

Judges 14:5-9 NKJV So Samson went down to Timnah with his father and mother, and came to the vineyards of Timnah. Now to his surprise, a young lion came roaring against him. 6 And the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him, and he tore the lion apart as one would have torn apart a young goat, though he had nothing in his hand. But he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done. 7 Then he went down and talked with the woman; and she pleased Samson well. 8 After some time, when he returned to get her, he turned aside to see the carcass of the lion. And to his surprise, there was a swarm of bees and honey in the carcass of the lion. 9 He took some of it in his hands and went along, eating. When he came to his father and mother, he gave some to them, and they also ate. But he did not tell them that he had taken the honey out of the carcass of the lion.

Don't Play with Lions

1. The Godfidence Principle – Have Confidence in God, Not in Yourself.

- **Judges 14:5-6 NKJV** ...a young lion came roaring against him. And the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him, and he tore the lion apart...
- **Luke 10:20 NKJV** ...do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.
- **2 Corinthians 4:7 NKJV** But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God and not of us.
- **Judges 14:7 NKJV** Then he went down and talked with the woman; and she pleased Samson well.
- **Judges 14:10 NKJV** So his father went down to the woman. And Samson gave a feast there, for young men used to do so.
- **1 Corinthians 10:12-13 NKJV** Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man...
- **1 Corinthians 6:18 NKJV** Flee sexual immorality...
- **2 Timothy 2:22 NKJV** Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness...

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2. The Better Principle – God's Ways Are Better Than Ours and the World's.

- **Judges 14:8 NKJV** After some time, when he returned to get her, he turned aside to see the carcass of the lion...
- **Psalms 73:2-3, 16-17 NKJV** My feet had almost stumbled... I was envious of the boastful... until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I understood their end.
- **Jeremiah 29:11 NIV** ...plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.
- **Psalms 84:11 NKJV** For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly.
- **Proverbs 10:22 NKJV** The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, and He adds no sorrow with it.
- **Psalms 84:10 NKJV** ...I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

- **Hebrews 12:1-2 NKJV** ...let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus...

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 **3. The Sweetness Principle – Temptation Is Never as Good as It Appears.**

- **Judges 14:8-9 NKJV** ...there was a swarm of bees and honey in the carcass of the lion. He took some of it in his hands and went along, eating...
- **James 1:14-15 NKJV** But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.
- **1 John 2:16 NKJV** For all that is in the world — the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life — is not of the Father but is of the world.
- **Judges 14:14 NKJV** out of the eater came something to eat, and out of the strong came something sweet.
- **James 1:15 NKJV** Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.
- **Judges 16:20-21 NKJV** ...He did not know that the Lord had departed from him. Then the Philistines took him and put out his eyes...

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 **4. The Compounding Principle – What You Consistently Sow You Eventually Reap.**

- **Ecclesiastes 11:1 NKJV** Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days.
- **Genesis 8:22 NKJV** While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest... shall not cease.
- **Galatians 6:7 NKJV** Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

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 **5. The But God Principle – With God the Story Can End Differently.**

- **Judges 16:22 NKJV** However, the hair of his head began to grow again after it had been shaven.
- **Judges 16:28 NKJV** Then Samson called to the Lord, saying, “O Lord God, remember me, I pray! Strengthen me...”
- **Judges 16:29-30 NKJV** And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars... and pushed with all his might... the dead that he killed at his death were more than he had killed in his life.

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