The Cost of Compromise

Judges 13-16

1. A Godly Heritage: Marvelous Grace. Judges 13
   1. Israel’s apathy and assimilation, 13:1
   2. God knows your need, 2-5
   3. Beautiful marriage, 6-9
   4. Separation is a positive thing (Num 6), 10-14
   5. YHWH, the One Who Works Wonders, 15ff
   6. The Holy Spirit began to stir him, 25
2. Right In His Own Eyes. Judges 14
   1. Israel’s apathy and assimilation, 13:1
   2. God knows your need, 2-5
   3. Beautiful marriage, 6-9
   4. Separation is a positive thing (Num 6), 10-14
   5. YHWH, the One Who Works Wonders, 15ff
   6. The Holy Spirit began to stir him, 25
3. Take A Stand. Judges 15
   1. Action – Reaction
      1. Samson loses his wife, 14:20-15:2
      2. Destroying the harvest, 3-5
      3. Murder of Samson’s family-in-law, 6
      4. Revenge and hiding, 7-8
      5. Raiding and recruiting Judah, 9-10
   2. Compromise
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      2. Accepting the status quo, 11
      3. Furthering the enemy’s agenda, 12-13
   3. Faith
      1. Kind and gentle to the struggling, 12-13
      2. Bold in the face of wrath, 14-17
      3. Learning humility in prayer, 18-20
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   1. The prostitute in Gaza…and their gates, 1-3
   2. He loved a woman…Delilah, 4
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   1. But the hair of his head began to grow, 22
   2. The scars remain
   3. In the presence of mine enemies, 22-27
   4. O Lord GOD, please remember me, 28
   5. O God, please strengthen me
   6. Count the cost, 30
   7. What about you…
      1. God’s gracious gifts are not personal playthings
      2. Do you even recognize the enemy?
      3. Will you stand alone?

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

* **God saw the barrenness of Manoah’s wife and blessed her; He heard the prayer of Manoah and returned to teach him. What, in your life, can you take to the God who works wonders?**
* **How are your areas of strength potential snares? How do you justify your choices that are “right in your own eyes”, or what do you do when your opinion conflicts with Scripture?**
* **God’s grace can be seen, even in the darkness. Are you looking for it? Will you act upon it?**