

Rebellion, Ruin and Rescue
JUDGES

Now the sons of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD, so that the LORD gave them into the hands of the Philistines forty years.

(Judges 13:1)



The
Samson Cycle
(Judges 13-16)

Samson (pt. 1): A Savior is Born
Judges 13:1-25

² There was a certain man of Zorah, of the family of the Danites, whose name was Manoah; and his wife was barren and had borne no *children*.

³ Then the angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, "Behold now, you are barren and have borne no *children*, but you shall conceive and give birth to a son.

⁴ Now therefore, be careful not to drink wine or strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing.

⁵ For behold, you shall conceive and give birth to a son, and no razor shall come upon his head, for the boy shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb; and he shall begin to deliver Israel from the hands of the Philistines."

(Judges 13:2-5)

A Savior is Born

A. The Promise of a Deliverer

➤ *Unique Features*

- no cry of deliverance by Israel
- God raised up a deliverer from birth
- Samson was to be a life-long Nazirite

A Savior is Born

A. The Promise of a Deliverer

➤ *Unique Workings*

- God worked in the midst of human obscurity and hopelessness
- demonstrates that deliverance/salvation is ultimately God's supernatural work

A Savior is Born

B. The Identification of the Messenger

➤ *His name is "wonderful"*

- the messenger's identity is incomprehensible; implies a close connection to God
- "wonder" (Heb. *pele*) is a word reserved for God and His marvelous and saving acts

A Savior is Born

B. The Identification of the Messenger

➤ *His name is "wonderful"*

- the "wonder" God performs is that this barren woman will have a son who is God's deliverer

this awe-inspiring glimpse of God's wonder is to assure us of His power to save

A Savior is Born

Foreshadowing the Deliverer

- An angel came in a dark time, to an obscure place, to an unlikely woman, to announce the miraculous conception and birth of a Savior
- He would be called "Wonderful" (Is. 9:6)