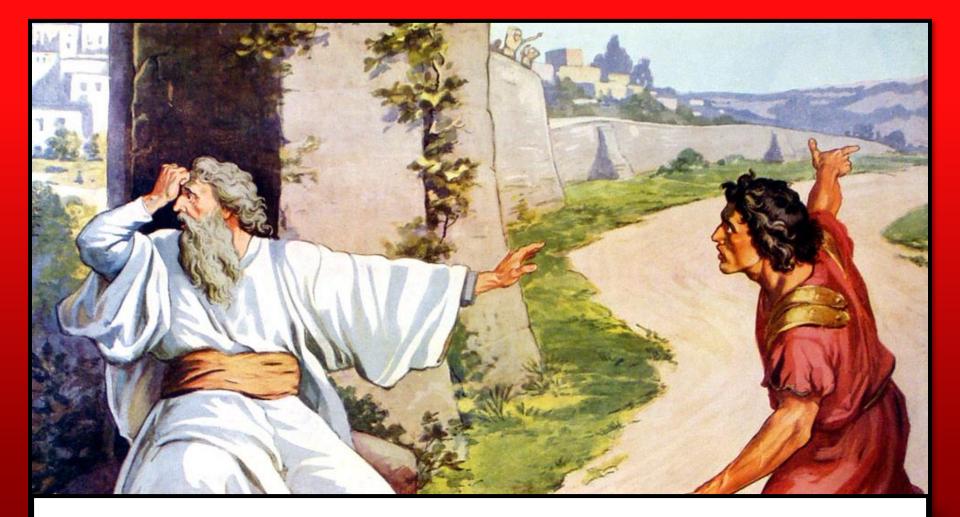
# SAUL, DAVID, & SOLOMON Lessons In Faith





# **LESSON 1b**

# The Philistines Return The Ark of the Covenant I Samuel 5 - 7



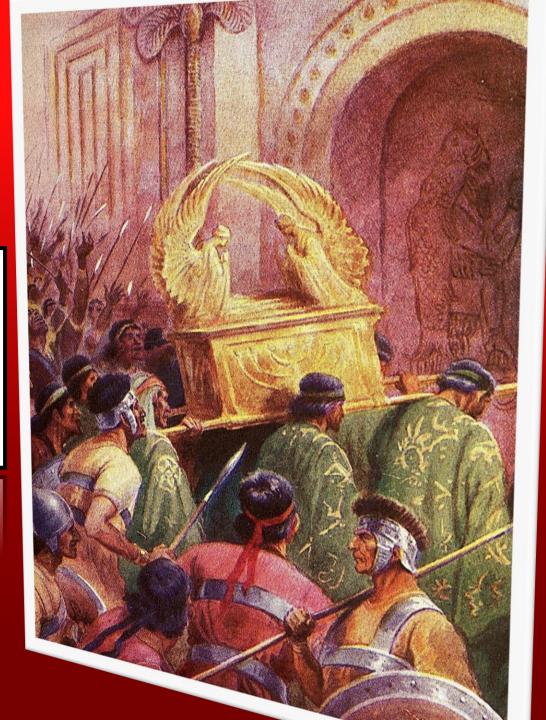
Eli's sons, Hophni and Phinehas, offended God for the last time when they allowed the ark of the covenant to be taken from the tabernacle in Shiloh to a battle against the Philistines. They were killed in the battle and THE ARK WAS TAKEN. Eli fell over and died when he heard the news.



"<sup>1</sup>And the Philistines took the ark of God, and brought it from Ebenezer unto Ashdod."

"<sup>2</sup>When the Philistines took the ark of God, they brought it into the house of Dagon, and set it by Dagon."

of Dagon, and set it by Dagon."

