

Judges Series

Lesson #90

February 21, 2023

Dean Bible Ministries

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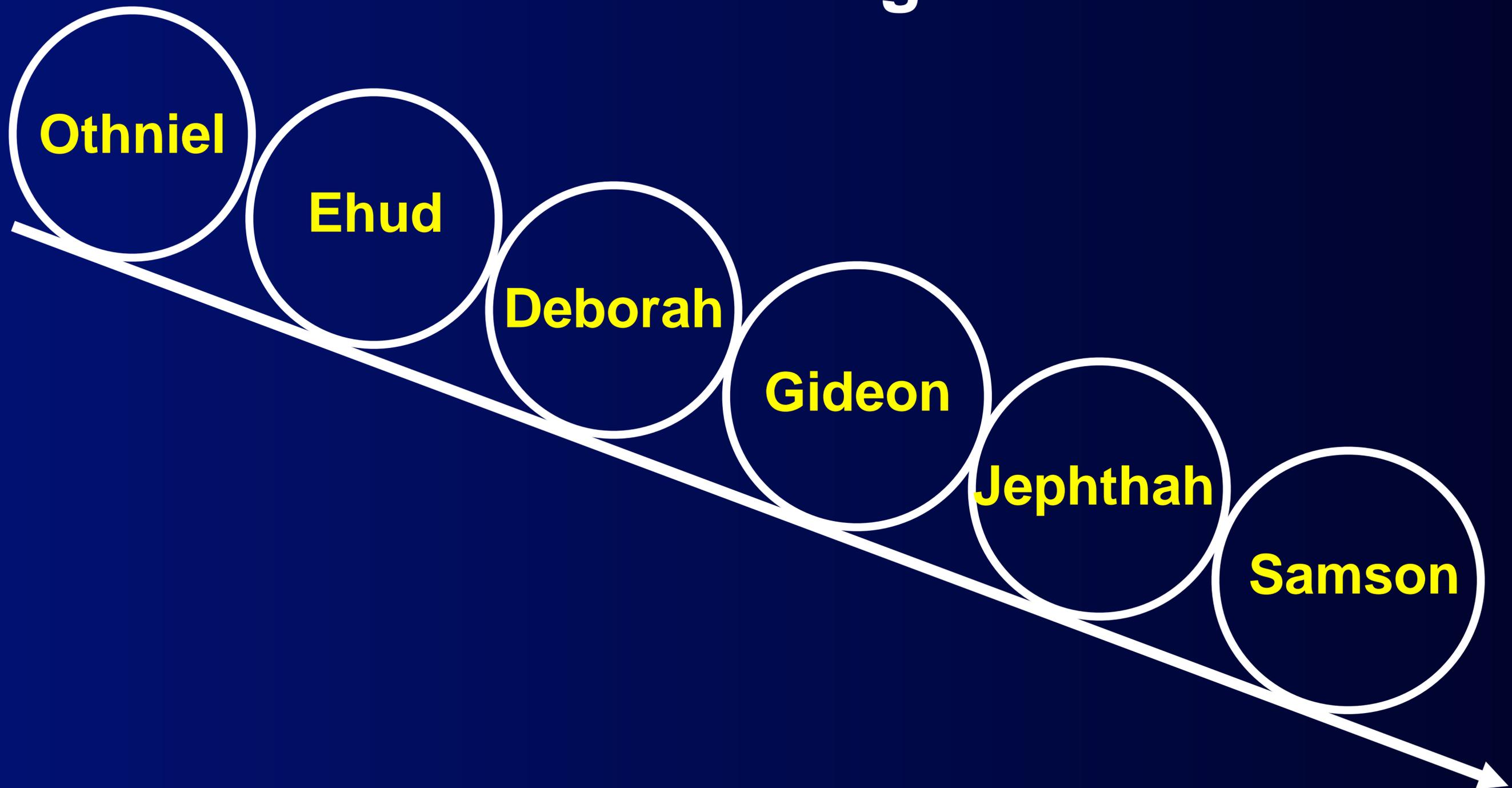
**Samson Falls and  
Grace Restores  
Judges 16:4–31**

