



THE CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF SAMSON'S STORY FROM THE HOLY BIBLE IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF COMEDY OF ERRORS

KEYWORDS

Bible, God, Samson, Philistines

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ABSTRACT The Book of Judges from the Holy Bible tells the history of Israel for the period after the death of Joshua and the ministry of Samuel. In which God governed his people through Judges, Samson was one among them, and his story was prescribed in the chapters 13 – 16. This manuscript reviews the story of Samson in the view of comedy of errors and it doesn't intend to intact anyone's sentiments but to pool the ideas and understanding of the scripture which can be analyzed in any degree.

INTRODUCTION

The story of Samson begins in Judges 13th chapter from the book of Bible which eludes God's Plan to deliver Israelites from the hands of Philistines who ruled them for forty years. The entire life cycle of Israelites bounds with the activities of " (i) Accepting God and living his favor and (ii) turning against him by doing evil in the eyes of Lord, (iii) thus will result in lurching them into hands of their enemies, (iv) after realizing their slavery the Israelites ask for forgiveness and (v) God delivers them from captivity." This was the process the entire Bible revolves around from book one to book last. If this process is not listed then no where the book Bible would have formed, right from the beginning of the creation till the concluding chapters it mentions the God hath sent different kinds people with different governing style to govern them. Samson is one of them who were printed in the style of Judge to deliver the Israelites from the captivity of Philistines.

THE INACCURACY IN THE FAITH OF SAMSON'S PARENTS

Samson's story begins by narrating the anecdotes about the prominence in his birth; his parents were childless for many long years since her mother was sterile for whom Samson was born later. God hath sent his angel to a woman from the clan of Danites who was married to a man Manoah is to inform her that she will conceive and bear a male child. The Angel of God has also given her a set of instructions to follow, (i) Not to drink wine or other fermented drink, (ii) Not to eat anything unclean till he born, (iii) No razor be used on his head since he will be a Nazirite (Judges 13: 4-5) the Angel also conveyed her the God's plan to deliver Israelites from Philistines through her son, after this scene the woman had conveyed this message to her man Manoah, who doubts the authenticity of her words and asks God for further clarification. The Angel had appeared again conveys the same message to him what exactly the woman had conveyed him. This scene discloses the spirit of confidence between the man and his wife that he had demanded further clarification straight away from the third party source. It also portrays Manoah's need for a better clarification in order to hold the caution and to avoid mistakes.

THE BLOOPERS WITH HIS FIRST WIFE

After Samson got wedlock with a Philistine woman in Timnah, he gave seven days of feast to them as it was customary for a bridegroom in those days, he puts a riddle over them for which the reasons were not clear but assumed to be in three possibilities, (i) To make some profit, (ii) To prove his heroic which was a general quality of mankind, (iii) may be God's plan to create vengeance between Philistines and Samson, in which

most of the Christians will stick to the third one. Since the Philistines are unable to find the answer for the riddle they plowed Samson's wife to coax the answer for the riddle putting her and her family in the threat of death, that caused her to press Samson consistently to reveal her the answer in which she finally succeed. This scene discloses the determination of a woman and her tactics in getting things done in her favor and also portrays man's common weakness towards woman. When Philistines gave the answer for the riddle Samson realized, how they managed to get it done, he also understood the general characteristics of women.

THE ABERRATION OF SAMSON AND THE PHILISTINES

The 15th chapter of Judges explains Samson's vengeance over the Philistines, in which he goes back to his wife and asks for her who was given to one of his friend, but his father in law refused to give her back, thus provoked Samson and made him to exploit his anger against the entire Philistines by devastating some of their assets. When Philistines come to know the root cause of Samson's treachery, they put his wife and her father to death. This scene discloses to review the fairness of the act of Samson and the Philistines, of which Samson devastating the assets of entire Philistines just because of the rage he got with his father in law, it can be exempted in the case, if he shows his rage only over his father in law and his wife, since they had been the actual measure of the cause of it. This scene also reviews to judge the act of Philistines to kill their own people (means Samson's wife and her father) rather to show their retaliation only on Samson for his deed.

THE FINAL TREASON AND TREACHERY IN THE LIFE OF SAMSON

The 16th chapter of Judges Talks about the fall of Samson and his death, after beating the troops of Philistines on several occasions, he then fell in love with a woman in the valley of Sork named Delilah whose story justifies the title. Delilah was aroused to the desire of money by Philistines to betray Samson by luring him to find out the elements for defeating him, in all her efforts taken to find out the path to defeat Samson, Delilah was deceived by Samson on three occasions by giving her a false methods to defeat him. On all the three occasions Philistines tried their level best to catch him up and deliberately failed, since all the methods he said to his wife was a lie, but on the fourth occasion Samson finally revealed her the secret of his strength which held on his hair, which Delilah managed to cut off and thus resulted in Philistines seizing Samson as a prisoner. This scene discloses the term comedy of errors (despite of knowing the qualities of woman which he managed to know

from his first wife to whom he conveyed the answer for the riddle in (Judges 14:17) which was later conveyed to Samson's opponents, it seems he didn't learn any lessons out of it. Being more of that Samson got more chances to procure himself from the conspiracy of Delilah, the moment she surrenders him into the trap of Philistines in their first attempt itself to seize him, by hoping the said method to defeat Samson must be true in which the Philistines failed, since it is false method which he had conveyed only to Delilah. The same incident was repeated by Philistines precisely in second and third attempt to capture Samson by holding his strength which he had conveyed only to Delilah; even after the three attempts Samson is disabling to understand the reasons for Philistines attack and his wife's conspiracy. This scene once again portrait the general characteristics of women and their determination in fulfilling their desire and getting the things done in their favor, also men's common weakness towards women. Even thou Samson is the predominant character in his script, he falls eventually to the trap of women.

CONCLUSION

The term Comedy of Errors amplifies the humor through mistakes, blunder, fault and gaffe, insight of my view it resemblance with the title opted. The entire story of Samson in the book of Judges portraits many things like Love & Attraction, conspiracy, stupidity, savage, adamant, revengeful, and fulfills the term comedy of Errors.

REFERENCE

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