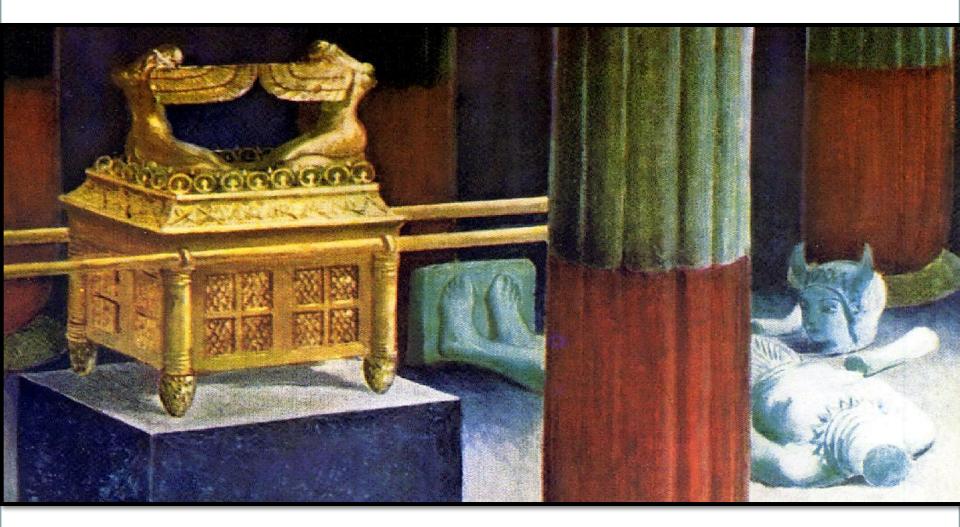


## **Dagon** Part Fish – Part Man

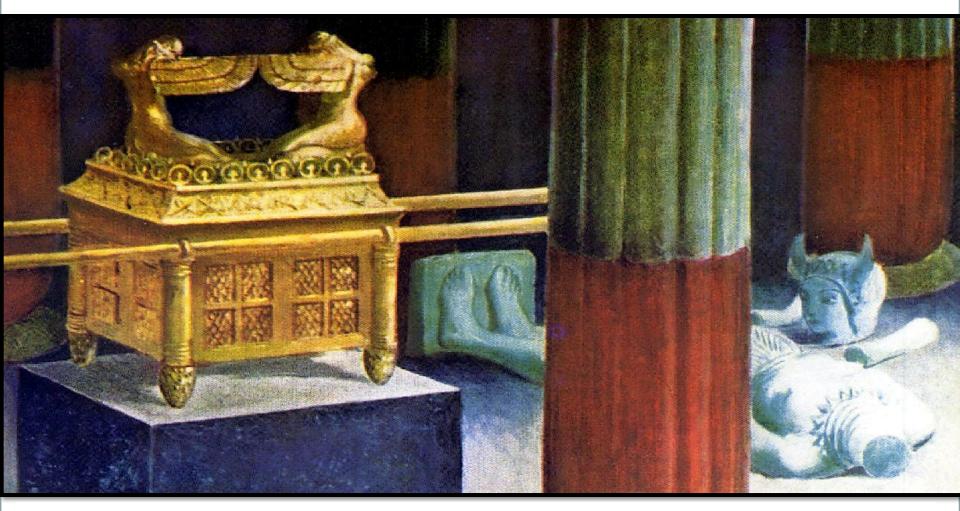
The land of the Philistines was on the coast and they were great fishermen.



