

God Intervenes For His People

Judges 16:4-5; 16-30



Key Concept

**God can vindicate His people
even through the seeming
hopelessness of death.**

**The cycle of disobedience
and oppression begins
(Jud 1 – 2)**

**Deborah judges Israel; Barak
defeats Sisera's army
(Jud 4 – 5)**

**Gideon defeats Midian with
300 Soldiers
(Jud 6 – 8)**

**The Israelites drift further
into apostasy
(Jud 17 – 21)**

**Tola, Jair, and
Jephthah Judge Israel
(Jud 9 – 12)**

**Othniel, Ehud, and Shamgar
Judge Israel
(Jud 3)**

**Today's Lesson
Samson Judges Israel
(Jud 13 – 16)**

THE JUDGES



Chronology of Judges Timeline

1350 - 1014 BC for a total of 336 years.

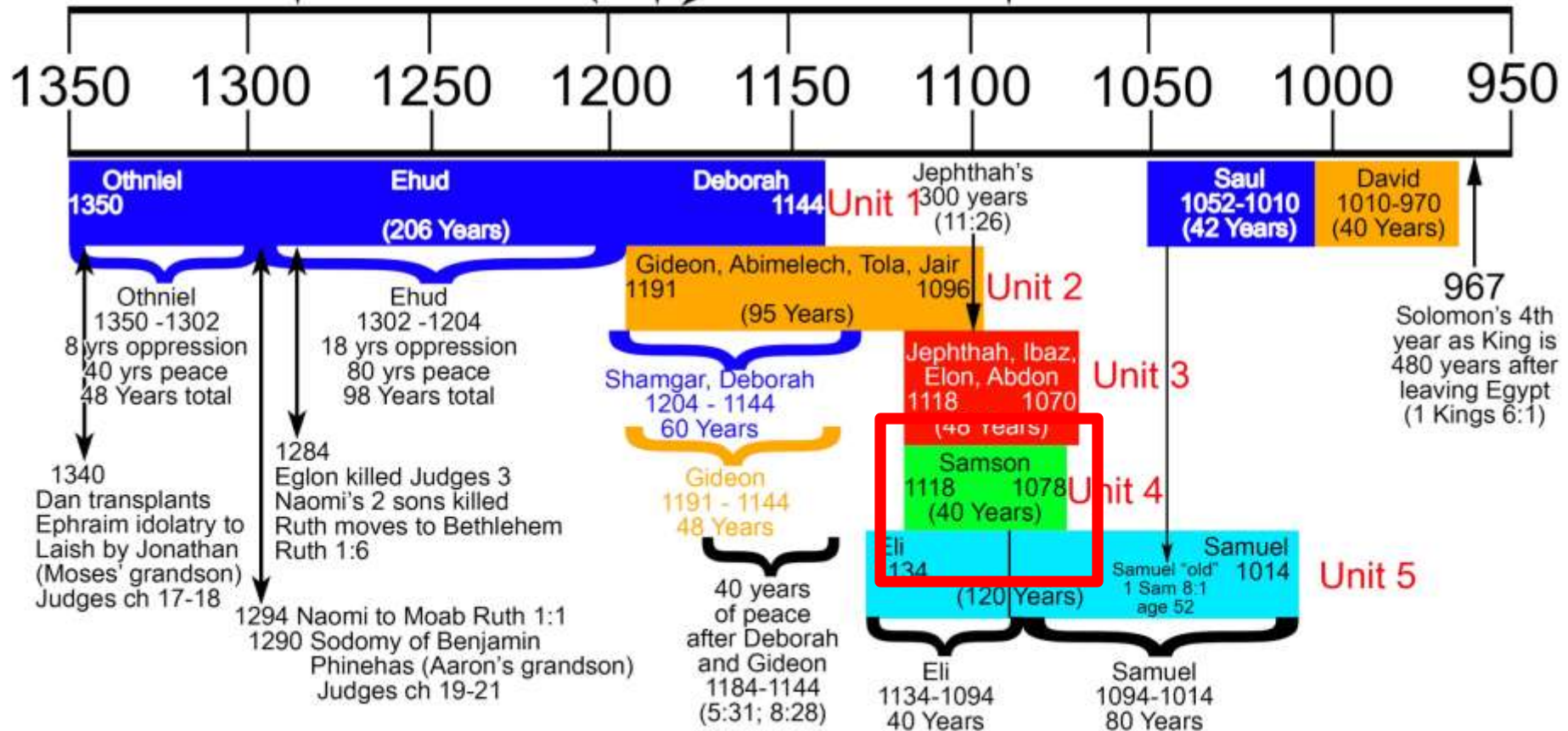
Elon killed, Ruth
moves to Bethlehem
1284 BC

