

WORD OF THE DAY



WORD OF THE DAY ([Judges 16:5 & 20](#))

"(5)And the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and said unto her, **Entice him**, and see wherein his great strength lieth, and by what means we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him; and we will give thee every one of us eleven hundred pieces of silver.

(20)And she said, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist[knew] not that **the LORD was departed from him**.

"
-KJV

Don't take the Bait



Another fisher of men. Jesus told the disciples that if they followed Him, He would teach them to be fishers of men - meaning that they would be on a mission for winning souls for the Kingdom of God. Well, Beloved, there is another fisher of men, and his goal is not to lure you into the Kingdom of light. The devil is another one who "fishes" for the souls of men, however Satan desires to lure us into the Kingdom of darkness. Satan we are told comes to steal, kill, and destroy, and to do this he starts with a bait to lure us away from the path of holiness.

Beware of the bait. On many instances in the Bible we see how Satan tries to use all types of bait's to lure away God's children from the path of light. He used the bait of pride and fear to lure Peter away but fortunately, Peter was restored. He used the bait of greed to lure Judas away to betray Jesus and succeeded. Satan used the bait of lust to lure Joseph away to fornicate with Potiphar's wife and failed as Joseph refused; however using the same bait of lust he was successful, temporarily, in leading David to sin with Bathsheba.

In our verse of the day we are told that the Philistines enlisted the help of Delilah to "**entice**" Samson, so that they could know the source of his true strength. The Greek word used for entice is **Pathah** ([Strong's Concordance 6601](#)). It means to seduce, to *persuade, to beguile, to allure, to deceive*. Unfortunately Samson took the bait, and laid with Delilah who Bible scholars tell us was not his wife, and likely laid with others as means of her professional livelihood. After compromising his ability to think clearly due to his now intimate relationship with Delilah, it was only a matter of time until he would reveal to her his secret.

May the Lord never leave you. Two of the saddest verses for me in the Bible are [Matthew 7:21-23](#) and our verse of the day [Judges 16:20](#). In Matthew 7:21 Jesus speaks of when He will tell many on the day of judgment, depart from me I never knew you, and in Judges 6:20 we are told that the spirit of God left Samson. How sad is it to think about being separated from God our source of power and strength. For Samson this became a reality when he got up once more as he had in the past to fight the Philistines, but this last time, to his surprise, we are told that God's Spirit - which had given him strength, had left him. Beloved, God is gracious and abounding in love and is able to restore us even after we've taken the bait. We see this with Peter and David who both took the bait of the devil, but later were restored because they did not continue in sin. Unfortunately for Samson he continued in a lifestyle of sin, and it was only a matter of time until the inevitable happened - the Lord left him. Beloved, may we never take the Lord's grace for granted, and may it never be said of you, the Lord has left << *insert your name here* >> .

Your brother in Christ, WNL

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Jesus and the devil are both fishing, whose bait will you take?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Father God, in days of old your spirit came and left the early believers, but thank you for the Holy Spirit which dwells and makes a permanent residence in our souls. Help me to never perpetually grieve the Holy Spirit through a lifestyle of sin whereby I continually take the enemy's bait. Restore me Lord when I am lured away and bring me back into your Kingdom so that I will testify of your goodness. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

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