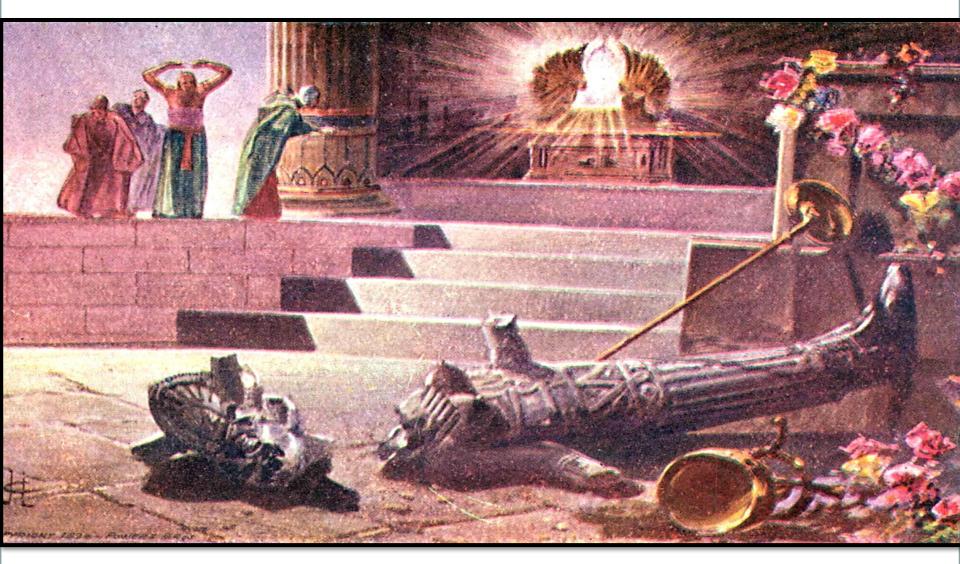




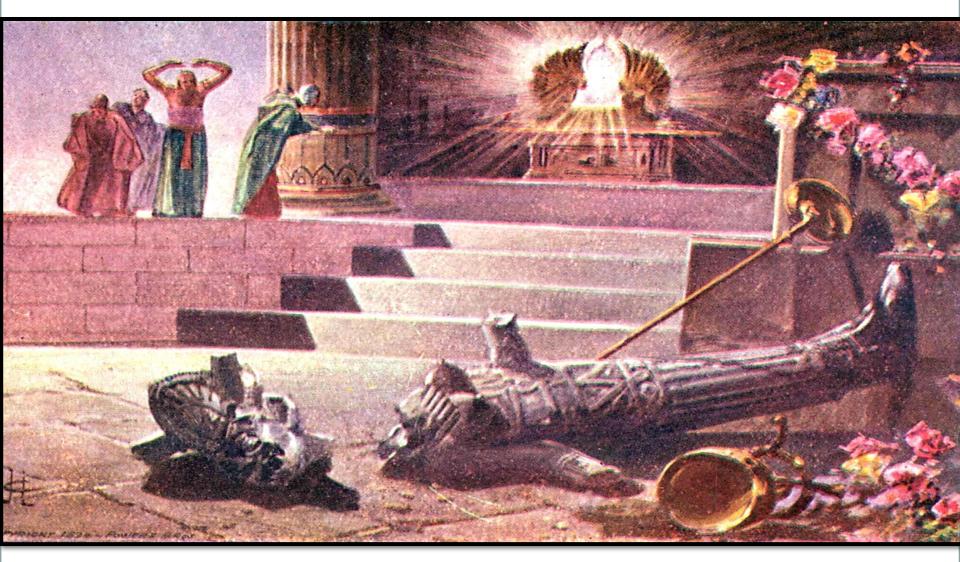
"<sup>3</sup>And when they of Ashdod arose early on the morrow, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his face to the earth before the ark of the LORD. And they took Dagon, and set him in his place again."



"<sup>4</sup>And when they arose early on the morrow morning, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his face to the ground before the ark of the LORD; and the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands were cut off upon the threshold; only the stump of Dagon was left to him."



"<sup>6</sup>The hand of the LORD was heavy upon them of Ashdod, and he destroyed them, and smote them with emerods, even Ashdod and the coasts thereof."

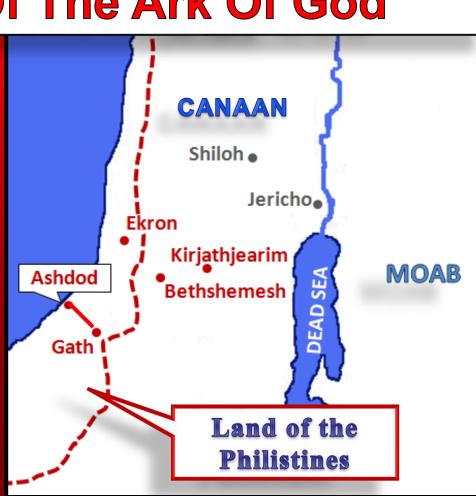


"<sup>7</sup>And when the men of Ashdod saw that it was so, they said, The ark of the God of Israel shall not abide with us: for his hand is sore upon us, and upon Dagon our god."

## **Return Of The Ark Of God**

#### 1 Samuel 5

"<sup>8</sup>They sent therefore and gathered all the lords of the Philistines unto them. and said, What shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel? And they answered, Let the ark of the God of Israel be carried about unto Gath. And they carried the ark of the God of Israel about thither."



"9And it was so, that, after they had carried it about, the hand of the LORD was against the city with a very great destruction: and he smote the men of the city, both small and great, and they had emerods in their secret parts. <sup>10</sup>Therefore they sent the ark of God to Ekron.



# **Return Of The Ark Of God**

#### 1 Samuel 5

people."

"<sup>10</sup>. . . And it came to pass, as the ark of God came to Ekron, that the Ekronites cried out, saying, They have brought about the ark of the God of Israel to us, to slay us and our people."

to slay us and our

CANAAN Shiloh • Jericho. Ekron Kirjathjearim MOAB Ashdod DEAD SEA Bethshemesh Gath Land of the **Philistines** 



"<sup>11</sup>So they sent and gathered together all the lords of the Philistines, and said, Send away the ark of the God of Israel, and let it go again to his own place, that it slay us not, and our people: for there was a deadly destruction throughout all the city; the hand of God was very heavy there. <sup>12</sup>And the men that died not were smitten with the emerods: and the cry of the city went up to heaven."