# JUDGES

2021

**When Chaos Was King**

# Deterioration of Positive Volition in the Judges



**Judg. 13:25, “And the Spirit of the Lord began to move upon him at Mahaneh Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.”  
[NKJV]**

**Judg. 15:20, “So he judged Israel twenty years in the days of the Philistines.”**

**Judg. 13:25, “And the Spirit of the Lord began to move upon him at Mahaneh Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.”  
[NKJV]**

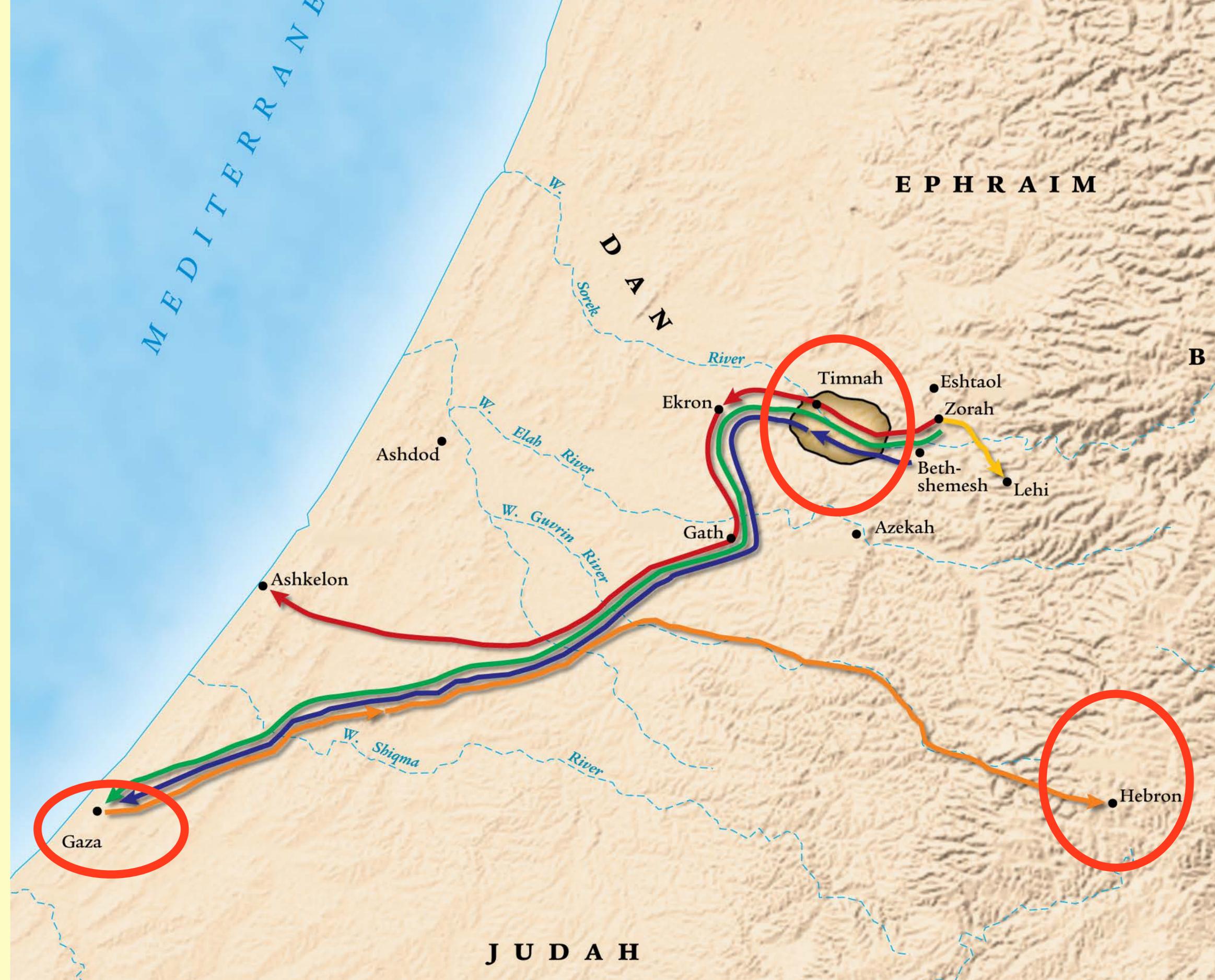
**פָּעַם *pa'am***

**qal infinitiveConst  
to disturb, trouble, feel  
troubled, stir up**

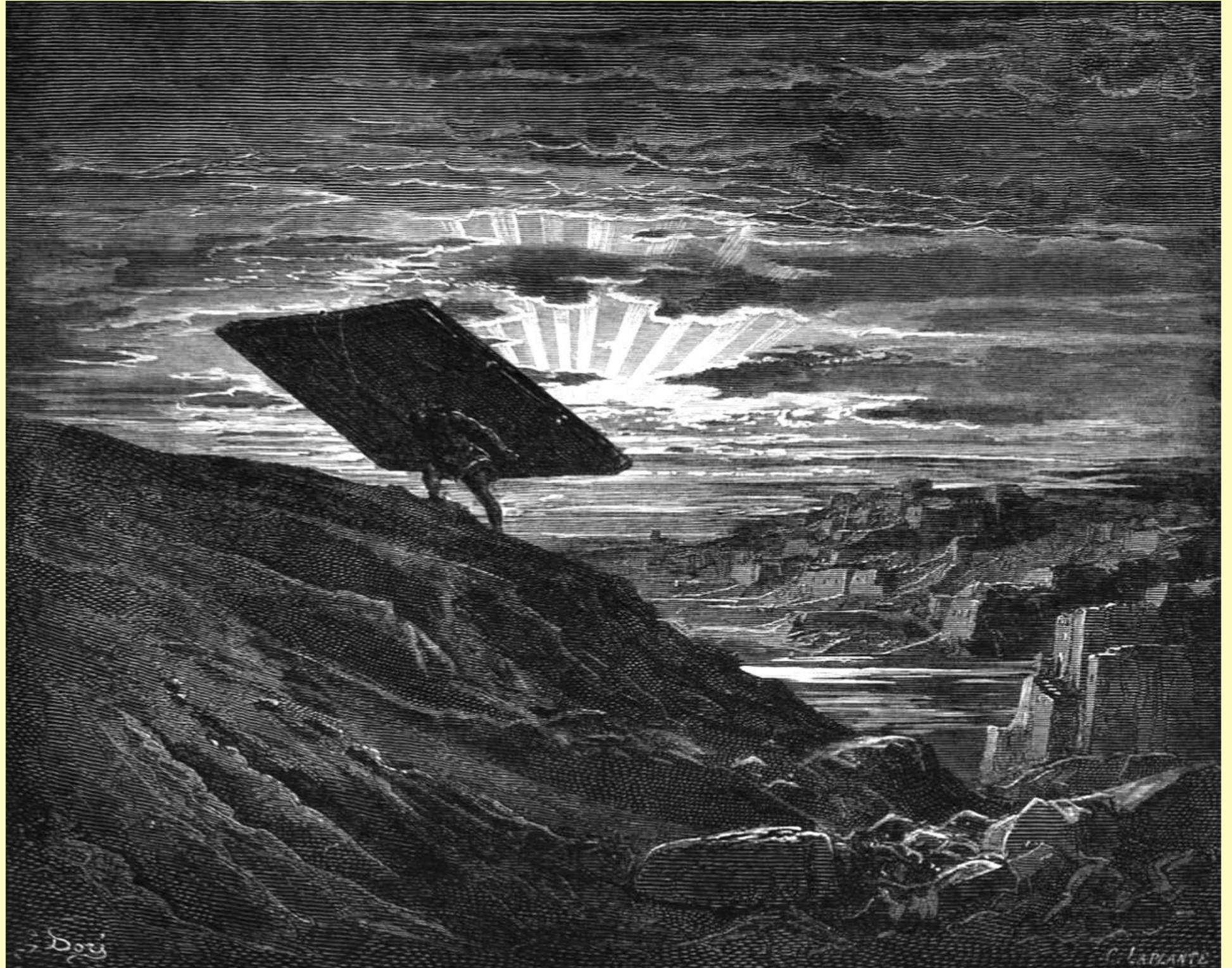
**Judg. 13:25,**  
**“And the Spirit**  
**of the LORD**  
**began to stir**  
**him in**  
**Mahaneh-dan,**  
**between Zorah**  
**and Eshtaol.”**



