

Mining Biblical



Truth



Minding Biblical Truth



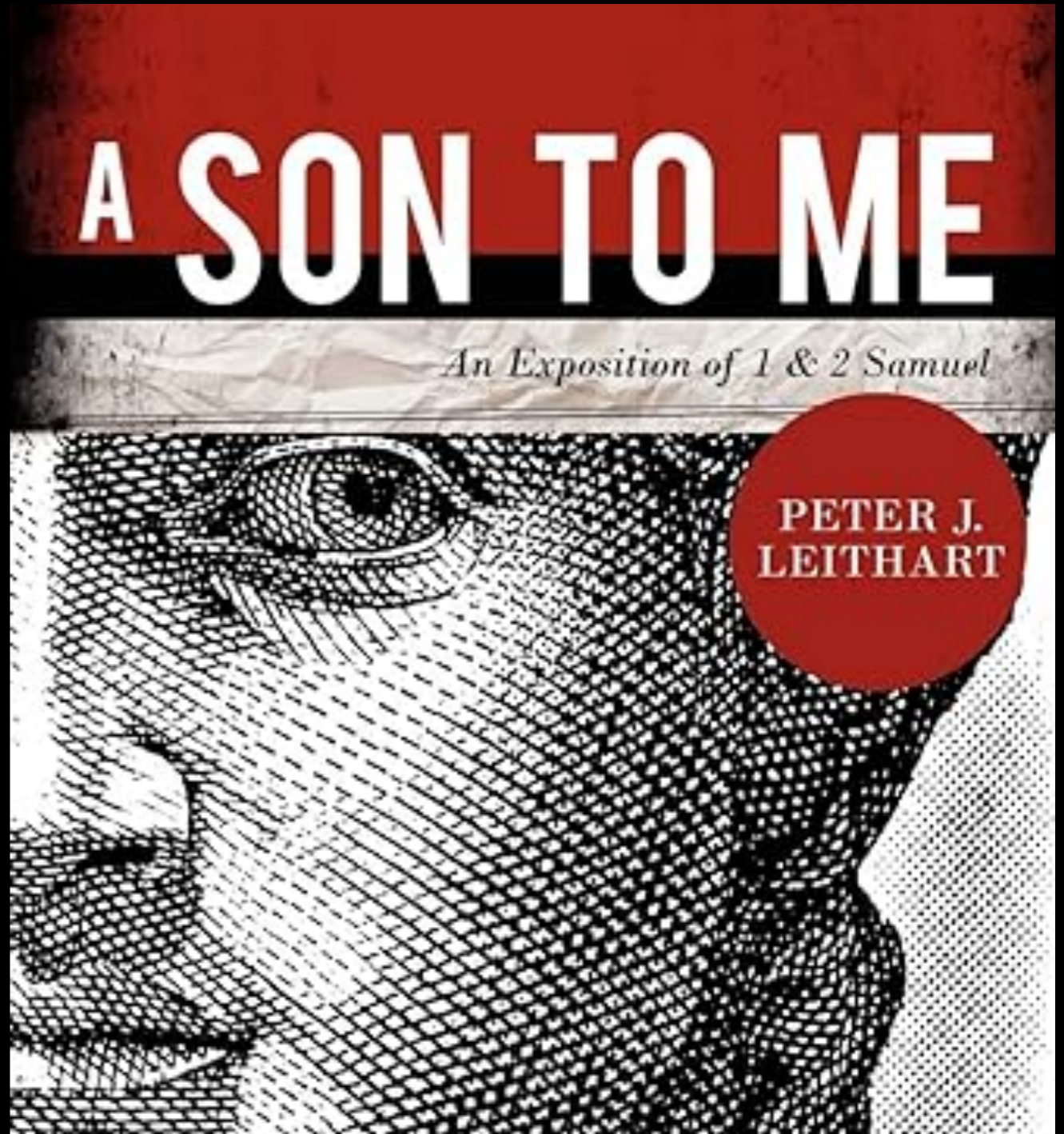
Ken Requard



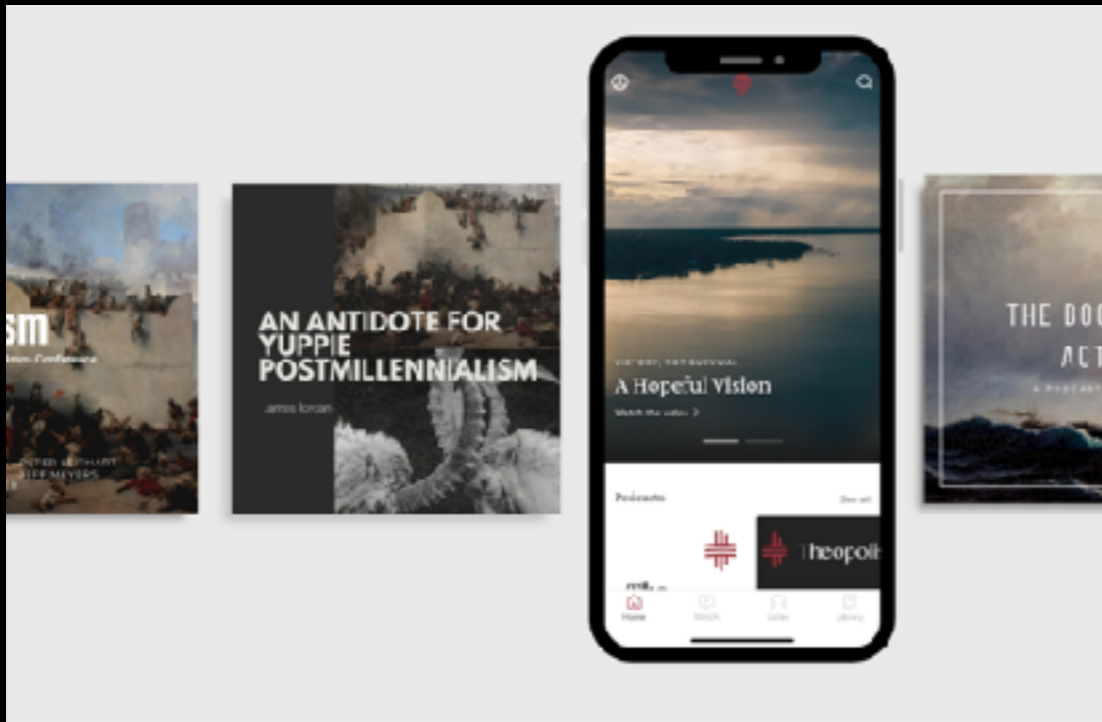
Resources



Podcast by 9marks on Samuel featuring James M. Hamilton Jr and others.



Requires subscription:
Commentary by
Alistair Roberts.



The Theopolis App



Birth and Rule of Samuel: 1 Sam 1-7:

A. Samuel's birth and lifelong dedication to YHWH: 1:1-2:11.

- Born in Ramah, back and forth to Shiloh.

B. Eli's wicked sons show contempt for YHWH at the tabernacle: 2:12-26.

C. Prophecy that Eli's sons will be killed in one day: 2:27-3:1a.

D. TURNING POINT: Samuel's call: 3:1b-4:1a.

C. Prophecy about Eli's sons comes true in one day: 4:1b-22.

B'. Philistines learn to respect YHWH with the Ark: 5:1-7:1.

A'. Samuel's victory and lifelong rule over Israel: 7:2-17.

- Lives in Ramah, back and forth to Shiloh and other sites.



The Ark 1 Sam 4-7

A. Battle of APHEK with physical presence of the Ark (Philistine victory) 4:1b-11.

B. Ark captured and exiled to Philistia: 4:12-22.

C. Ark in Philistia: Plagues: 5:1-12.

D. TURNING POINT: Return of the Ark: 6:1-18.

C. Ark in Beth-shemesh: Plagues: 6:19-21.

B'. Ark exiled in Kiriath-jearim: 7:1-2.