"<sup>1</sup>And the ark of the LORD was in the country of the Philistines seven months. <sup>2</sup>And the Philistines called for the priests and the diviners, saying, What shall we do to the ark of the LORD? tell us wherewith we shall send it to his place."

Nesdocka kale dan kanada sa

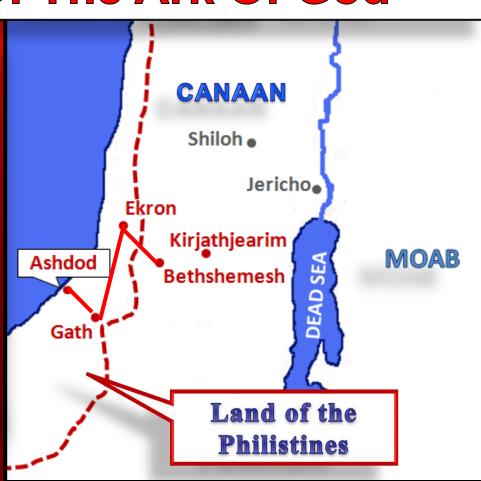
They said send the ark back on a new cart and put an offering on the cart: 5 golden emerods 5 golden mice Jewels of gold in a coffer Have 2 milk cows pull the cart. Keep their calves away from them at home.

## **Return Of The Ark Of God**

#### 1 Samuel 6

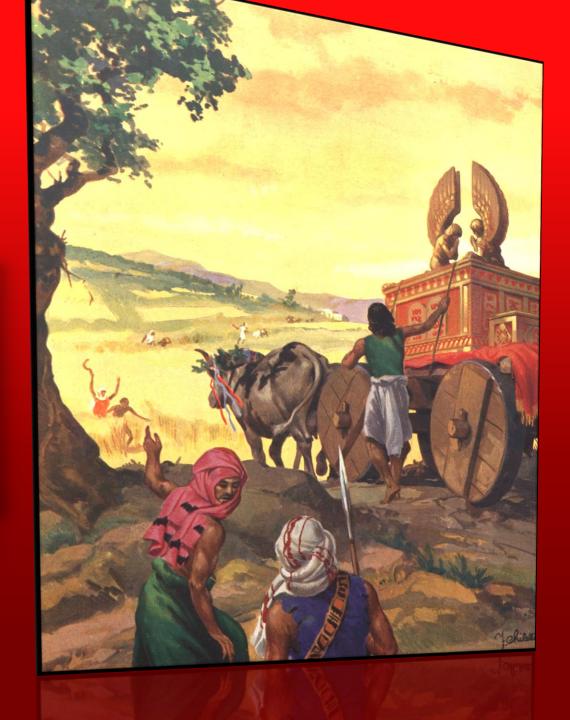
"<sup>9</sup>And see, if it goeth up by the way of his own coast to Bethshemesh, then he hath done us this great evil: but if not, then we shall know that it is not his hand that smote us: it was a chance that happened to us."

m is not mis name that smote us: it was a chance that happened to us."



"<sup>10</sup>And the men did so; and took two milch kine, and tied them to the cart, and shut up their calves at home."

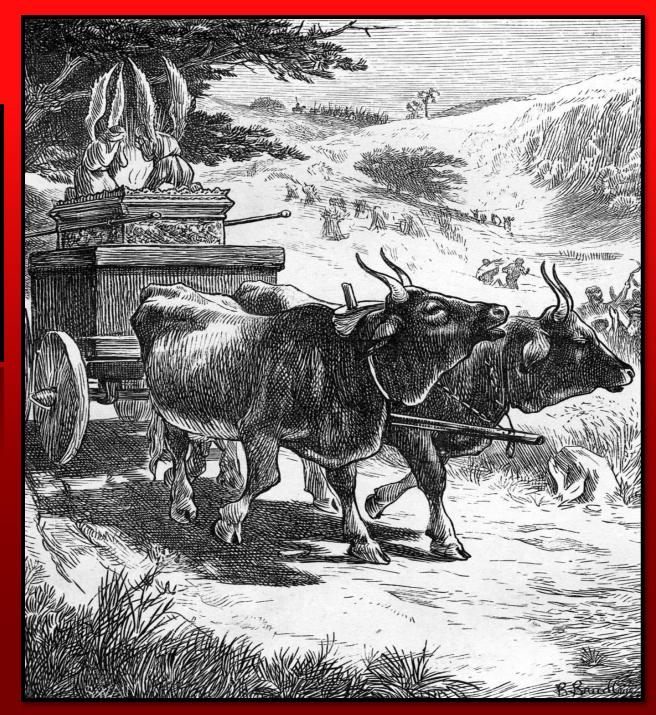
shut up their calves at home."



