

## **SAMSON: Man of Strength, Man of Weakness**

*Lesson Five • Judges 16:23-31*

### **God's Not Finished**

#### **The Spiritually Successful Christian . . .**

Is not the person who never fails, but the believer who learns how to accept God's remedy for failure: FORGIVENESS!

#### **God's Not Finished with Samson:**

### **1. God's DISCIPLINE of Samson!** *Judges 16:23-27*

#### *The Purpose of God's Discipline:*

God's purpose is not to DESTROY us; it is to BUILD us up and teach us to trust in Him.

### **2. God's RESTORATION of Samson!** *Judges 16:22, 28*

#### *The Healing Grace of God:*

*"However, the hair of his head began to grow again after it had been shaven." vs. 22*

#### *A Small Verse with Enormous Implications:*

- No matter how far we fall in our spiritual experience, we never fall beyond the possibility of God's FORGIVENESS.
- While forgiveness is immediate, restoration is GRADUAL.
- The consequences of sin are not ERASED.

#### *Samson's Final Prayer:*

*"O Lord God, remember me, I pray! Strengthen me, I pray, just this once, O God, that I may with one blow take vengeance on the Philistines for my two eyes!" vs. 28*

### **3. God's VICTORY through Samson!** *Judges 16:29-31*

#### *Samson's Epitaph:*

*"So the dead that he killed at his death were more than he had killed in his life." vs. 30*

#### **Life Lessons from a Flawed Hero (How to deal with failure):**

- ❖ ADMIT your failure.
- ❖ ACCEPT God's forgiveness.
- ❖ BE PATIENT with God's restoration.
- ❖ TRUST God to use you again for His glory.