A'. Battle of EBENEZER without the Ark but with spiritual presence of the Lord (Israelite victory): 7:3-17.

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1 Samuel 4-7
Trusting GOD.





Aim: Learn that God is holy and only He can be trusted.

Hebrew roots: KBD or KVD:

kavad (verb)	it is on you	to weigh heavily upon
kaved (verb)	it defines you	to be glorious, honorable, weighty
kavod (noun)	you receive it	honor glory
kibed (verb)	you give it	give honor to, to clean or sweep
kibud (adj)	you proclaim it	honoring
koved (noun)	you carry it	mass or weight

Eli and his sons gain weight physically while losing honor and failing to glorify God.

Eli refuses to exert any weight on his evil sons.

So the Lord dishonors Eli with a weighty prophesy of lost glory.



Eli and his sons were not holy and could not be trusted.

While they lose honor, Samuel gains honor as he glorifies the Lord through obedience.

Psalm 115:1

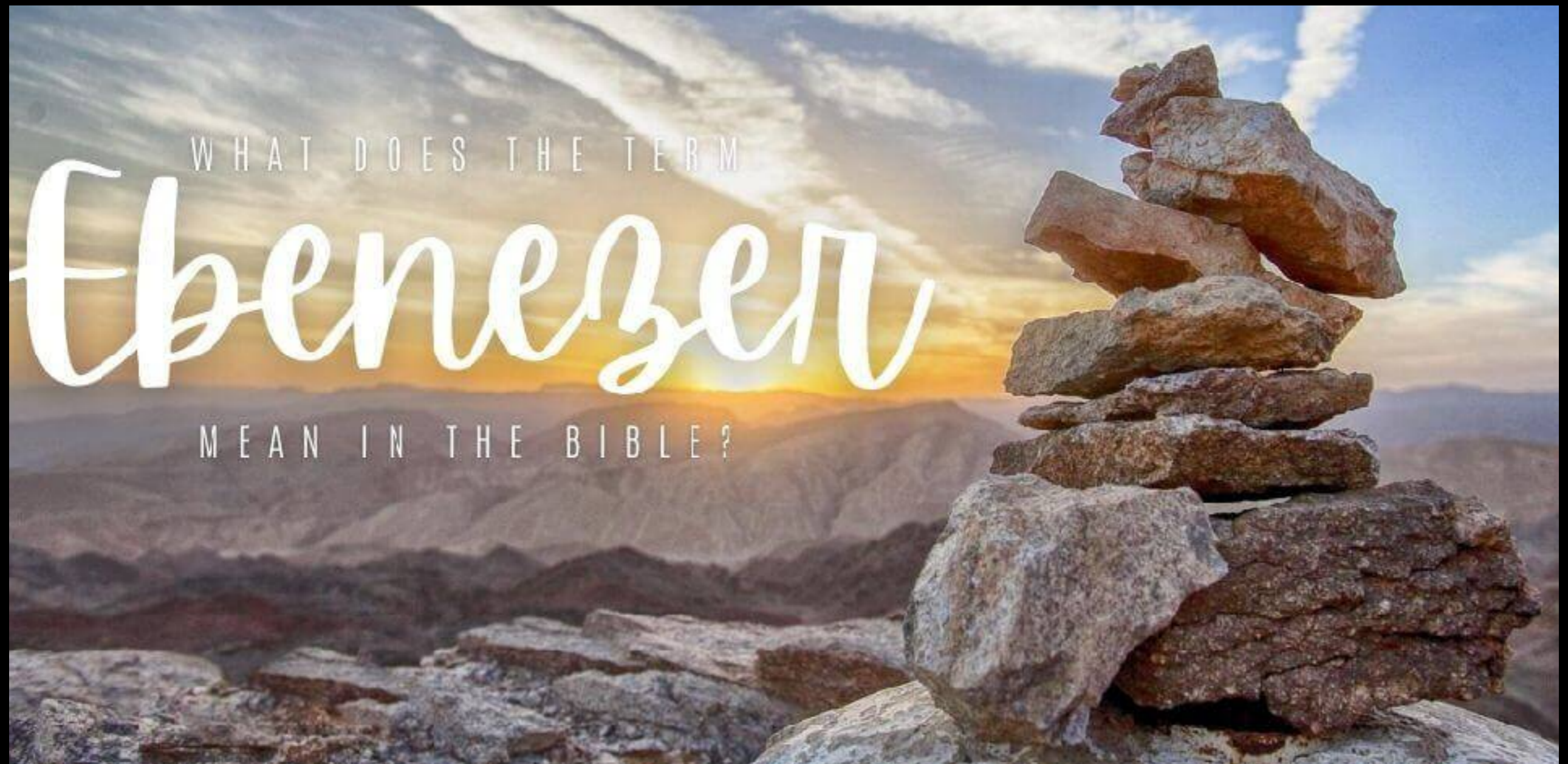
Not unto us, O Lord ,
not unto us, but unto
thy name give glory,
for thy mercy, and for
thy truth's sake.