"<sup>11</sup>And they laid the ark of the LORD upon the cart, and the coffer with the mice of gold and the images of their emerods."

"<sup>12</sup>And the kine took the straight way to the way of Bethshemesh, and went along the highway, lowing as they went ...."

and went along the highway, lowing as they went . . . "



The mother cows did not want to leave their baby calves but they were miraculously compelled to go. Cows are domesticated animals, and they do not tend to stray far except for food and water, especially when they have calves.

The calves were most likely calling for the mothers to return also.

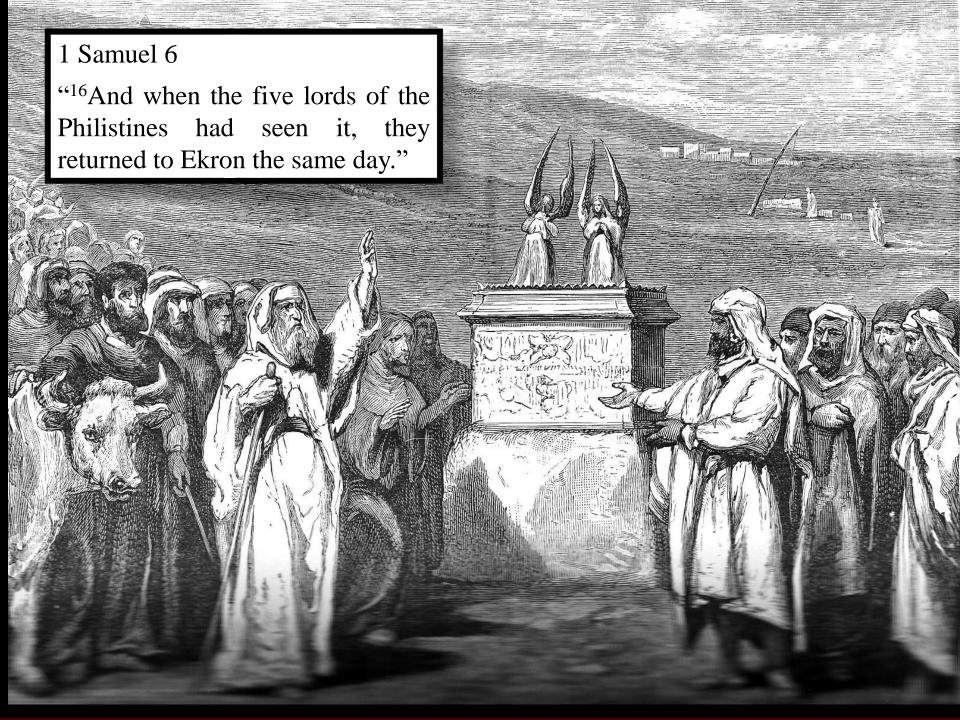
"<sup>12</sup>And the kine took the straight way to the way of Bethshemesh, and went along the highway, lowing as they went, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left; and the lords of the Philistines went after them unto the border of Bethshemesh."

"<sup>13</sup>And they of Bethshemesh were reaping their wheat harvest in the valley: and they lifted up their eyes, and saw the ark, and rejoiced to see it."

"<sup>14</sup>And the cart came into the field of Joshua, a Bethshemite, and stood there, where there was a great stone: and they clave the wood of the cart, and offered the kine a burnt offering unto the LORD."



"<sup>15</sup>And the Levites took down the ark of the LORD, and the coffer that was with it, wherein the jewels of gold were, and put them on the great stone: and the men of Bethshemesh offered burnt offerings and sacrificed sacrifices the same day unto the LORD."

