

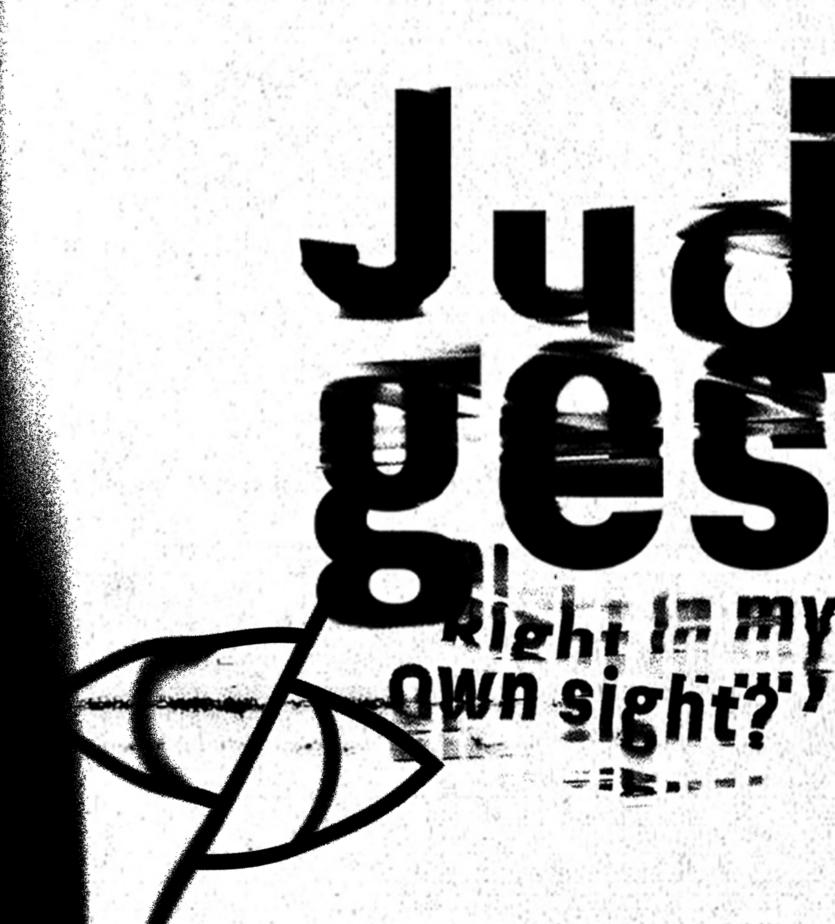
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### Powerful Outer Life, Broken Inner Life

