

A. Pathway of the Rebel (5-7)

1. The Downwardness of It

*To go from Zorah to Timnah Samson's required travelling down rocky mountain-gorges

"went down to Timnah" (1)

"went down with his father and mother" (5)

"went down and talked" (7)

*Beyond the geography, there are parallels with downward / rebellious path of Jonah:

*Down to Joppa (Jonah 1:3)

*Down into the Ship (1:3)

*Down to the Land (2:6)

2. The Deviation of It

-Discourtesy to His Parents

*He apparently left his parents and rejoined them later on the main road

"he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done" (6)

*Why? (Lev 11:27)

-Disregard for His Precepts

He violated the precepts of the Nazarite

*Vineyard (Num 6:3)

*Lion (Num 6:6,9)

⁵Then Samson went *down* with his father and mother to Timnah, and they came to the *vineyards* of Timnah. And behold, a *young lion* came toward him *roaring*.

⁶Then the Spirit of the LORD *rushed upon him*, and although he had nothing in his hand, *he tore the lion in pieces* as one tears a young goat. But *he did not tell* his father or his mother what he had done.

⁷Then he went down and talked with the woman, and *she was right* in Samson's eyes.

⁸After some days he returned to take her. And he turned aside to see the carcass of the lion, and behold, there was a *swarm of bees in the body of the lion, and honey*.

⁹He *scraped it out into his hands and went on, eating as he went*. And he came to his father and mother and *gave some to them, and they ate*. But *he did not tell them that he had scraped the honey from the carcass of the lion*.

C. Polluting by the Rebel (9)

"But he did not tell them that he had scraped..." (9)

-Samson did not tell his parents that the honey was defiled according to the law.

Pathway of the Rebel
(cont.)

3. The Danger of It

"a young lion...roaring" (5)

-The Expectation of the Danger

Samson was clearly not expecting the lion, but perhaps he should have been expecting danger in his detour to the vineyard

"We may meet with trouble in the path of duty, but we must expect to meet with it in the way of transgression"

-The Pulpit

Commentary (Adeney)

-The Escape from the Danger

"the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon him..." (6)

*1Sam 16:13

-Samson's great strength came from the Spirit (14:19, 15:14)

B. Pleasures of the Rebel (7-9)

1. The Woman

"she was right in Samson's eyes" (7)

-Ex 34:12-16

-Deut 7:1-4

2. The Honey

"and honey...eating as he went" (8-9)

-Lev 11:27

-Num 6:6,9

Pathway of the Rebel

Rebellious Path of Jonah

Jonah 1:3 (ESV)

³ But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

Jonah 2:6 (ESV)

⁶ at the roots of the mountains.
I went down to the land
whose bars closed upon me forever;
yet you brought up my life from the pit,
O LORD my God.

Defilement

Leviticus 11:27 (ESV)

²⁷ And all that walk on their paws, among the animals that go on all fours, are unclean to you. Whoever touches their carcass shall be unclean until the evening,

Nazarite

Numbers 6:3 (ESV)

³ he shall separate himself from wine and strong drink. He shall drink no vinegar made from wine or strong drink and shall not drink any juice of grapes or eat grapes, fresh or dried.

Numbers 6:6 (ESV)

⁶ “All the days that he separates himself to the LORD he shall not go near a dead body.

Numbers 6:9 (ESV)

⁹ “And if any man dies very suddenly beside him and he defiles his consecrated head, then he shall shave his head on the day of his cleansing; on the seventh day he shall shave it.

Spirit of the Lord

1 Samuel 16:13 (ESV)

¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

Judges 14:19 (ESV)

¹⁹ And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon him, and he went down to Ashkelon and struck down thirty men of the town and took their spoil and gave the garments to those who had told the riddle. In hot anger he went back to his father's house.

Judges 15:14 (ESV)

¹⁴ When he came to Lehi, the Philistines came shouting to meet him. Then the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon him, and the ropes that were on his arms became as flax that has caught fire, and his bonds melted off his hands.

Pleasures of the Rebel

Intermarriage with Gentiles

Exodus 34:12–16 (ESV)

¹² Take care, lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land to which you go, lest it become a snare in your midst. ¹³ You shall tear down their altars and break their pillars and cut down their Asherim ¹⁴ (for you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God), ¹⁵ lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and when they whore after their gods and sacrifice to their gods and you are invited, you eat of his sacrifice, ¹⁶ and you take of their daughters for your sons, and their daughters whore after their gods and make your sons whore after their gods.

Deuteronomy 7:1–4 (ESV)

¹ “When the LORD your God brings you into the land that you are entering to take possession of it, and clears away many nations before you, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations more numerous and mightier than you, ² and when the LORD your God gives them over to you, and you defeat them, then you must devote them to complete destruction. You shall make no covenant with them and show no mercy to them. ³ You shall not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons, ⁴ for they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods. Then the anger of the LORD would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly.

Defilement

Leviticus 11:27 (ESV)

²⁷ And all that walk on their paws, among the animals that go on all fours, are unclean to you. Whoever touches their carcass shall be unclean until the evening,

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Numbers 6:6 (ESV)

⁶ “All the days that he separates himself to the LORD he shall not go near a dead body.

Numbers 6:9 (ESV)

⁹ “And if any man dies very suddenly beside him and he defiles his consecrated head, then he shall shave his head on the day of his cleansing; on the seventh day he shall shave it.