

Message #4

Reflections on the Judges of Israel

June 29, 2025
Pastor Mike Coss

series

Reflections on The Judges of Israel

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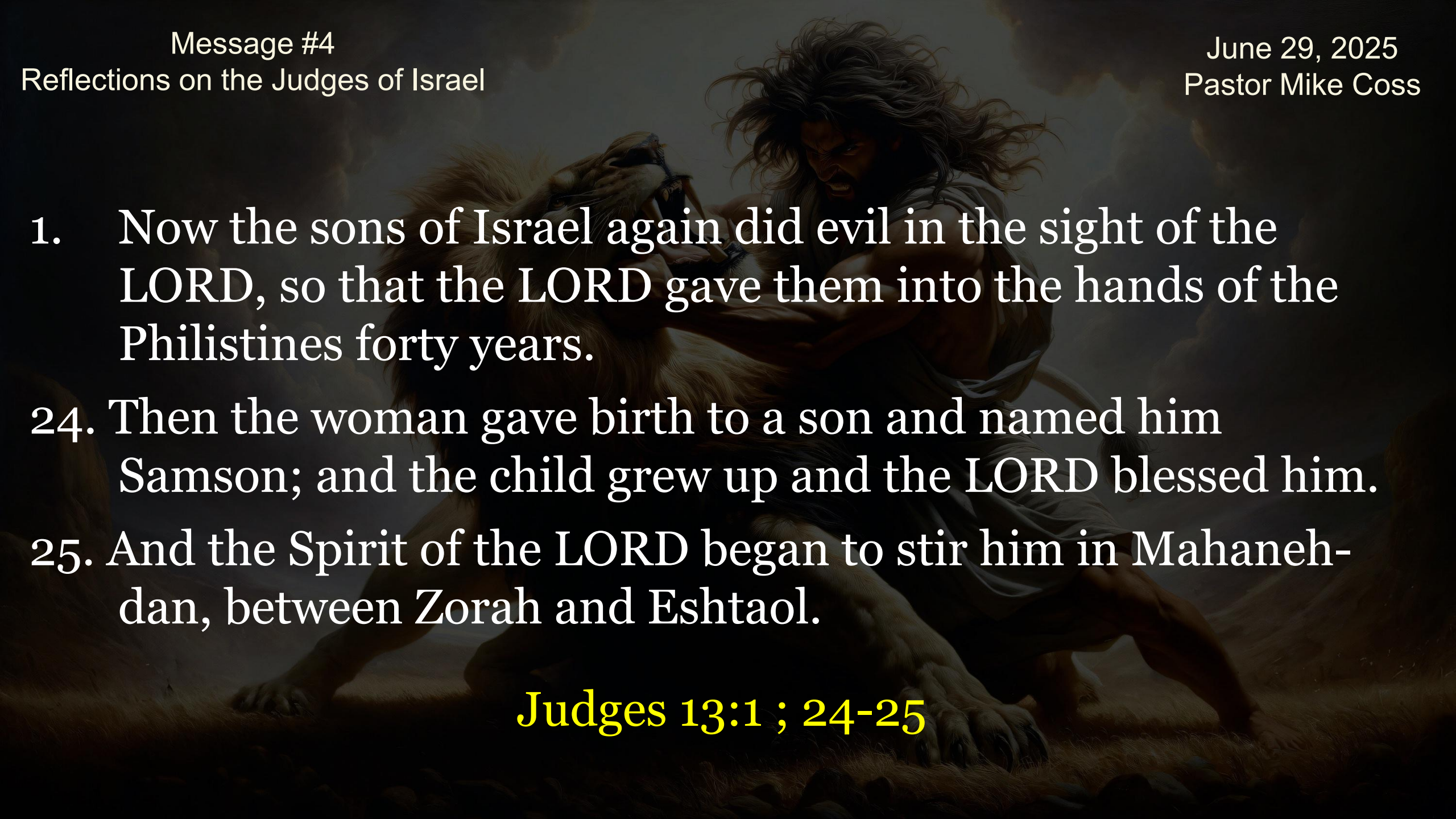


A dramatic painting depicting the biblical story of Samson. Samson, a muscular man with long, dark, wavy hair, is shown in a fierce struggle with a large lion. He is wearing a simple, light-colored tunic and is barefoot. The lion is roaring with its mouth wide open, showing its sharp teeth. The background features a dramatic sky with dark, swirling clouds and a bright light source, possibly the sun or moon, creating a high-contrast scene. The ground is rocky and uneven.