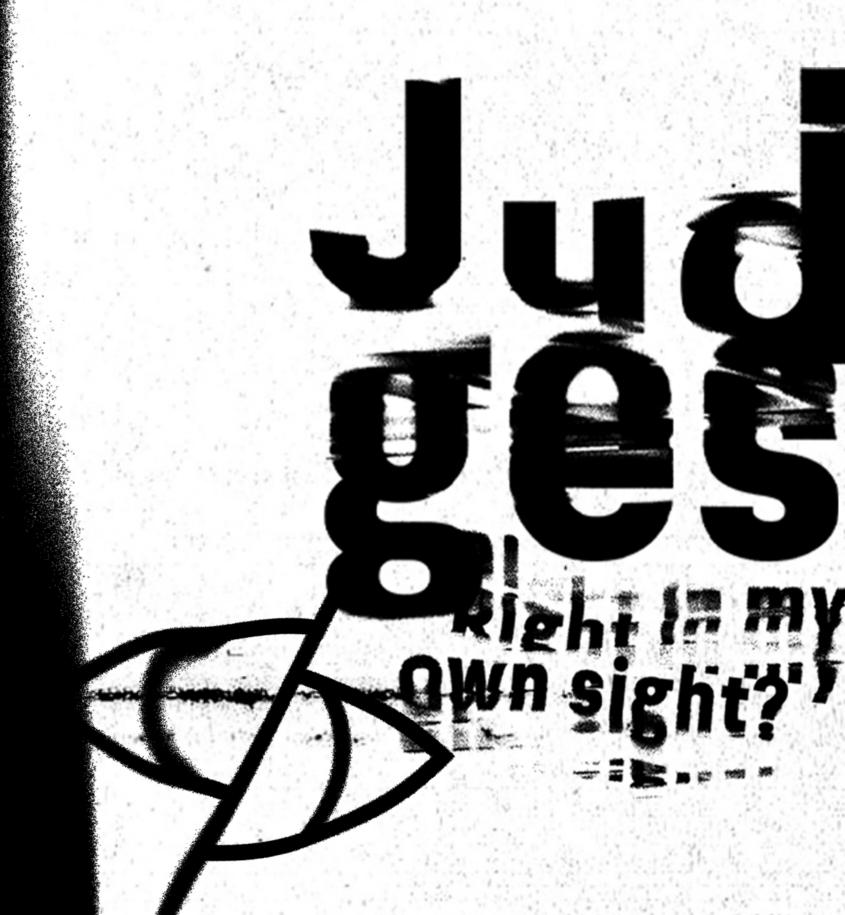
Judges 15:18-16:22



The unrestrained pursuit of legitimate desires in illegitimate ways leaves us blind, captive, and broken.



How do you know you are pursuing legitimate desires in an illegitimate way?





### Our prayers are immature



18 Now Samson was very thirsty, so he called out to the Lord, "YOU ARE THE ONE who allowed this great victory to be accomplished by Your servant's hands. Am I now going to die of thirst and fall into the hands of the uncircumcised?" 19 So God split open the hollow rock in Lehi, and water flowed out of it.

### Judges 15:18-19



When Samson drank, his energy returned and he was recharged. Thus that place is still called by the name En-hakkore (the spring of him who called) in Lehi today.

#### Judges 15:18-19





1.1 – Prayer is an indicator of the state of your soul not the situation.



# We repeat destructive patterns.



#### Judges 16:4-7

(CEB)

4 Some time after this, in the Sorek Valley, Samson fell in love with a woman whose name was Delilah. 5 The rulers of the Philistines confronted her and said to her, "Seduce him and find out what gives him such great strength and what we can do to overpower him, so that we can tie him up and make him weak. Then we'll each pay you eleven hundred pieces of silver."

### Judges 16:4-7

(CEB)

6 So Delilah said to Samson, "Please tell me what gives you such great strength AND how you can be tied up AND made weak." 7 Samson replied to her, "If someone ties me up with seven fresh bowstrings that aren't dried out, I'll become weak. I'll be like any other person."

3 The lips of a mysterious woman drip honey, and her tongue is smoother than oil, 4 but in the end she is bitter as gall, sharp as a double-edged sword. 5 Her feet go down to death; her steps lead to the grave.

#### Proverbs 5:3-5



### Matthew 26:38-39

(CEB)

38 Then He said to them, "I'M VERY SAD. It's as if I'm DYING. Stay here and KEEP ALERT WITH ME." 39 Then He went a short distance farther and fell on His face and PRAYED, "My Father, if it's possible, TAKE THIS CUP OF SUFFERING away from Me. However-NOT WHAT I WANT BUT WHAT YOU WANT."

### We rely on our own strength.



10 Then Delilah said to Samson, "You made a fool out of me and lied to me. Now please tell me how you can really be tied up!" 11 He replied to her, "If someone ties me up with new ropes that haven't been used for work, I'll become weak. I'll be like any other person.

### Judges 16:10-13



13 And Delilah said to Samson, "Up to now, you've made a fool out of me and lied to me. Tell me how you can be tied up!" He responded to her, "If you weave the seven braids of my hair into the fabric on a loom and pull it tight with a pin, then I'll become weak. I'll be like any other person.

### Judges 16:10-13



### We trust the wrong people.



### Judges 16:15-17

(CEB)

15 Delilah said to him, "HOW CAN YOU SAY, 'I LOVE YOU,' when you won't trust me? Three times now you've made a fool out of me and not told me what gives you such great strength!" 16 She nagged him with her words DAY AFTER DAY and begged him until he became worn out to the point of death. [SO THAT HIS SOUL WAS VEXED TO DEATH, THAT HE TOLD HER ALL HIS HEART], 17 So he told her his whole secret. He said to her...

