!
 - Even According To The Law Of The Nazarites!
 - "Nazarite" Simply Means:
 - "Devoted!" - And Normally, It Was A Vow Of Dedication:
 - Made Voluntarily Before The Lord!
 - The "Law Of The Nazarites" Is Found:
 - In Numbers 6:2-21!
 - But Here - It Was The Lord:
 - Who Called Samson To Be:
 - 13:5 - "A Nazarite Unto God From The Womb!"
 - And - In Doing So - He Commanded:
 - His Mother - 13:4 - To "Drink Not Wine Nor Strong Drink, And Eat Not Any Unclean Thing!"
- Who Was This Man?
 - Who Was This Messenger?
 - Who Could Make These Promises And Command These Precepts?
 - The Glory Of His Words:
 - Betrayed The Glory Of His Name! "Wonderful!"

- They Saw:

- The Glory Of His Works!
 - In 13:19 - When Manoah Offered The Kid & A Meat Offering "Upon A Rock Unto The Lord!"
 - We Are Told That "The Angel Did Wondrously!"
 - This May Refer To What Happens In The Next Verse, When:
- He Ascended To Heaven!
 - 13:20 - "For it came to pass, when the flame went up toward heaven from off the altar, that the angel of the LORD ascended in the flame of the altar!"

- This Would Certainly Have Been:
 - A Wonderful & An Amazing Sight! But - It Could Also Mean That - Before He Ascended In The Flame:
- He Activated The Flame:
 - Even As He Did With Gideon:
 - Back In Judges 6-7!
 - Which Would Connect Samson To Gideon As:
 - God's Chosen Instrument To Deliver His People!
- But - After Manoah & His Wife:
 - Sensed & Heard & Saw:
 - The Wonder Of Christ's Glory:
 - How Did They Respond?
 - 13:20b - "And Manoah and his wife looked on [it], and fell on their faces to the ground!"
 - They Could Do Nothing Else:
 - But Worship Before:
 - The Majesty & Glory:
 - Of The One Whose Name Is Wonderful!
- This Too Is How We Must:
 - Respond To The Lord Jesus Christ!
 - Because - He Is & He Remains:
 - "Lord Of All!"
 - As You Learn More About Him:
 - In Both Old & New Testaments! Ask The Lord For:
 - A Greater Sense:
 - Of The Glory Of His Ways!
 - A Greater Understanding:
 - Of The Glory Of His Words!
 - And - A Greater Vision:
 - Of The Glory Of His Works!
 - So That You Might Worship Him:
 - And Give Him The Glory:
 - That He Alone Is Due!
 - But - There Is Another Way:
 - That We Find In This Chapter:
 - That Christ Displays His Wonder!
 - And That Is Through - Especially:

2. *The Wonder Of His Grace!*

- The Wonder Of His Grace:
 - As A Man & A Messenger Of God!
 - All Throughout This Chapter:
 - Mixed In With The Wonder:
 - Of His Divine Glory:
 - Christ Reveals His:
 - Divine Grace!
 - And - His Grace Is Seen - First:
 - To His People!
 - The Promise That Christ Made:
 - To Manoah & His Wife:
 - Was Not Just A Promise:
 - Of Blessing To Them:
 - That They Would Have A Family!
 - It Was Even More:
 - A Promise Of Deliverance:
 - For His People!
 - Back In 13:5b - Christ Told Her That Her Son - "Shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines!"
 - This Message Was A Message:

- Of Great Grace!
 - After All - Did The Children Of Israel:
 - Deserve His Grace?
 - No! Remember 13:1?
 - “And the children of Israel did evil *again* in the sight of the LORD!”
 - Again & Again!
- But - The Grace That Christ Offered To His People:
 - Then - Is Still The Grace:
 - That Christ Offers To Us:
 - Today!
 - In Ephesians 1:7 - We Are Told That:
 - In Christ - “We have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace!”
 - Undeserved, Unearned, Grace!
 - That’s Wonderful!
- His Grace Is Also Seen:
 - In His Provision!
 - Of A Special Son:
 - To Bring About Their Deliverance!
 - Of Course - In Judges 13:
 - That Son Would Be Samson!
 - But - There Us An Undercurrent:
 - Of Grace - That Makes The Story Of Samson:
 - A Surprising Illustration:
 - Of The Coming Of Another Son:
 - “Whose Name Shall Be Called Wonderful!” (Isaiah 9:6)
 - The Birth Of Samson:
 - Was A Miracle! And So Would Be:
 - The Birth Of Christ!
 - Even A Greater Miracle!
 - Isaiah 7:14 - “Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel!”
 - The Dedication Of Samson:
 - To The Lord - Was To Be Strict!
 - Like The Vow Of The Nazarite!
 - Which He Failed To Do!
 - But - The Dedication & Commitment Of Christ:
 - Would Be Total & Complete!
 - In John 8:29 - Jesus Would Say:
 - “And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him!”
 - The Approval Of Samson:
 - By The Lord - Would Be Seen:
 - In His Death - When He Brought The Roof Down On Thousands Of Philistines:
 - In Judges 16!
 - But - The Approval Of Christ:
 - By His Father - Would Be Far Greater!
 - Through His Resurrection & Exaltation To Heaven!
 - Because - As Christ Ascended:
 - In The Fire Before Manoah & His Wife:
 - One Day - He Would Ascend:
 - In A Cloud Before His Disciples!
 - The Provision Of Grace:
 - That God Offered To His People Through Samson:
 - Was Just The “Beginning” Of Deliverance!
 - Remember - 13:5 - “He Shall Begin To Deliver!”
 - Christ Himself Would Continue:
 - That Work Of Deliverance!