Merneptah
Stele
1205 BC

Deborah
burns Hazor
1184 BC

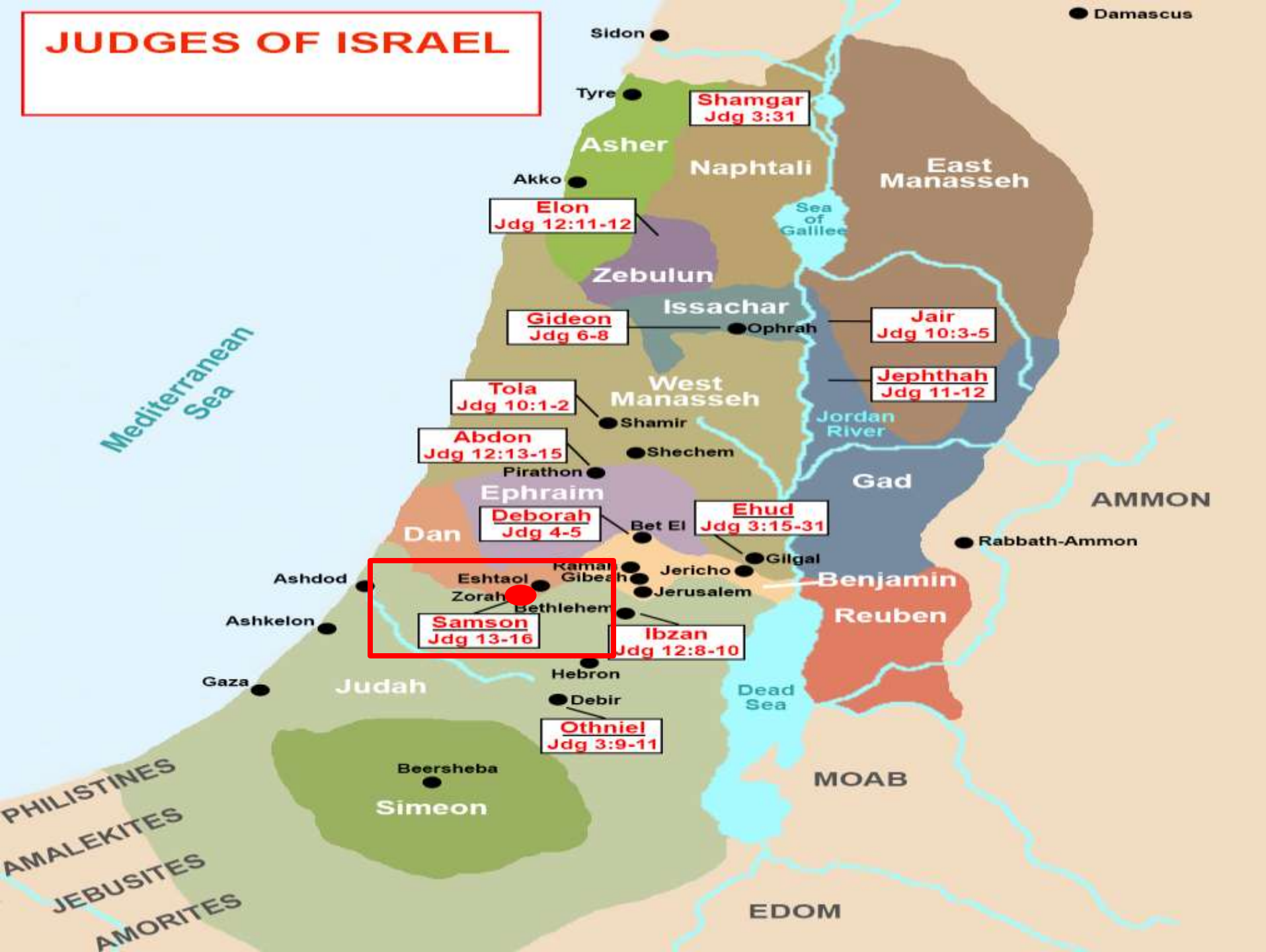
Collapse of
Late Bronze Age
when Philistines
arrive in 8th year
of Ramesses III
1177 BC

