

¹Then went Samson to Gaza, and saw there an harlot, and went in unto her.²And it was told the Gazites, saying, Samson is come hither. And they compassed him in, and laid wait for him all night in the gate of the city, and were quiet all the night, saying, In the morning, when it is day, we shall kill him.³And Samson lay till midnight, and arose at midnight, and took the doors of the gate of the city, and the two posts, and went away with them, bar and all, and put them upon his shoulders, and carried them up to the top of an hill that is before Hebron.⁴And it came to pass afterward, that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah.⁵And 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.⁶And Delilah said to Samson, Tell me, I pray thee, wherein thy great strength lieth, and wherewith thou mightest be bound to afflict thee.⁷And Samson said unto her, If they bind me with seven green withs that were never dried, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.⁸Then the lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven green withs which had not been dried, and she bound him with them.⁹Now there were men lying in wait, abiding with her in the chamber. And she said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he brake the withs, as a thread of tow is broken when it toucheth the fire. So his strength was not known.¹⁰And Delilah said unto Samson,

¹ثُمَّ دَهَبَ سَمْشُونُ إِلَى عَزْرَةَ وَرَأَى هُنَاكَ امْرَأَةً رَانِيَةً فَدَخَلَ إِلَيْهَا.²فَقِيلَ لِلْغَزِيِّينَ، قَدْ أَتَى سَمْشُونُ إِلَى هُنَا. فَأَخَاطَلُوا بِهِ وَكَمُوا لَهُ اللَّيْلَ كُلَّهُ عِنْدَ بَابِ الْمَدِينَةِ. فَهَدَّأُوا اللَّيْلَ كُلَّهُ قَائِلِينَ، عِنْدَ صَوِّ الصَّبَاحِ نَقُتْلُهُ.³فَاصْطَحَجَ سَمْشُونُ إِلَى يَصْفِ اللَّيْلِ، ثُمَّ قَامَ فِي يَصْفِ اللَّيْلِ وَأَخَذَ مِصْرَاعِي بَابِ الْمَدِينَةِ وَالْقَائِمَتَيْنِ وَقَلَعَهُمَا مَعَ الْعَارِضَةِ، وَوَضَعَهَا عَلَى كَتِفَيْهِ وَصَعِدَ بِهَا إِلَى رَأْسِ الْجَبَلِ الَّذِي مُقَابِلَ حَبْرُونَ.⁴وَكَانَ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ أَنَّهُ أَحَبَّ امْرَأَةً فِي وَادِي سَوْرَقِ اسْمُهَا دَلِيلَةُ.⁵فَصَعِدَ إِلَيْهَا أَقْطَابُ الْفِلِسْطِينِيِّينَ وَقَالُوا لَهَا، تَمْلِقِيهِ وَانْطِرِي بِمَاذَا قُوَّتُهُ الْعَظِيمَةُ، وَبِمَاذَا تَتَمَكَّنُ مِنْهُ لِثَوْبَتِهِ لِذَلَالِهِ، فَتَقْطِئِي كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ أَلْفًا وَمِئَةً سَاقِلٍ فَضَّةً.⁶فَقَالَتْ دَلِيلَةُ لِسَمْشُونَ، أَحْزِرْنِي بِمَاذَا قُوَّتُكَ الْعَظِيمَةُ وَبِمَاذَا تُوثِقُ لِذَلَالِكَ.⁷فَقَالَ لَهَا سَمْشُونُ، إِذَا أَوْثَقُونِي بِسَبْعَةِ أَوْتَارِ طَرَبَةٍ لَمْ تَجِفَّ أَضْعَفُ وَأَصِيرُ كَوَاجِدٍ مِنَ النَّاسِ.