



## SAMSON'S LAST FEAT

Walnut

*Judges 16:29, 30a*

*And Samson grasped the two middle pillars  
upon which the house rested,  
and he leaned his weight upon them,  
his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other.  
And Samson said, "Let me die with the Phillistines."  
Then he bowed with all his might;  
and the house fell upon the lords  
and upon all the people that were in it...*

Many of my pieces were carved from blocks of walnut for several reasons. One is that it is available from many of the better lumber yards in thicknesses up to about four inches. Another reason is that it is a hard wood that allows a clean cut with a sharp chisel and it has a pleasing grain. I have used different finishes on walnut, from beeswax to common every-day floor wax and found them all to be quite satisfactory.

One of the amusing things to me about this piece concerns the crack in each of the columns and in the overhead lintel. Most people who see this ask if it was pieced together and seem to be surprised when I tell them it was carved that way.