Jair & Jephthah
peace ends,
Shiloh burned
1094 BC



OTHNIEL	Aram, he went to war and delivered Israel.	40
EHUD	After 18 years of oppression from King Eglon of Moab, he killed Eglon, went to war against Moab, and was victorious	80
SHAMGAR	Killed 600 of the Philistines with an ox goad	?
DEBORAH	After 20 years of oppression from King Jabin of Canaan, she convinced Barak to attack and was victorious.	40
GIDEON	After 7 years of Midianite oppression, he defeated the Midianites with only 300 men, using trumpets and jars.	40
TOLA	The son of Puah son of Dodo from the tribe of Issachar. He lived in Ephraim	23
JAIR	A man from Gilead who had 30 sons who rode 30 donkeys, and they had 30 towns in Gilead	22
JEPHTHAH	After 18 years of Ammonite oppression, he delivered Israel after making a vow with the Lord.	6
IBZAN	From Bethlehem, he had 30 sons and 30 daughters	7
ELON	From the tribe of Zebulun	10
ABDON	Son of Hillel, he had 40 sons, 30 grandsons and rode on 70 donkeys	8
SAMSON	A Nazarite with superhuman strength. He killed 1,000 Philistines with a jawbone; destroyed the Philistine temple while blinded and shackled	20

