

What does the word “Shibboleth” mean to you?

Who had trouble pronouncing it?

Where were they when they were challenged to say the word?

Who was making them say it?

Samson, judge number _____ – Judges 13-16

13:1-25

1. The _____ are back and this time the Lord _____ Israel into their power for _____ years. There was a man who lived in Zorah who was from the tribe of _____. His name was _____ & his wife was _____. The _____ of the Lord appeared to _____, but he did not _____ himself. She simply referred to him as a _____ of _____, though she considered his appearance to be angelic. His message (because that’s what the word “angel” means, is _____) was that she would have a son, but that she was not to drink _____ or _____ or to eat any _____ thing, because the boy would be a _____. One special stipulation was that his _____ was not to be cut.
2. Manoah _____ her when she told him what had happened and asked God to send the man again so that he might _____ them how to raise the child. The angel appeared to her while she was in the _____ and she ran to get Manoah who offered the man the honor of a _____. When asked his name, the angel replied that it was “_____”. Later, when Manoah brought the food, he offered it as a _____ offering at the man’s instruction. When he did so, the man _____ in the flame of the offering. The couple then _____ that he was the angel of the Lord. In time, the woman bore a son whom they named _____. The child grew and the Lord _____ him and the Spirit of the Lord began to _____ him.

14:1-20

3. Samson became enamored with a woman, but she was a _____. His mother & father _____, but this was of the _____ because he sought an occasion against the Philistines. As Samson was going to Timnah, the town where the woman lived, a _____ came roaring towards him. He killed the lion with his _____. Later, he found _____ in the _____ of the lion, which he ate, but also took some to his parents. Samson used this incident to create a _____ with which he challenged the men of Timnah during a 7-day _____. The bet was for _____ linen wraps & 30 changes of clothes. Unable to solve the riddle, they _____ his wife with violence if she did not convince Samson to reveal the answer to her.

4. Losing the riddle challenge because of the _____ betrayal of his wife, Samson now needed to pay his debt. To do so, he went to _____, a chief city of the Philistines, and _____ 30 men and used their clothing to pay his debt. While this may seem to be a _____, the text says that the _____ of the _____ came upon him _____, which provoked him to the deed. As we read earlier, this was certainly an occasion _____ the Philistines. Samson returned home and while he was gone his wife was given to one who had been his _____. The stage is now set to show us that God was not yet _____ with his occasion against the Philistines.