Samson

The Nazarite Judge

Judges 13-16

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- A dramatic, low-key photograph of Samson wrestling a lion. Samson, with long, dark, curly hair and a beard, is shown from the waist up, wearing a simple, light-colored tunic. He is leaning over the lion, his hands firmly gripping its head. The lion is lying on its side, its body angled towards the viewer. The background is dark and moody, with some light filtering through, creating a sense of a cave or a night scene. The overall tone is intense and heroic.
1. Now the sons of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD, so that the LORD gave them into the hands of the Philistines forty years.
 24. Then the woman gave birth to a son and named him Samson; and the child grew up and the LORD blessed him.
 25. And the Spirit of the LORD began to stir him in Mahaneh-dan, between Zorah and Eshtaol.

Judges 13:1 ; 24-25

Philistines Invade Israel in 1177 BC

Philistine Pentapolis

Shamgar: Judges 3:31

Iron Age Begins

"No land could stand before their arms: from Hatti, Qode, Carchemish, Arzawa, Alashiya on, being cut off at one time" (Medinet Habu, Ramses III, 1177 BC)
The hero's of Homer's Iliad and the Odyssey are the bad boys of the bible (Philistines). Hadrian renamed Judea "Palestine" which literally means "Philistine"



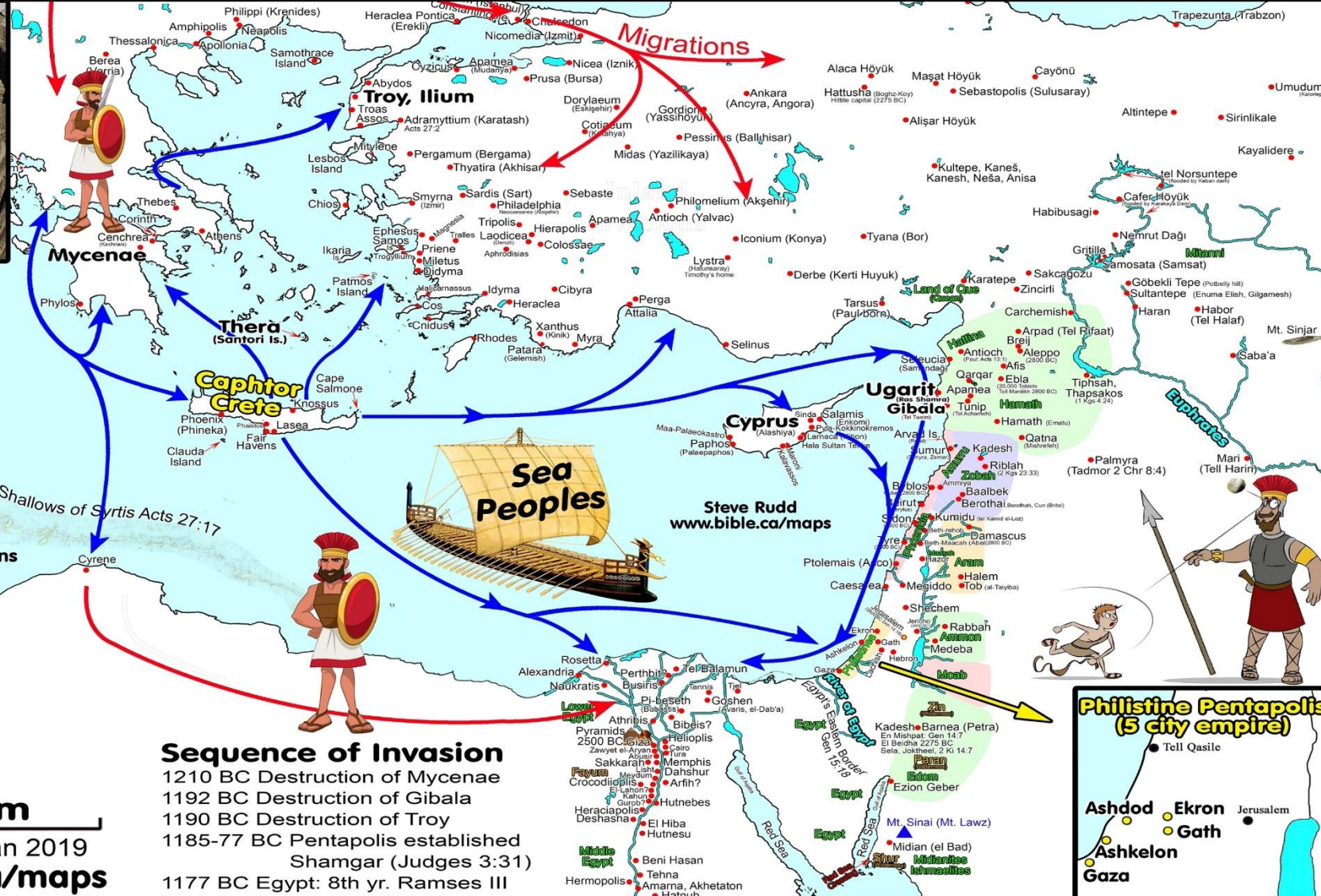
Philistine with "feathered helmet" on relief from Medinet Habu, Thebes by Ramses III