⁸فَأَصْعَدَ لَهَا أَقْطَابُ الْفِلِسْطِينِيِّينَ سَبْعَةَ أَوْتَارِ طَرَبَةٍ لَمْ تَجِفَّ فَأَوْثَقَتْهُ بِهَا،⁹وَالْكِمِينَ لَايْتُ عِنْدَهَا فِي الْحَجَرَةِ. فَقَالَتْ لَهُ، الْفِلِسْطِينِيُّونَ عَلَيْكَ يَا سَمْشُونُ. فَقَطَعَ الْأَوْتَارَ كَمَا يُقَطَعُ قَيْلُ الْمَسَاقَةِ إِذَا شَمَّ النَّارُ وَلَمْ يُعْلَمَ قُوَّتُهُ.¹⁰فَقَالَتْ دَلِيلَةُ لِسَمْشُونَ، هَا قَدْ خَتَلْتَنِي وَكَلَمْتَنِي بِالْكَذِبِ. فَأَحْزِرْنِي الْآنَ بِمَاذَا تُوثِقُ.¹¹فَقَالَ لَهَا، إِذَا أَوْثَقُونِي بِجِثَالٍ جَدِيدَةٍ لَمْ تُسْتَعْمَلْ أَضْعَفُ وَأَصِيرُ كَوَاجِدٍ مِنَ النَّاسِ.¹²فَأَخَذَتْ دَلِيلَةُ جِثَالَاً جَدِيدَةً وَأَوْثَقَتْهُ بِهَا، وَقَالَتْ لَهُ، الْفِلِسْطِينِيُّونَ عَلَيْكَ يَا سَمْشُونُ، وَالْكِمِينَ لَايْتُ فِي الْحَجَرَةِ. فَقَطَعَهَا عَنْ ذِرَاعِيهِ كَخَيْطٍ.¹³فَقَالَتْ دَلِيلَةُ لِسَمْشُونَ، حَتَّى الْآنَ خَتَلْتَنِي وَكَلَمْتَنِي بِالْكَذِبِ. فَأَحْزِرْنِي بِمَاذَا تُوثِقُ. فَقَالَ لَهَا، إِذَا صَفَرْتَ سِنْعَ حُصْلِ رَأْسِي مَعَ السَّدَى، فَتَمَكَّنْتُهَا بِالْوَدِّ. وَقَالَتْ لَهُ، الْفِلِسْطِينِيُّونَ عَلَيْكَ يَا سَمْشُونُ. فَأَتَتْهُ مِنْ تَوْمِهِ وَقَلَعَ وَتَدَ النَّسِيجِ وَالسَّدَى.¹⁴فَقَالَتْ لَهُ، كَيْفَ تَقُولُ أَجَبُّكَ، وَقَلْبُكَ لَيْسَ مَعِي. هُوَذَا ثَلَاثَ مَرَّاتٍ قَدْ خَتَلْتَنِي وَلَمْ تُحْزِرْنِي بِمَاذَا قُوَّتُكَ الْعَظِيمَةُ.¹⁵وَلَمَّا كَانَتْ نِصَافَةُ يَكَلِمُهَا كُلُّ يَوْمٍ وَالْحَثَّ عَلَيْهِ، ضَاقَتْ نَفْسُهُ إِلَى الْمَوْتِ،¹⁶فَكَشَفَ لَهَا كُلَّ قَلْبِهِ، وَقَالَ لَهَا، لَمْ يَغُلْ مُوسَى رَأْسِي لِأَنِّي نَذِيرُ اللَّهِ مِنْ بَطْنِ أُمِّي، فَإِنْ خِلِفْتُ تُقَارِفُنِي قُوَّتِي وَأَضْعَفُ وَأَصِيرُ كَأَحَدِ النَّاسِ.¹⁷وَلَمَّا رَأَتْ دَلِيلَةُ أَنَّهُ قَدْ أَخْبَرَهَا بِكُلِّ مَا بِقَلْبِهِ، أَرْسَلَتْ قَدْعَتَ أَقْطَابِ الْفِلِسْطِينِيِّينَ وَقَالَتْ، اصْعَدُوا هَذِهِ الْمَرْءَةَ فَإِنَّهُ

Behold, thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: now tell me, I pray thee, wherewith thou mightest be bound.¹¹ And he said unto her, If they bind me fast with new ropes that never were occupied, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.¹² Delilah therefore took new ropes, and bound him therewith, and said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And there were liars in wait abiding in the chamber. And he brake them from off his arms like a thread.¹³ And Delilah said unto Samson, Hitherto thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: tell me wherewith thou mightest be bound. And he said unto her, If thou weavest the seven locks of my head with the web.¹⁴ And she fastened it with the pin, and said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awaked out of his sleep, and went away with the pin of the beam, and with the web.