



Unrealized Potential

Judges 13:1-5 (ESV)

And the people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, so the Lord gave them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years. ² There was a certain man of Zorah, of the tribe of the Danites, whose name was Manoah. And his wife was barren and had no children. ³ And the angel of the Lord appeared to the woman and said to her, "Behold, you are barren and have not borne children, but you shall conceive and bear a son. ⁴ Therefore be careful and drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, ⁵ for behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb, and he shall begin to save Israel from the hand of the Philistines."

Judges 14:1-20 (ESV)

Judges 16:16-21 (ESV)

And when she pressed him hard with her words day after day, and urged him, his soul was vexed to death. ¹⁷ And he told her all his heart, and said to her, "A razor has never come upon my head, for I have been a Nazirite to God from my mother's womb. If my head is shaved, then my strength will leave me, and I shall become weak and be like any other man." ¹⁸ When Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called the lords of the Philistines, saying, "Come up again, for he has told me all his heart." Then the lords of the Philistines came up to her and brought the money in their hands. ¹⁹ She made him sleep on her knees. And she called a man and had him shave off the seven locks of his head. Then she began to torment him, and his strength left him. ²⁰ And she said, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" And he awoke from his sleep and said, "I will go out as at other times and shake myself free." But he did not know that the Lord had left him. ²¹ And the Philistines seized him and gouged out his eyes and brought him down to Gaza and bound him with bronze shackles. And he ground at the mill in the prison.

1. Minor leaguers have authority issues. (Judges 13:1; Judges 17:6; Proverbs 14:12)

2. Minor leaguers have great strengths but weak wills.

- Samson was a strong man with a dangerously weak will.
- Samson was driven by his emotions, not by spirit-led commitments.

Minor League Attitudes:

1. I want it now!
2. I deserve it!
3. I can handle it!

Major League Attitudes:

1. I want God.
2. I deserve death.
3. I can't handle anything without God.

Ephesians 6:10 (NIV)

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

2 Corinthians 12:9a (NKJV)

And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness."

3. Minor leaguers are never fully satisfied! (John 10:10)