**Judg. 16:1,**  
**“Now Samson**  
**went to Gaza**  
**and saw a harlot**  
**there, and went**  
**in to her.”**  
**[NKJV]**



**Judg. 16:3, “And Samson lay low till midnight; then he arose at midnight, took hold of the doors of the gate of the city and the two gateposts, pulled them up, bar and all, put them on his shoulders, and carried them to the top of the hill that faces Hebron.”**  
**[NKJV]**



- 1. Samson continued to fraternize with the enemy.**
- 2. Samson had become a national enemy.**
- 3. Samson was 45 miles from his home.**

**The writer uses a number of word for “seeing” and “knowing.”**

***rā'â*, “to see” (vv. 5, 18);**

***higgîd*, “to tell, declare” (vv. 6, 10, 13, 15, 17, 18a, 18b);**

***yāda'*, “to know” (vv. 9, 20);**

***dibbēr kězābîm*, “to declare falsehood,” that is, “to lead away from knowledge” (vv. 10, 13);**

***tālal*, “to deceive” (vv. 10, 13, 15).**

**Deut. 13:18, “because you have listened to the voice of the LORD your God, to keep all His commandments which I command you today, to do what is right in the eyes of the LORD your God.”**

**2 Chron. 16:9, “For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him. In this you have done foolishly; therefore from now on you shall have wars.”**

**Judg. 16:4, “Afterward it happened that he loved a woman in the Valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah.**

**Judg. 16:5, “And the lords of the Philistines came up to her and said to her, ‘Entice him, and find out where his great strength lies, and by what means we may overpower him, that we may bind him to afflict him; and every one of us will give you eleven hundred pieces of silver.’ ”**

**“... every one of us will give you eleven hundred pieces of silver.” 5,500 pieces of silver = 5,500 shekels**

- **Gideon had 700 shekels of gold from the spoil of the Midianite kings.**
- **Abimelech was given 70 shekels of silver to hire his gang of violent and reckless men.**
- **Abraham 600 years earlier bought the burial plot in Machpelah for his and Sara’s graves, for 400 shekels.**
- **David paid 50 shekels to Araunah for his oxen and the threshing floor.**
- **And, in Judges 17:10 Micah will pay the Levitical priest ten shekels of silver a year, a suit of clothes, and sustenance.**

## **Three Failed Attempts to Take Samson**

**First, involves 7 fresh “thongs” or cords, Judges 16:6–9**

**Second, involves tying him up with new ropes,  
Judges 16:10–12**

**Third, braiding seven braids of his hair into a loom,  
Judges 16:13–15**

**Fourth and final, he tells the truth, Judges 16:16–20**

## Attempt Number 1

**Judg. 16:6**, “So Delilah said to Samson, ‘Please tell me where your great strength lies, and with what you may be bound to afflict you.’

**Judg. 16:7**, “And Samson said to her, ‘If they bind me with seven fresh bowstrings (fresh tendons), not yet dried, then I shall become weak, and be like any other man.’

**Judg. 16:8**, “So the lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven fresh bowstrings, not yet dried, and she bound him with them.

**Judg. 16:9**, “Now men were lying in wait, staying with her in the room. And she said to him, ‘The Philistines are upon you, Samson!’ But he broke the bowstrings as a strand of yarn breaks when it touches fire. So the secret of his strength was not known.”