¹⁵ And she said unto him, How canst thou say, I love thee, when thine heart is not with me? thou hast mocked me these three times, and hast not told me wherein thy great strength lieth.¹⁶ And it came to pass, when she pressed him daily with her words, and urged him, so that his soul was vexed unto death;¹⁷ That he told her all his heart, and said unto her, There hath not come a razor upon mine head; for I have been a Nazarite unto God from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man.¹⁸ And when Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called for the lords of the Philistines, saying, Come up this once, for he hath shewed me all his heart. Then

قَدْ كَسَفَ لِي كُلَّ قَلْبِهِ. فَصَعِدَ إِلَيْهَا أَقْطَابُ
الْفِلِسْطِيِّينَ وَأَضَعُوا الْفِصَّةَ بِيَدِهِمْ.¹⁹ وَأَتَامَنَهُ عَلَى
رُكْبَتَيْهَا وَدَعَتْ رَجُلًا وَخَلَقَتْ سَبْعَ خُصَلٍ رَأْسِهِ، وَابْتَدَأَتْ
يَاذُلَاكِهِ، وَقَارَقَتْهُ قُوَّتُهُ.²⁰ وَقَالَتْ، الْفِلِسْطِيُّونَ عَلَيْكَ يَا
شَمْشُونُ. فَأَتْبَتَهُ مِنْ تَوْبِهِ وَقَالَ، أَخْرِجْ حَسَبَ كُلِّ مَرَّةٍ
وَأَتْبِفْضُ. وَلَمْ يَعْلَمْ أَنَّ الرَّبَّ قَدْ قَارَقَهُ.²¹ فَأَخَذَهُ
الْفِلِسْطِيُّونَ وَقَلَعُوا عَيْنَيْهِ، وَتَرَلُّوا بِهِ إِلَى عَرَّةٍ وَأَوْقَعُوهُ
بِسَلْسِلٍ بُخَّاسٍ. وَكَانَ يَطْحَنُ فِي بَيْتِ السَّجْنِ. وَابْتَدَأَ
شَعْرُ رَأْسِهِ يَنْبُتُ بَعْدَ أَنْ حُلِقَ.²² وَأَمَّا أَقْطَابُ
الْفِلِسْطِيِّينَ فَاجْتَمَعُوا لِيَذْبَحُوا ذَبِيحَةً عَظِيمَةً لِدَاخُونَ
إِلَهُهُمْ وَيَفْرَحُوا، وَقَالُوا، قَدْ دَفَعَ إِلَهُنَا لِيَدِنَا شَمْشُونُ
عَدُونَا.²⁴ وَلَمَّا رَأَى الشَّعْبُ مَجْدُوا إِلَهُهُمْ، لَأَنَّهُمْ قَالُوا، قَدْ
دَفَعَ إِلَهُنَا لِيَدِنَا عَدُونَنَا الَّذِي خَرَّبَ أَرْضَنَا وَكَثَّرَ
قَتْلَانَا.²⁵ وَكَانَ لَمَّا طَابَتْ فُلُوبُهُمْ أَنَّهُمْ قَالُوا، اذْعُوا
شَمْشُونُ لِيَلْعَبَ لَنَا. فَدَعَوْا شَمْشُونُ مِنْ بَيْتِ السَّجْنِ،
فَلَجِبَ أَمَامَهُمْ. وَأَوْقَعُوهُ بَيْنَ الْأَعْمِدَةِ.²⁶ فَقَالَ شَمْشُونُ
لِلْعُلَامِ الْمَاسِكِ بِيَدِهِ، دَعْنِي أَلْمَسَ الْأَعْمِدَةَ الَّتِي النَّيْتُ
قَائِمٌ عَلَيْهَا لِأَسْتَيْدَ عَلَيْهَا.²⁷ وَكَانَ النَّيْتُ مَمْلُوءًا رِجَالًا
وَنِسَاءً، وَكَانَ هُنَاكَ جَمِيعُ أَقْطَابِ الْفِلِسْطِيِّينَ، وَعَلَى
السَّطْحِ تَحُو ثَلَاثَةَ آلَافٍ رَجُلٍ وَامْرَأَةٍ يَنْطُرُونَ لَعِبَ
شَمْشُونُ.²⁸ فَدَعَا شَمْشُونُ الرَّبَّ، يَا سَيِّدِي الرَّبَّ،
أَذْكُرْنِي وَتَذَكِّرْنِي يَا إِلَهُ هَذِهِ الْمَرَّةِ فَقَطْ فَأَتَقِيمَ تَقْمَةً
وَاحِدَةً عَنْ عَيْنَيَّ مِنَ الْفِلِسْطِيِّينَ.²⁹ وَتَبَصَّرَ شَمْشُونُ
عَلَى الْعَمُودَيْنِ الْمُتَوَسِّطَيْنِ اللَّذَيْنِ كَانَ النَّيْتُ قَائِمًا
عَلَيْهِمَا، وَاسْتَدَّ عَلَيْهِمَا الْوَاحِدَ بِيَمِينِهِ وَالْآخَرَ