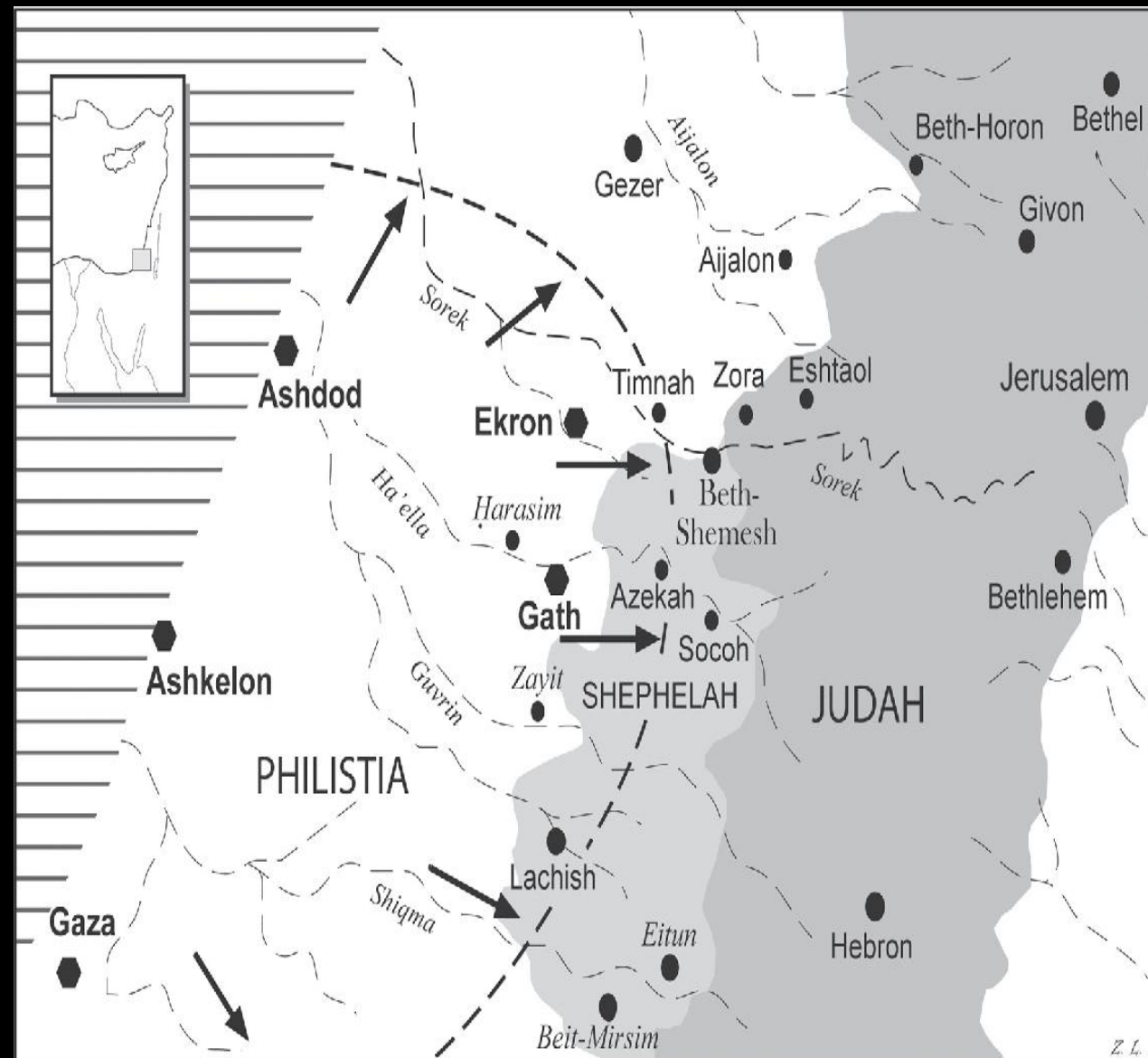


11 Philistine origin nations
Danaoi, Lukka, Shekelesh
Peleset (Philistines),
Cherethites, Capthorites
Sherden, Teresh, Tjekker
Eqwesh, Weshesh
Note: Gittite is someone from Gath.

500 km

Steven Rudd Jan 2019
www.bible.ca/maps





#	Events	Chpt
1	Samson's Birth	Ch 13
2	Samson Demands a Wife, Kills a Lion	Ch 14
3	Samson Loses A Bet With Philistines	Ch 14
4	Samson, Angry, Burns Philistines' Crops	Ch 15
5	Samson Kills 1,000 Philistines With a Donkey Jawbone	Ch 15
6	Samson Obtains Water From A Rock	Ch 15
7	Samson Carries Away a Philistine City Gate	Ch 16
8	Samson and Delilah, His Death	Ch 16