

Judges 13

1. We are told that Israel again practiced evil. Into whose hand did God deliver Israel this time, and for how long?

2. Who becomes judge and how long did he judge Israel? (*note: This story spans 4 chapters of this book — 13-16. See 15:20 & 16:31*)

3. What observation is made about Manoah's wife? (vs 2-3)
 - a. What did the angel tell her was going to happen to her?

 - b. What food and drink prohibitions were given to her?

 - c. What was a "Nazarite?" (see Numbers 6:1-27 for help)

4. The terms "angel" and "man of God" are used repeatedly in this chapter. How does verse 16 help us to harmonize these statements and provide the actual identity of God's messenger?

5. What did Manoah offer to do for the angel?
 - a. What did the angel propose instead?

 - b. What went up in the offering flame while Manoah and his wife were watching?

6. What did the incident with the altar fire confirm about the identity of this messenger?

7. What concern did Manoah have after the angel left?
 - a. How did Manoah's wife answer this concern?

 - b. God communicates and authorizes things using three basic methods — commands, approved examples and necessary inferences (humans infer conclusions from divine implications). By which of these methods did Manoah's wife know that she and her husband had not violated God's law?

8. What did the Spirit of God "stir" Samson to do?