

13[1] And again sons of Israel did the bad in eyes of Yehvah, and Yehvah gave them in hand of Philistines forty years. [2] And there was one man from Zorah from the family of the Danite and his name was Rest.¹ And his woman was barren and had not given birth. [3] And messenger of Yehvah appeared to the woman, and said to her, “Behold indeed, you are barren and have not given birth. And you shall conceive and bear a son. [4] And now, please be careful, and you shall not drink wine and strong drink. And you shall not eat anything unclean. [5] For behold, you will be pregnant and shall bear a son, and a razor shall not go up upon his head. For the boy will be a separate one² to Gods from the womb. And he will begin to save Israel from hand of Philistines.”

[6] And the woman came in and spoke to her man, saying, “The man of the Gods³ came to me, and his appearance was as the appearance of the messenger of the Gods, very fearful.⁴ And I did not ask where he was from, and he did not tell me his name. [7] And he said to me, 'Behold, you will be pregnant and bear a son. And now, do not drink wine and strong drink, and do not eat anything unclean. For the boy will be a separate one to Gods from the womb until day of his death.'”

[8] And Rest prayed to Yehvah and said, “Oh my Lords, the man of the Gods whom you sent, please let him come again to us. And let him teach us what we shall do for the boy who will be born.” [9] And the Gods, he listened to Rest's voice. And the messenger of the Gods came again to the woman. And she was sitting in the field, and Rest, her man, was not with her. [10] And the woman hurried and ran and told her man. And she said to him, “Behold, the man who came in the day to me has appeared to me.”

[11] And Rest arose and went after his woman and came to the man. And he said to him, “Are you the man who spoke to the woman?” And he said, “I am.” [12] And Rest said, “Now, may your words come to be. What shall be the boy's judgment⁵ and his work?” [13] And messenger of Yehvah said to Rest, “Of all that I said to the woman, let her be careful. [14] From all that goes out from a vine, the wine she shall not consume. She shall not drink wine and strong drink. And she shall not consume anything unclean. All that I have commanded her, she shall keep.”

[15] And Rest said to messenger of Yehvah, “Please let us detain you, and we will do a kid of goats before you.” [16] And messenger of Yehvah said to Rest, “If you detain me, I will not eat of your bread. And if you do a burnt offering, to Yehvah you shall offer it up.” For Rest did not know that he was messenger of Yehvah.

[17] And Rest said to messenger of Yehvah, “What is your name? So, when your words come to be, we may honor you.” [18] And messenger of Yehvah said to him, “Why is this, you ask for my name? And it is wonderful.” [19] And Rest took the kid of the goats and the grain offering and offered upon the rock to Yehvah, and a wonder to do; and Rest and his woman saw. [20] And it was, in the flame going up from upon the altar toward the heavens, so messenger of Yehvah went up in the flame of the altar. And Rest and his woman saw, and they fell upon their faces to earth.

[21] And messenger of Yehvah did not appear again to Rest and his woman. Then, Rest knew that he was messenger of Yehvah.⁶ [22] And Rest said to his woman, “Dying, we will die, for we have seen Gods!” [23] And his woman said to him, “If Yehvah desired to kill us, he would not have taken a

1 מְנוּחַ (mânoach) “Rest” or “Resting Place” (same word e.g. Genesis 8:9; Deuteronomy 28:65; Lamentations 1:3); NKJV, etc. “Manoah” - this name is also found in Judges 13:8-9, 11-13, 15-17, 19-22; 16:31.

2 נִזְיָר (neziyr) “separate one”; NKJV, etc. “Nazirite” - see footnote for Genesis 49:26.

3 אִישׁ הָאֱלֹהִים (‘iysh hâ’elohiym) “The man of the Gods” - man in construct with the following definite article normally makes the first noun (“man”) definite. NKJV, Green “A Man of God”; KJV, NAS “A man of God.”

4 נֹרָא (norâ) “fearful” YLT, GNV; “terrifying” Green; “awesome” NKJV, NAS; “terrible” KJV; “scary” CEB

5 מִשְׁפָּט (mishpat) “judgment” (e.g. same word in Deuteronomy 16:18); YLT “custom”; NKJV “rule of life”; “mode of life” NAS; “we order” KJV.

6 This coming to realize = realize that He was God. See following verse, and footnotes for Genesis 16:7.

burnt offering and grain offering from our hands. And he would not have shown us all these things, and at this time he would not have caused us to hear according to this.”

[24] And the woman bore a son and called his name Samson.⁷ And the boy grew, and Yehvah blessed him. [25] And spirit of Yehvah began to move him in Camp of Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.

7 שִׁמְשׁוֹן (shimshon) “Samson”; LXX Σαμψων (Sampsôn) - found also in Judges 14:1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 12; 15:1, 3-4, 6-7, 10-12, 16; 16:1-3, 6-7, 9-10, 12-14, 20, 23, 25-30; Hebrews 11:32 Σαμψων (Sampsôn).