

No Guarantees **Judges 13:1-25**

Amazing News from an Angel: (v. 2-5)

1. You are about to have a baby even though you are sterile.
2. Don't drink any wine.
3. Don't eat anything unclean.
4. When he's born, don't cut his hair.
5. He's going to be a Nazarite.
6. He will begin to deliver Israel from the Philistines.

Nazarite Vow: (Numbers 6)

1. He was not to drink wine or any other intoxicating drink.
2. He was not to touch a dead body.
3. He was not to cut his hair.

NOTE: The purpose of the Nazarite vow was to provide a way in which an ordinary (non-priestly) person could dedicate his life to God.

Two Important Things about Samson's Childhood:

1. The blessing of God rests on Samson even as a young child.
2. The Spirit of God began to stir Samson as a teenager.

NOTE: Judges 13 is meant to impress us with the fact that here is a man completely prepared to do great things for God.

- If ever a man should have succeeded, it was Samson.
- If ever a man had it all, it was Samson.
- If ever a man had all the advantages life can offer, it was Samson.

Consider these facts about Samson:

1. His birth was announced by an angel of the Lord.
2. He was set apart to God as a Nazarite from birth.
3. His mission in life was chosen by God—to begin to deliver His people.
4. He was raised in a godly home by godly parents who wanted to cooperate with God.
5. He was blessed as a young child.
6. He was empowered by the Spirit of God.

Note to Parents: There is no guarantee concerning how your children are going to turn out. In other words, godly parents do not always produce godly children.

Note to parents with rebellious adult children:

1. Don't despair. Even though your children aren't serving the Lord right now, that doesn't mean they can't change later.
2. Don't blame yourself for what your children freely choose to do.

Application:

If you grew up in a godly home, hold fast to those Biblical values your parents tried to instill in you and it will save you a lot of heartache.

Note: If you aren't going the right way, take heart—you can be forgiven.