**2־יָתֵר *yeter*-2** “cords,” the word is used elsewhere of bowstrings (Psa. 11:2; Job 30:11) and tent cords (Job 4:21).

## **Second Attempt Involves Tying Him up with New Ropes, vss. 16:10–12**

**Judg. 16:10, “Then Delilah said to Samson, ‘Look, you have mocked me and told me lies. Now, please tell me what you may be bound with.’”**

**Judg. 16:11, “So he said to her, ‘If they bind me securely with new ropes that have never been used, then I shall become weak, and be like any other man.’”**

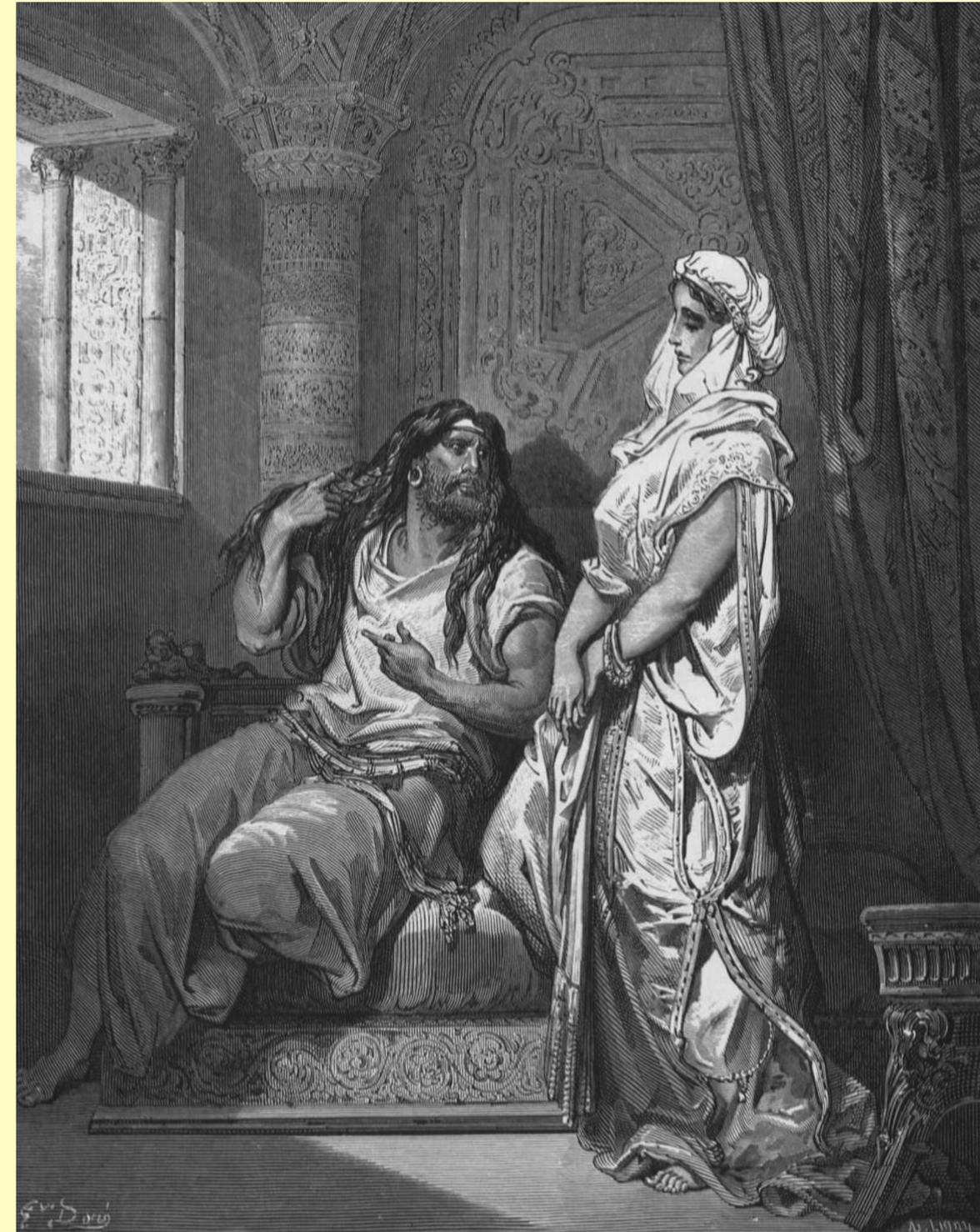
**Judg. 16:12, “Therefore Delilah took new ropes and bound him with them, and said to him, ‘The Philistines are upon you, Samson!’ And men were lying in wait, staying in the room. But he broke them off his arms like a thread.”**

