



Judges:

Coulda

Shoulda

But Didn't

Judges 14:12-20





SAMSON'S
RIDDLE

Judges 14:12

Samson puts forth a riddle to those at the marriage feast.

“Riddle” – comes from the

Greek root word for

“To Knot”



Proposing a riddle at a feast was often a normal occurrence & there was normally a wager that was placed on this riddle as well.



Here was Samson's stipulations
to the riddle:

If the attendees of the marriage
feast can give Samson an answer
within 7 days, then Samson would
give them 30 linen wraps &
30 changes of clothes.



“Linen wrap” - either
meant a nice night shirt
or a nice bed sheet

“Change of Clothes” - this
was a nice suit that was worn
in the day (in public)



Judges 14:13

If these guests were unable
to answer the riddle, then
Samson would receive from
EACH 1 linen sheet & 1
change of clothing



Judges 14:14

After 3 days **NO** one
had yet come up with
the answer



Judges 14:15

With the marriage feast
half over, concern crept
in & these guests have a
conversation with
Samson's wife



“Entice your husband” –
persuade Samson;
manipulate him



Feeling exploited &
probably facing
embarrassment has led
these men to being
hostile & angry
Judges 14:16



Samson's soon-to-be wife
trying to get answers uses 2
manipulative methods:

1 - Crying

2 - Emotionally

driven words



Judges 14:17

The mere sight of Samson
started the streams of sorrow

After seeing her respond

this way for 4 days,

Samson finally cracks



Judges 14:18

Judges 14:19



Samson goes down to
Ashkelon (probably during
another marriage feast)

Judges 14:20



Samson was going to use these “spoils” to pay off his debt with those at his own marriage feast



While Samson was away,
the woman, who was
Samson's soon-to-be wife,
was given by her father to the
friend of the bridegroom



SO WHAT?

