

# Close Encounters of The God Kind

Judges Pt 11



## God's Timing

Jdg 13:1 & 5 NLT Again the Israelites did evil in the LORD's sight, so the LORD handed them over to the Philistines, who oppressed them for forty years.....vs 5 [a new baby would be born → and the LORD said] He will begin to rescue Israel from the Philistines.

2 In those days a man named Manoah from the tribe of Dan lived in the town of Zorah. His wife was unable to become pregnant, and they had no children. 3 The angel of the LORD appeared to Manoah's wife and said, "Even though you have been unable to have children, you will soon become pregnant and give birth to a son.

4 So be careful; you must not drink wine or any other alcoholic drink nor eat any forbidden food.

5 You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and his hair must never be cut. For he will be dedicated to God as a Nazirite from birth. He will begin to rescue Israel from the Philistines.”

Jer 1:5 NLT “I knew you before I formed you in your mother’s womb. Before you were born I set you apart and appointed you as my prophet to the nations.”

## God Encounters Manoah

*(Manoah's wife ran to tell him what happened)*

7 But he told me, 'You will become pregnant and give birth to a son. You must not drink wine or any other alcoholic drink nor eat any forbidden food. For your son will be dedicated to God as a Nazirite from the moment of his birth until the day of his death.'"

8 Then Manoah prayed to the LORD, saying,  
“Lord, please let the man of God come back to us  
again and give us more instructions about this  
son who is to be born.” 9 God answered  
Manoah’s prayer, and the angel of God appeared  
once again to his wife...

12 So Manoah asked him, “When your words come true, what kind of rules should govern the boy’s life and work?” 13 The angel of the LORD replied, “Be sure your wife follows the instructions I gave her. 16...(Manoah didn’t realize it was the angel of the LORD.)



## Manoah and His Wife Finally Realize

17 Then Manoah asked the angel of the LORD, “What is your name? For when all this comes true, we want to honor you.” 18 “Why do you ask my name?” the angel of the LORD replied. “It is too wonderful for you to understand.”

19 Then Manoah took a young goat and a grain offering and offered it on a rock as a sacrifice to the LORD. And as Manoah and his wife watched, the LORD did **an amazing thing**. 20 As the flames from the altar shot up toward the sky, the angel of the LORD ascended in the fire. When Manoah and his wife saw this, **they fell with their faces to the ground**.

## Manoah and His Wife Encountered Jesus

21 The angel did not appear again to Manoah and his wife. Manoah finally realized it was the angel of the LORD, 22 and he said to his wife, “We will certainly die, for we have seen God!”

Hagar (Gen 16:7–13) - The angel of the LORD found her... (v. 7) , and Hagar says, “You are the God who sees me” (v. 13)

Moses at the Burning Bush (Ex 3:2–6) - The angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire...” (v. 2) The angel says, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob” (v. 6) and commands worship.

Php 2:9-11 NLT Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## God Encounters Samson

24 When her son was born, she named him Samson. And the LORD blessed him as he grew up. 25 And the Spirit of the LORD began to stir him while he lived in Mahaneh-dan, which is located between the towns of Zorah and Eshtaol.