

His Hair Began to Grow Again...

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"Then the Philistines seized him and gouged out his eyes; and they brought him down to Gaza and bound him with bronze chains, and he was a grinder in the prison. 22However, the hair of his head began to grow again after it was shaved off. 25It so happened when they were in high spirits, that they said, "Call for Samson, that he may amuse us." So they called for Samson from the prison, and he entertained them. And they made him stand between the pillars..." (Judges 16:21-22,25)

Consider the heartbreaking story of Samson who traded the secret of his anointed strength for sin. How foolish he was to throw away his supernatural power in his lust for a traitorous, immoral woman. Yet he did, and he suffered greatly for it.

When he revealed to her the secret of his incredible physical strength—his hair that had never been cut since birth, she shaved it off, leaving him powerless against his captors.

At that time, mortal enemies would punish captives by brutally gouging out their eyes, thus rendering them harmless. Once Samson was taken captive, they gouged out his eyes and bound him in chains, forcing him to grind grain for hours every day, tied to a massive millstone, as if he were little more than an ox. As awful as this was, as is often the case, the punishment was unavoidable. He turned away from God when he looked at and lusted after what God had forbidden. Humiliated and alone, he had time to realize that he had brought his grievous suffering on himself. He knew but ignored the truth, that if God's people fail to keep their focus on God alone and turn away from temptation, they will fall into enemy hands and lose their anointing—their usefulness to God.

Though sightless, his spiritual vision was suddenly sharp, and he realized he was powerless without the Lord. Then came the day when his enemies arranged a celebration and said, "Call for Samson, that he may amuse us!" In front of 3,000 Philistines, he was ruthlessly ridiculed and mocked, yet Samson called out to God, and the strength that he had lost by sin he recovered by prayer!

The hair of his head had begun to grow again. Did you catch that? His hair was growing! All that was lost was recovered! Our God is the God of recovery and restoration! Great were the misdeeds of Samson, and he paid a terrible price for his sin, but he found mercy when he once again cried out to God. He repented and God forgave him. In fact, the celebration ended abruptly when Samson pulled down the pillars that

held up the building, killing every one of the Philistines. Remarkably, he is listed in the Hall of Faith in Hebrews 11, honored alongside Gideon, David, and Samuel. In the last moments of his life, Samson returned to God, and God answered his prayer and used him greatly.

Perhaps you've become spiritually blind due to lust of the flesh. You have looked at evil things and this has led to blurred spiritual vision, chains that bind you, grinding in a prison where you do not belong. Maybe you even traded your birthright for a cheap bowl of soup. Not only have you lost your eyes (spiritual vision) but you have lost your hair (glory and anointing) as well as your good name and reputation. The enemy has made you a laughing stock to the underworld. You are despised and rejected by men and now you bow your head in shame, wondering if God could ever restore you. If that describes you, I want you to know that God loves to give restoration and second chances to those who repent.

Cry out to Him with all your heart and soul, humbly repent for trading your anointing for sin. He will hear your cry for help and answer you. He will give you new vision to see things from His perspective. He will destroy the chains that bind you, and you will walk out of that prison and into your destiny. God declares you righteous because of the blood of Jesus, and says you will recover all! Trust Him, and know He will rescue and restore you. He will revive you, and you will reclaim all, for He is your refuge and strength, and by His power your hair will grow again!