

3 days the wedding guests cannot solve the riddle (14:14).

30 companions brought to the feast (14:11).

30 linen garments wagered (14:12).

30 changes of clothes wagered (14:13).

30 men of Ashkelon killed to pay the wager (14:19).

300 foxes caught, paired, and set on fire (15:4).

3,000 men of Judah who bind him and hand him to the Philistines (15:11).

3,000 men and women on the roof when he pulls the temple down (16:27).

Three women structure the cycle: the Timnah wife (14-15), the Gaza prostitute (16:1-3), and Delilah (16:4-21).

The Spirit of the Lord rushes on Samson three times: at the lion (14:6), at Ashkelon (14:19), and at Lehi when the ropes break (15:14). It is not said to rush on him in the Delilah chapter.

Delilah's test is three false answers before the true one: seven fresh bowstrings, new ropes, and weaving the seven locks into the loom (16:6-14). Each time the Philistines are waiting, and each time he breaks free.

The riddle itself is a doubled three-beat line: "Out of the eater came something to eat; out of the strong came something sweet" (14:14).

His parents are named as a pair, but the Timnah story moves in three beats: he asks them to get her, they go down to the feast, and he returns later with a kid and finds her given away.