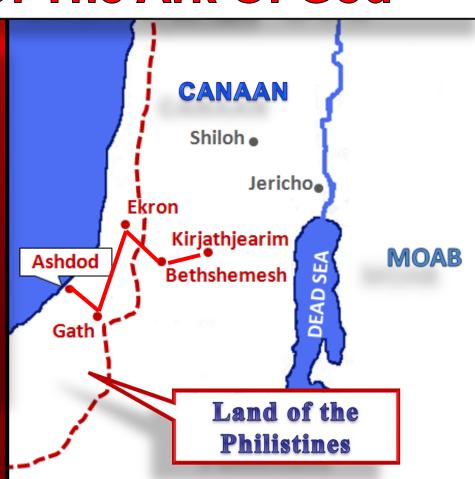




## **Return Of The Ark Of God**

#### 1 Samuel 7

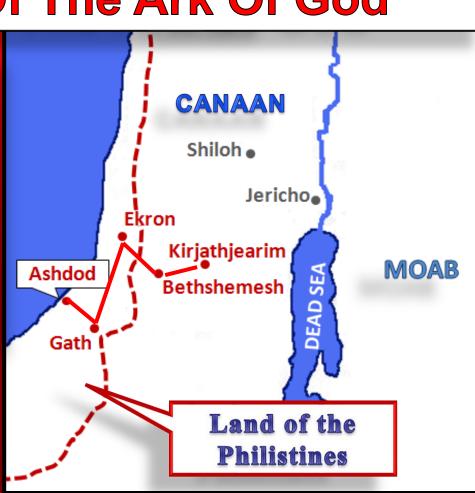
"<sup>1</sup>And the men of Kirjathjearim came, and fetched up the ark of the LORD, and brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the ark of the LORD."



# **Return Of The Ark Of God**

#### 1 Samuel 7

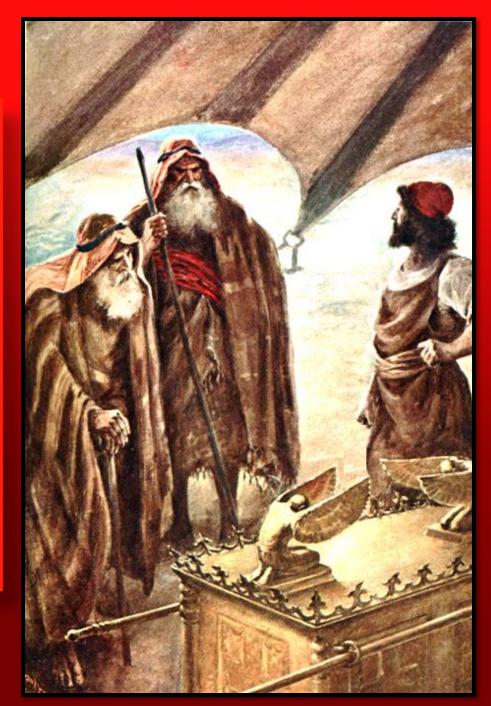
"<sup>2</sup>And it came to pass, while the ark abode in Kirjathjearim, that the time was long; for it was twenty years: and all the house of Israel lamented after the LORD."



# What to do with the ark of the covenant?

The tabernacle at Shiloh had been profaned, so the ark stayed in the house of Abinadab at Kirjathjearim.

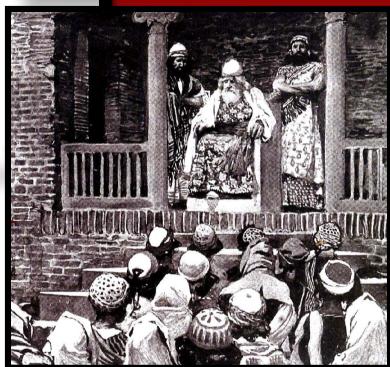
Samuel sanctified Abinadab's son, Eleazar, to keep the ark of the LORD.



Eli had been both judge and high priest at Shiloh for forty years. Samuel was God's choice to replace him, but Shiloh was forsaken by God, so Samuel moved to his birth place in Ramah.



"<sup>17</sup>And his return was to Ramah; for there was his house; and there he judged Israel . . ."



"... and there he built an altar unto the LORD."

Samuel went to the people rather than them coming to him. He had a circuit he traveled to *schools of the prophets* which he started at Bethel, Gilgal, and Mizpeh.

#### 1 Samuel 7

<sup>"15</sup>And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. <sup>16</sup>And he went from year to year in circuit to Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places."



## Samuel was instrumental in:

Securing peace for Israel Recovering their cities from the Philistines Persuading Israel to turn from idols Providing a place for worship

AND, it appears that in the days of Samuel Israel kept the ordinance of the Passover with more than ordinary devotion.

