



What do we Hope to gain?



The Situation

AGAIN the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord, so the Lord delivered them into the hands of the Philistines for forty years.

Judges 13:1

AGAIN

Judges is a downward spiral for Israel
Joshua is gone
People's attitude has
changed toward God

Inconsistent

God's people are living in rebellion

They were living in captivity

under the Philistines

The Parents

The Promise The birth of a son

Expectations (v. 2-7)

Expectations

Mom's Expectations

- No wine
- No "unclean" food
- 9 months

Dad Expectations (None)

Expectations Samson was to be a Nazarite

Samson was to be a Nazarite
No "Wine"

No hair cuts

No contact with dead things

Samson was life long, there was no "over"

Living with Expectations

Samson was going to be asked to live a committed life in an uncommitted world (counter cultural)

Samson was going to look different

Samson was going to be asked to act different

Living with expectations is hard! Samson had a CHOICE

The Early Years

The woman gave birth to a boy and named him Samson. He grew and the Lord blessed him, and the Spirit of the Lord began to stir him while he was in Mahaneh Dan, between Zorah and Eshtaol.

(v. 24-25)

WHAT IF?