- Not Just From Their Enemies, The Philistines, But From All Of Our Enemies!
- The Devil! Death! And Sin Itself!
- And - That's Wonderful!
- His Grace Is Also Seen:
- Through His Patience!
- As We Read Through This Chapter:
 - Both Manoah & His Wife:
 - Appear To Be A Couple:
 - Of Great Faith!
 - But - The Faith Of One:
 - Appears To Be Greater:
 - Than The Faith Of The Other!
- It Was Manoah's Wife:
 - Samson's Mother:
 - Who Appears To Have Believed The Word Of Christ:
 - Without Question!
 - And - That Faith:
 - In His Promise:
 - Would Have Resulted In:
 - Obedience To His Precepts!
 - She Was Willing To:
 - "Trust And Obey!"
 - But - When She Told Her Husband:
 - About The Wonderful Words:
 - From The Angel Of The Lord:
 - Manoah Was Filled With Questions!
 - 13:8 - "Then Manoah intreated the LORD, and said, O my Lord, let the man of God which thou didst send come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born!"
 - And - When He Returned:
 - 13:12 - "And Manoah said, Now let thy words come to pass. How shall we order the child, and [how] shall we do unto him?"
 - Though Manoah Didn't Have Doubt:
 - In God's Ability:
 - He Expressed Doubt:
 - In Their Ability:
 - To "Order The Child!"
 - In A Way - A Healthy Kind Of Doubt!
 - But - Christ Shows Great Patience:
 - With Manoah!
 - And Simply Repeats His Instructions!
 - The Patience That Christ Showed:
 - To Manoah Then - Is The Same Kind Of Patience:
 - That He Shows Us Every Day:
 - In His Grace!
 - How Many Times:
 - Does He Repeat His Instructions:
 - To Us!
 - Psalm 86:15 - "But thou, O Lord, [art] a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth!"
 - The Lord's Grace & Patience With Us:
 - Is Wonderful!
 - His Grace Is Further Seen:
 - In His Presence:
 - And Fellowship:
 - With His People!
 - In 13:22 - When Manoah Finally Realized:
 - That They Had Been In The Presence Of God:
 - He "Said unto his wife, We shall surely die, because we have seen God!"

- How Did His Wife Respond?
 - 13:23 - "But his wife said unto him, If the LORD were pleased to kill us, he would not have received a burnt offering and a meat offering at our hands, neither would he have shewed us all these [things], nor would as at this time have told us [such things] as these!"
- What An Expression Of Faith!
 - But - Her Faith Was Based On & Rooted In:
 - The Lord's Grace!
 - And His Grace Is:
 - Truly Wonderful!

Conclusion:

1. John Gill Once Wrote That:
 - "Christ Is Wonderful! In His Person, As God And Man; In His Incarnation, In His Offices And Relations, In His Love To His People, And In All He Is Unto Them, And Has Done For Them!"
 - And - All Of This Wonder:
 - Is Found In His Visitation:
 - With Manoah & His Wife:
 - In This Chapter!
 - There Is Great Wonder:
 - In Christ's Glory - And:
 - In Christ's Grace!
2. And - Just As He Did:
 - For Manoah And His Wife:
 - He Gives Us A Special Way:
 - To Connect With His Wonder!
 - And - That Is Through Prayer!
 - In 13:8 - When Manoah:
 - Prayed & "Intreated The Lord!"
 - His Prayer Was:
 - Accepted - According To:
 - To The Wonder Of:
 - His Grace! And:
 - His Prayer Was:
 - Answered - According To:
 - The Wonder Of:
 - His Glory!
 - 3. And So - To Experience Even More:
 - Of The Wonder Of Christ:
 - We Can Approach God The Father In Prayer:
 - Through The Person And Work:
 - Of The One Who Came To Us:
 - Even As He Came:
 - To Manoah & His Wife!
 - Because - His Name:
 - Is Still "Wonderful!"
 - And - He Still:
 - "Only Doeth Wondrous Things!"

Grace Baptist Church
Stephen Elmer, Pastor
 4245 North 200 West
 Greenfield, Indiana 46140
 317-326-2362
www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace
www.growatgrace.org
pastor-elmer@hotmail.com