

1-2) City of Priest B-S requested men of K-J to come get Ark. It mishandled by them so non-priest bring it home K-J to house Abinadab & set apart Eleazar his son to look after the Ark. Household blessed for 20 years.

God doesn't need a Tabernacle or Temple or Priesthood, formalism or rituals or even churches that don't serve the purpose of relationship and worship. He uses a family of outsiders who honor God & are trustworthy in handling Ark & God blesses them. "I am the LORD God I will be treated as holy' Lev 10:3 He looks for those who will treat Him that way **2 Chron 16:9**
"For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His....."

When ministers or church fails to represent Him, He will move on and raise up those who love Him and want to be use by Him...is that you and me?

Sad that Israel satisfied w/ an altar w/o Ark; rituals w/o reality, religion w/o relationship. But it took 20 years for them to lament or grieve for God

3,4) Sam preached repentance, while God stirred hearts w/ a promise of victory over enemies. It brought conviction & about face, turning from idols. 'Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God...' Direct your hearts, exhortation to prepare or fix securely—determine this, arrange your heart in this way. Sam labors 20 years before their hearts are moved.

Baal--Canaanite god of fertility and death, king of the gods who descended to underworld and returned – **Ashteroth**—fertility goddess of sea and fishermen wife of Baal

5,6) Water precious commodity, poured out signified a life pour out to the Lord in repentance and service. David **1Chron 11:18,19** Now an empty vessel for God to fill and use. Our sin made us like water spilled, poured out on ground never to be gathered back. Misspent year in sin can never be recovered but can be redeemed. Jesus is for our sins *'I am poured out like water...Ps 22:14* Feast of Tabernacles *Jn 7:37-39* **Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If any man is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. 38 "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.'" 39 But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.** Jesus fulfills **Is 12:2,3**

Fasted act of humiliation over sin & public confession, acknowledging their shame and contrition—Repentance should be as notorious as the sin committed.

7) When we make a move toward the Lord the devil and his demons make a move toward us. Any new work of the Lord is always opposed by Satan. Revival breaks out at Mizpah—put away idols—Philistines hear & come against. **think it not strange when 1Pet 4:12-14**

Discouragement & condemnation are Satan's great tools.

8-11) Burnt offering is dedication of self to Lord. Not so much the amount but the intent-honest, sincere heart *Ps 51:16,17* **For Thou dost not delight in sacrifice, otherwise I would give it; Thou art not pleased with burnt offering. 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.** Only one offering as widows mite wasn't much but to God it was a lot because she gave of her life, what she lived on, needed for herself but gave to God. God always looks at the heart.

God gave Israel a decisive victory over the Philistines even though Israel was fearful and intimidated. He promised it & what God promises He will perform. Prayer and sacrifice the power God used. For us prayer and faith in Christ sacrifice power over enemy. ***2Cor 10:4,5 for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. 5 We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,***

12,14) A memorial stone, place and inaugurated help God gave. Not the value of the stone but it's meaning; a declaration of God's glory in helping to instill courage in a fearful people.

Ebenezer-stone of help, a reminder of what God has done and encouragement for what God will do. **We all have a history w/ God.**

Eph 3:20,21 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, 21 to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Not only victory but restoration of cities....***NKJ Joel 2:25 "So I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, The crawling locust, The consuming locust, And the chewing locust, My great army which I sent among you.***

Peace w/ Amorites-***Pr 16:7 When a man's ways are pleasing to the LORD, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.***

15-17) Sam was in ministry from birth to death, no retirement—bible is never retired. Nu 8:23-26 Priest term was serving beginning at 25 yrs (apprentice) & active at 30 yrs Nu 4:3 & going to age 50 yrs retire from active service & had new role of temple guards, advisors, assist & council younger priest.