JUDGES OF ISRAEL

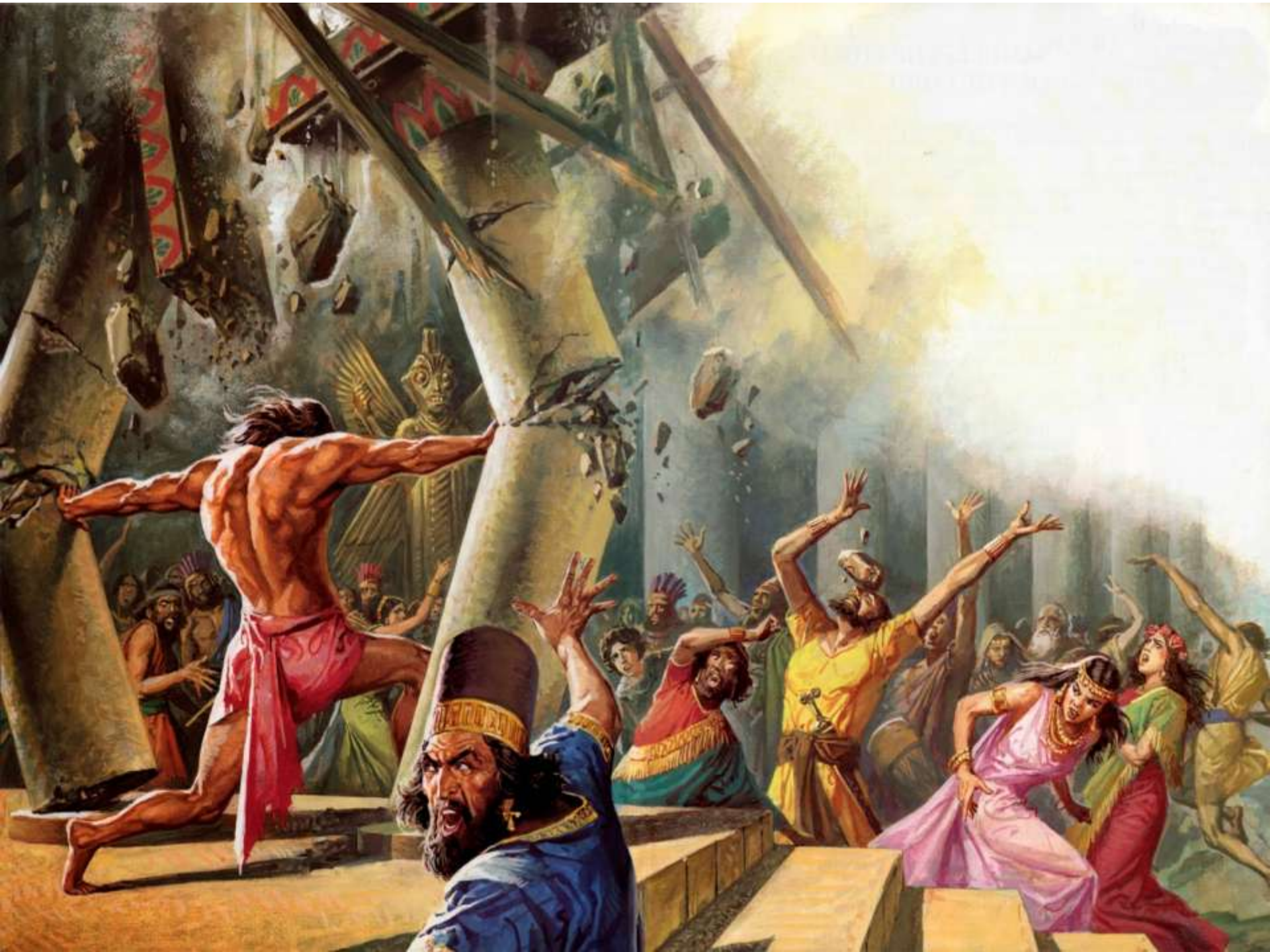


Discovery

Two Philistine temples have been uncovered by archaeologists. One at Tel Qasile, in northern Tel Aviv, and one in Tel Migne, ancient Ekron 21 miles south of Tel Aviv. Both temples share a unique design. The roof was supported by two central pillars made of wood and rested on stone support bases. With the pillars being about six feet apart, a strong man could dislodge them from their stone bases and bring the entire roof crashing down.

Two Stone pillar bases in the Philistine temple at Tel Qasile, Israel





Food for Thought:

God can and does use people of spiritual immaturity, impure faith and weakness to accomplish His will.

Food for Thought:

What was Samson's source of strength?

his hair was the sign of his strength...

God is the source!

Ex 15:2 "The Lord is my strength"

Psl 28:7 "The Lord is my strength"

Hab 3:19 "The Lord is my strength"

Psl 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength"

•What did it mean for Samson to be a Nazirite to God?

Dedicating oneself to God through a voluntary vow involving specific restrictions and observances.

•What are the 3 characteristics of a Nazirite?

- 1. Abstain from wine or strong drink, vinegar, grapes, raisins**
- 2. Refrain from cutting hair on head**
- 3. Avoid ritually impure acts (contact w/dead)**

- Where did Samson go to meet a prostitute? **Gaza**
- Where was Samson taken after he was finally captured by the Philistines? **Gaza**
- Who is believed to have appeared to Samson's mother to announce she would become pregnant? **Jesus**

•When was the only recorded time Samson prayed? **Just before death**

•What is a good way to sum up Samson's tragic story?

Compromise to sin!

Which caused the following;

- 1. Oblivious to the traps of the enemy**
- 2. Lost all sense of reasoning**
- 3. Forfeiture of strength from the Lord**
- 4. Became blind and bound**

- What is significant about Samson's history compared with all the other judges?

He is only judge to not lead the Israelites in battle.

- What tribe was Samson from? **Dan**