### **Third Attempt: Braiding Seven Braids of His Hair into a Loom, vss. 16:13–15**

**Judg. 16:13**, “Delilah said to Samson, ‘Until now you have mocked me and told me lies. Tell me what you may be bound with.’ And he said to her, ‘If you weave the seven locks of my head into the web of the loom’—

**Judg. 16:14**, “So she wove it tightly with the batten of the loom, and said to him, ‘The Philistines are upon you, Samson!’ But he awoke from his sleep, and pulled out the batten and the web from the loom.”

***“ ‘Tell me how you can be subdued.’ He said to her, ‘If you weave the seven braids of my hair into the fabric on the loom and secure it with the pin, I will become weak and be like any other man.’ ”***





**Judg. 16:15, “Then she said to him, ‘How can you say, “I love you,” when your heart is not with me? You have mocked me these three times, and have not told me where your great strength lies.’ ”**

**Judg. 16:16, “And it came to pass, when she pestered him daily with her words and pressed him, so that his soul was vexed to death,” [NKJV]**

**Judg. 16:17, “that he told her all his heart, and said to her, ‘No razor has ever come upon my head, for I have been a Nazirite to God from my mother’s womb. If I am shaven, then my strength will leave me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man.’ ” [NKJV]**

**Judg. 16:18**, “When Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called for the lords of the Philistines, saying, ‘Come up once more, for he has told me all his heart.’ So the lords of the Philistines came up to her and brought the money in their hand.

**Judg. 16:19**, “Then she lulled him to sleep on her knees, and called for a man and had him shave off the seven locks of his head. Then she began to torment him, and his strength left him.”



**Judg. 16:20, “And she said, ‘The Philistines are upon you, Samson!’ So he awoke from his sleep, and said, ‘I will go out as before, at other times, and shake myself free!’ But he did not know that the LORD had departed from him.**

**Judg. 16:21, “Then the Philistines took him and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza. They bound him with bronze fetters, and he became a grinder in the prison.**

**Judg. 16:22, “However, the hair of his head began to grow again after it had been shaven.”**

**Judg. 16:23, “Now the lords of the Philistines gathered together to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god, and to rejoice. And they said: ‘Our god has delivered into our hands Samson our enemy!’**

**Judg. 16:24, “When the people saw him, they praised their god; for they said: ‘Our god has delivered into our hands our enemy, the destroyer of our land, and the one who multiplied our dead.’**

**Judg. 16:25, “So it happened, when their hearts were merry, that they said, ‘Call for Samson, that he may perform for us.’ So they called for Samson from the prison, and he performed for them. And they stationed him between the pillars.”**