بِيسَارِهِ.³⁰ وَقَالَ شَمْشُونُ، لِيَمُتْ نَفْسِي مَعَ
الْفِلِسْطِيِّينَ. وَأَنَحَى يَفُوقَ فَسَقَطَ النَّيْتُ عَلَى
الْأَقْطَابِ وَعَلَى كُلِّ الشَّعْبِ الَّذِي فِيهِ، فَكَانَ الْمَوْتَى
الَّذِينَ أَمَاتَهُمْ فِي مَوْتِهِ أَكْثَرَ مِنَ الَّذِينَ أَمَاتَهُمْ فِي
حَيَاتِهِ.³¹ فَتَرَلَّ إِخْوَتُهُ وَكُلُّ بَيْتِ أَبِيهِ وَحَمَلُوهُ وَضَعُوا بِهِ
وَدَفَنُوهُ بَيْنَ صُرَعَةٍ وَأَشْأَوَلُ فِي قَبْرِ مَتُوحَ أَبِيهِ. وَهُوَ
قَصَى لِإِسْرَائِيلَ عِشْرِينَ سَنَةً.

the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and brought money in their hand.¹⁹ And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; and she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him.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 not that the LORD was departed from him.²¹ But the Philistines took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison house.²² Howbeit the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaven.²³ Then the lords of the Philistines gathered them together for to offer a great sacrifice unto Dagon their god, and to rejoice: for they said, Our god hath delivered Samson our enemy into our hand.²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god: for they said, Our god hath delivered into our hands our enemy, and the destroyer of our country, which slew many of us.²⁵ And it came to pass, when their hearts were merry, that they said, Call for Samson, that he may make us sport. And they called for Samson out of the prison house; and he made them sport: and they set him between the pillars.²⁶ And Samson said unto the lad that held him by the hand, Suffer me that I may feel the pillars whereupon the house standeth, that I may lean upon them.²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women; and all the lords of the Philistines were there; and there were upon the roof about three thousand men

and women, that beheld while Samson made sport.²⁸ And Samson called unto the LORD, and said, O Lord GOD, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.²⁹ And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and on which it was borne up, of the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left.³⁰ And Samson said, Let me die with the Philistines. And he bowed himself with all his might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that were therein. So the dead which he slew at his death were more than they which he slew in his life.³¹ Then his brethren and all the house of his father came down, and took him, and brought him up, and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the buryingplace of Manoah his father. And he judged Israel twenty years.