



The Story of Samson

Judges 14:6, 15:14-15, 16:4-31

Kasey looked warily around the dark alley as she stepped over a pile of trash. She knocked on the stained blue door in front of her just as she had been instructed; tap-tap-tappity-tap. The door opened slightly and a shadowy face peered out.

"Psst. Ms. Carter, this way," Scripture Guy whispered.

"Scripture Guy!" Kasey smiled as she stepped inside. "Wow, an exclusive interview!"

"Shhh, keep it down," Scripture Guy ordered. He checked the alley then carefully shut the door behind her. "I'm going to show you something no other human being has ever seen." He flicked on a light switch and revealed a secret lab. Colored lights flashed from various buttons on a large metal display. High overhead was a gigantic TV screen surrounded by many smaller screens showing different places around town.

Kasey's mouth opened wide. "It's a secret lab right here in the heart of King City!"

"Yes, from here I can watch over the entire city and protect her from harm."

"Wow, let me write this down," Kasey scribbled. "Scripture Guy, like a modern day Samson, draws his strength from the Lord and watches over the city."

"Funny you should say that," said Scripture Guy. "Samson and I have a lot in common. As their judge, Samson watched over Israel for twenty years in the days of the Philistines."

Kasey asked, "Who were the Philistines?"

"They were enemies of the Israelites," Scripture Guy explained as he opened a secret drawer below the table of dials and buttons. "I'll get the Bible out and tell you more. Did you know Samson fought a lion and won?" he asked as he turned the pages of his Bible to Judges 16.

"No way! How did he do that?" Kasey asked.

"The Spirit of the Lord came upon him," he replied. "Another time, he defeated a thousand Philistines with just the jawbone of a donkey as his weapon. The Spirit of the Lord came upon him that time, too. But one day, he fell in love with a Philistine woman named Delilah."

"He fell in love with the enemy?" Kasey exclaimed scribbling more notes in her notepad.

Scripture Guy nodded. "Exactly. We must be careful to stay close to the Lord and not listen to our enemy. It only leads to trouble. The leader of the Philistines came to Delilah and asked her to spy on Samson and find out the secret of his strength."

"Aha," Kasey exclaimed. "Because if they knew his secret, they could trick him and overpower him. He didn't tell her, did he?"

"Actually, he did," Scripture Guy said sadly. "Delilah kept nagging him, so he finally gave in and told her his secret. He followed his feelings and forgot that his vow to God was the most important thing. He gave into temptation."

"What is temptation?" Kasey asked.

"It's kind of like wanting something you know is wrong in God's eyes," Scripture Guy explained.

"I see," she replied. "You don't have any temptations, do you Scripture Guy?"

"Everyone has temptations, even superheroes," Scripture Guy said. "Our enemy, Satan, uses temptations to distract us from focusing on God."

Kasey grinned. "Wow, this is going to make a great story!"

As Kasey and Scripture Guy talked, a man dressed in the metal armor of a Philistine soldier peeked through a window. "Aha! Temptation! I knew Scripture Guy had a weakness! Now to make the most of it and steal his power!" He pulled a brown delivery uniform and a brown cap over his armor. He held a shiny green package while he knocked on the blue door. "Special delivery for Scripture Guy!"

Scripture Guy opened the door. "A package? For me? Who would send me a package?" asked Scripture Guy.

"Oh, probably just a secret admirer," the sneaky Philistine soldier said. "Sign here."

"I have a secret admirer? This is so flattering!" Scripture Guy gleefully signed the paper. As he stood in the doorway, the Philistine tried to memorize every piece of equipment inside. Scripture Guy handed the pad and pen back to the Philistine.

"Enjoy your surprise," the Philistine said as he handed the package to Scripture Guy. Under his breath he muttered, "Now, to enjoy the show," and he retreated into the shadows.

Scripture Guy read the attached card, "From Phyllis Stein. Do I know a Phyllis Stein?"

Kasey shook her head. "Are you going to open it?"

Scripture Guy inspected the package. "I don't know. Maybe I will. I really want to, but I'm just not sure. Maybe I should wait...or I could open it, now. What do you think?"

"Open it! Open the package!" the Philistine hissed under his breath from his hiding spot.

"I feel like something is telling me to open it," Scripture Guy remarked as he ripped open the package. "Oh no! Not that! Anything but that!" he screeched as he collapsed with a thud to the floor.

Kasey ran to his side. "Scripture Guy! What is it?"

"Temptation...package is full of temp..." he gasped, unable to finish.

The open box in his hand was glowing an angry red. "Oh no! Who could have done this?" cried Kasey.

The Philistine jumped into the room and laughed an evil laugh. "I did, you silly person! I am Scripture Guy's mortal enemy, the Philistine!"

Kasey clenched her fists. "Not the Philistine!" She ran into the street and into a nearby telephone booth.

"That's right, run away!" the Philistine called after her. "Everyone fears the Philistine! And now, the once mighty Scripture Guy is helpless."

Kasey, now dressed as the Kingdom Crusader, flew into the room and landed between the Philistine and Scripture Guy. "Kingdom Crusader can and will!"

The Philistine jumped back. "What? Who? I didn't count on you!"

"Get thee behind me, Philistine!" Kingdom Crusader demanded. The Philistine screamed and ran from the room as fast as he could. Kingdom Crusader turned to Scripture Guy and handed him an open Bible. "Scripture Guy! Hurry, read the main Bible verse!"

Kingdom Crusader lifted Scripture Guy's head and helped him steady the Bible in front of him. Scripture Guy squinted at the words on the page and began to read with a trembling voice, "Then Samson prayed to the Lord, 'O Sovereign Lord, remember me. O God, please strengthen me just once more...'"

Kasey watched as Scripture Guy sat up. "It's working!" she exclaimed. "You called on the Lord and He is restoring your strength!"

"Yes, like Samson, my strength comes from the Spirit of the Lord." Scripture Guy jumped to his feet and looked around. "Quickly, toss that temptation!" he ordered as he turned to the door. "Now, to catch that Philistine...will you help me, Kingdom Crusader?"

"It would be my honor!" she agreed with a smile.

Scripture Guy grinned as Kingdom Crusader joined him at the door. "Together we'll..."

"...give everything to honor our King!" they finished together as they raced through the door to find the Philistine and to fight temptation.