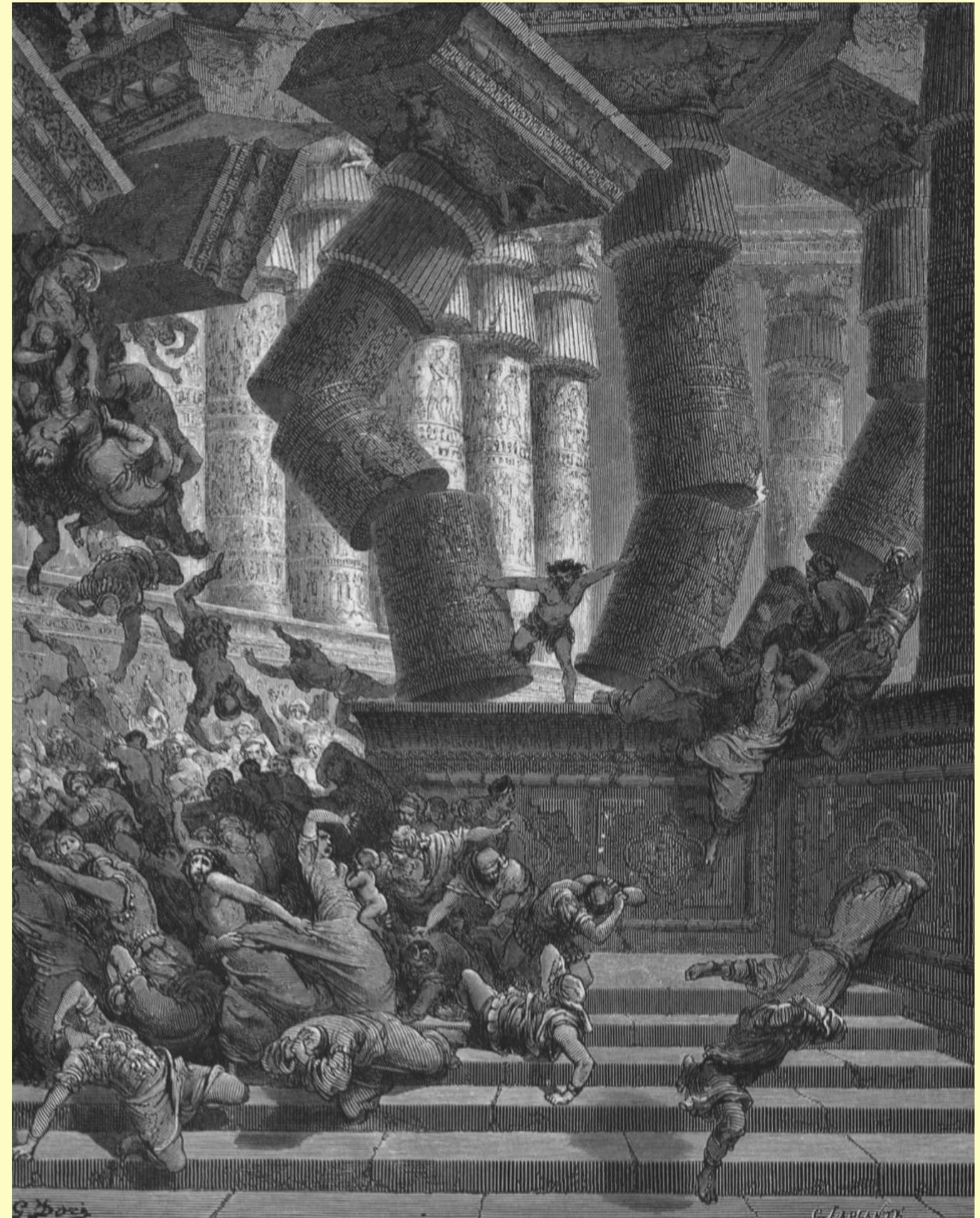
**Judg. 16:26, “Then Samson said to the lad who held him by the hand, ‘Let me feel the pillars which support the temple, so that I can lean on them.’**

**Judg. 16:27, “Now the temple was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there—about three thousand men and women on the roof watching while Samson performed.**

**Judg. 16:28, “Then Samson called to the LORD, saying, ‘O Lord GOD, remember me, I pray! Strengthen me, I pray, just this once, O God, that I may with one blow take vengeance on the Philistines for my two eyes!’ ”**

**Judg. 16:29**, “And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars which supported the temple, and he braced himself against them, one on his right and the other on his left.

**Judg. 16:30**, “Then Samson said, ‘Let me die with the Philistines!’ And he pushed with all his might, and the temple fell on the lords and all the people who were in it. So the dead that he killed at his death were more than he had killed in his life.”



**Judg. 16:31, “And his brothers and all his father’s household came down and took him, and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of his father Manoah. He had judged Israel twenty years.”**