

A painting of a gnarled, leafless tree in a landscape with mountains and a cloudy sky. The tree is on the left, with its branches reaching across the top. The background shows a range of mountains under a sky with soft, grey clouds. The overall tone is somber and contemplative.

# PARTIAL VICTORIES

& THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD

SAMSON 2 — FLAWED HUMANITY AND THE VICTORY OF GOD

JUDGES 16



EDITED FROM THE STUDY BY

**TIMOTHY  
KELLER**

**THIS IS FOR YOU  
TO READ, POINTING YOU  
TO GOD'S GREATEST RESCUE.**

**THIS IS FOR YOU  
TO FEED, HELPING  
YOU MEDITATE ON GOD'S  
WORD DAY BY DAY.**

**THIS IS FOR YOU  
TO LEAD, EQUIPPING YOU  
TO TEACH THE BIBLE TO  
OTHERS. THIS IS**

**JUDGES  
FOR YOU**

The more God blessed Samson, giving him strength to fight his foes, the more Samson grew confident in his own invulnerability; and the more he engaged in irresponsible behavior. In other words, *Samson used God's blessings as a reason to forget God.*



Timothy Keller, *Judges for You* 152. *Emphasis added*

## SAMSON

## JESUS

Set apart at birth

Set apart by birth

Angelic announcement

Angelic announcement

Disobeys God

Fully obeys God

Shows us a broken humanity

Shows us full humanity

God uses him in spite of himself

God uses him fully as himself

Proud and Strong

Humble and Strong

Takes revenge on enemies

Died for enemies

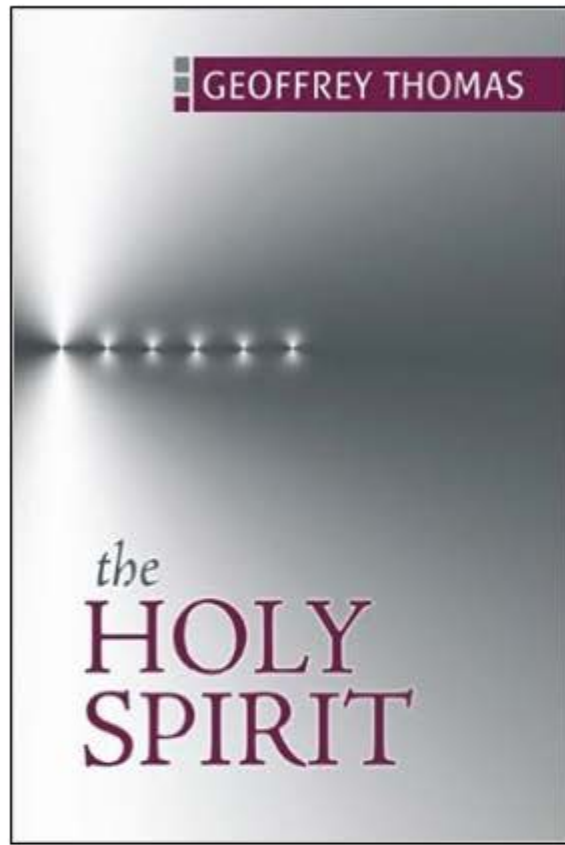
Partial Victory

Full Victory

Longing for a King

The King we Need





*There is no good in any of us that is not a result of the Spirit's work. Every virtue we possess, every victory we win, and every thought of holiness are due to the Spirit. Whatever God calls us to do in life can be accomplished only by the Holy Spirit. Without Him we can do nothing. We cannot do any spiritual good without the Spirit. Every new Christian becomes a believer through the sovereign work of the Holy Spirit. Every Christian who finishes the race of life and enters glory has been kept and prepared for heaven by the power of the Spirit.*



Geoffrey Thomas, *The Holy Spirit* (Reformation Heritage Books, 2011)