# We can't discern the presence of God.



20 She called out, "Samson, the Philistines are on you!" He woke up from his sleep and thought, I'll escape just like the other times and shake myself free. BUT HE DIDN'T REALIZE THAT THE LORD HAD LEFT HIM. 21 So the Philistines CAPTURED him, PUT OUT his EYES, and took him down to Gaza.

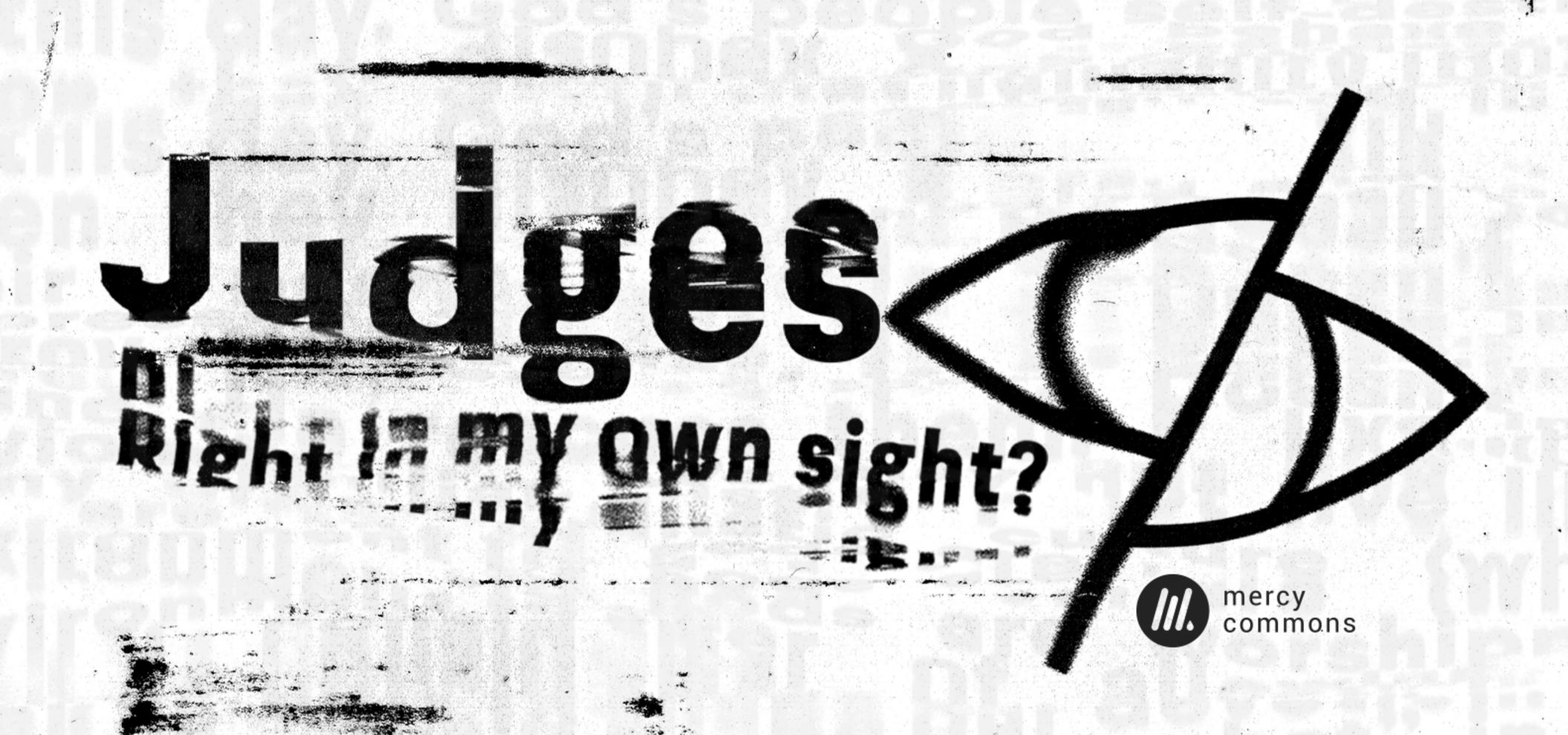
### Judges 16:10-13



They bound him with bronze chains, and he worked the grinding mill in the prison. 22 But the hair on his head began to grow again right after it had been shaved.

#### Judges 16:10-13





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