

Sermon Title: **“HEARTBREAKS & HAIRCUTS”**

Judges 16:15-22

- When we open verse 15 there have already been 3 other inquires & attempts to bind Samson
- After the 1st 3 attempts failed, Delilah questions Samson’s love for her
 - Samson was physically attracted to Delilah & sinfully acted upon that attraction outside of the marriage covenant
 - Samson unfortunately made a habit of feeding his impulses
- Delilah hounded & pestered & persisted until Samson wished he was dead
- Completely unaware of the catastrophic consequences, Samson opens up & tells Delilah the source of his strength
 - Samson was strong because of God
- I personally think the ONLY remaining piece to the Nazirite vow that was left was the ONLY remaining piece Samson shared (his hair)
- Recognizing Samson’s honesty, Delilah gathers the lords of the Philistines (who might have been getting frustrated with ALL the false alarms)
- Delilah lulls Samson to a place of comfort & while he slumbered, Delilah summons a soldier to shave Samson’s 7 locks of hair
 - “She began to afflict him” = Delilah humbled Samson (she brought him low)
- Such a sad statement – “But Samson DIDN’T know that the Lord had departed him.”
- Seizing the opportunity, the Philistines capture Samson & as an act of revenge for the rash rage-filled attacks upon their people, Samson’s eyes are gouged out
- Samson was brought back down to Gaza & forced to pull a heavy grinding stone (the lowest form of humiliation – reserved for animals & slaves)
- There’s forgiveness & restoration available to those who ask the Lord