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Gather at Ebenezer:



Stone of Help: If we gather where the Lord helps, then he will help us.



If the stone did not help, then maybe the Ark and the sons of the priest will insure victory!

Disaster follows as Eli's dying daughter in law names her son I-**KABOD**: Where's the **glory**.

Remember that they are still in the era of the Judges when "everyone did what was right in their own eyes." Why should the symbol of the Lord's glory, his "mercy seat" of judgment, remain with people who fail to bring him glory?

**Note that the bad news is brought by an unnamed man from Benjamin who escaped: ?
Relative of future King Saul?**



Truth: A Holy God cannot be manipulated.

Application: How are we trying to manipulate God?

A Holy God can be trusted to honor holiness.

“Be holy, for I am holy.”

(1 Peter 1:16)

A God who can be manipulated is NOT a God who can be trusted so why would we want that?



Irony: The people deserve exile but God symbolically exiles the symbol of his presence.

This will serve two purposes:

1. Cause the people to repent and return to behavior and worship that glorifies God.
2. God's Ark in exile will achieve what the people could not do.



Then the Philistines think they can force YHWH to worship Dagon!
Symbolically, Dagon loses his head (ability to reason) and his hands (ability to act).
In the place where they hung the heads of conquered enemies, their god loses his head.



Many allusions to the Egyptians of the Exodus as referenced by the Philistine priests.

The presence of the one true God brings plagues and display the powerlessness of false gods. Remember that the Philistines are descendants of the Egyptians.

5 cities of the Philistines: echo of the 5 sinful cities of the plain of the Jordan in Genesis, an enclave of pagans that cause trouble for God's people.
Interesting prophesy of 5 cities dedicated to the Lord in Isaiah

In that day five cities in the land of Egypt will be speaking the language of Canaan and swearing allegiance to the LORD of hosts; one will be called the City of Destruction.

— Isaiah 19:18 (NASB®)



The Ark did not work out as a slave to Dagon, and like the slaves of the Exodus, it must be sent back with gifts.

The ingenious "test" of the Lord's will for the Ark: cows not accustomed to pulling a wagon and are in stage of feeding their calves are not going to naturally go anywhere. Therefore, the cause of their actions must be supernatural.





Why go to Beth-Shemesh? Why go to a Joshua?

City given to Levites: They should know how to handle the Ark.

Joshua's namesake led the conquering of the land and knew how to honor the Lord.

But they "looked" at the ark and were struck-down (same word as strike with plague). Surely the Philistines "looked" at the Ark and did not die. So why?



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And they sacrificed cows instead of bulls.



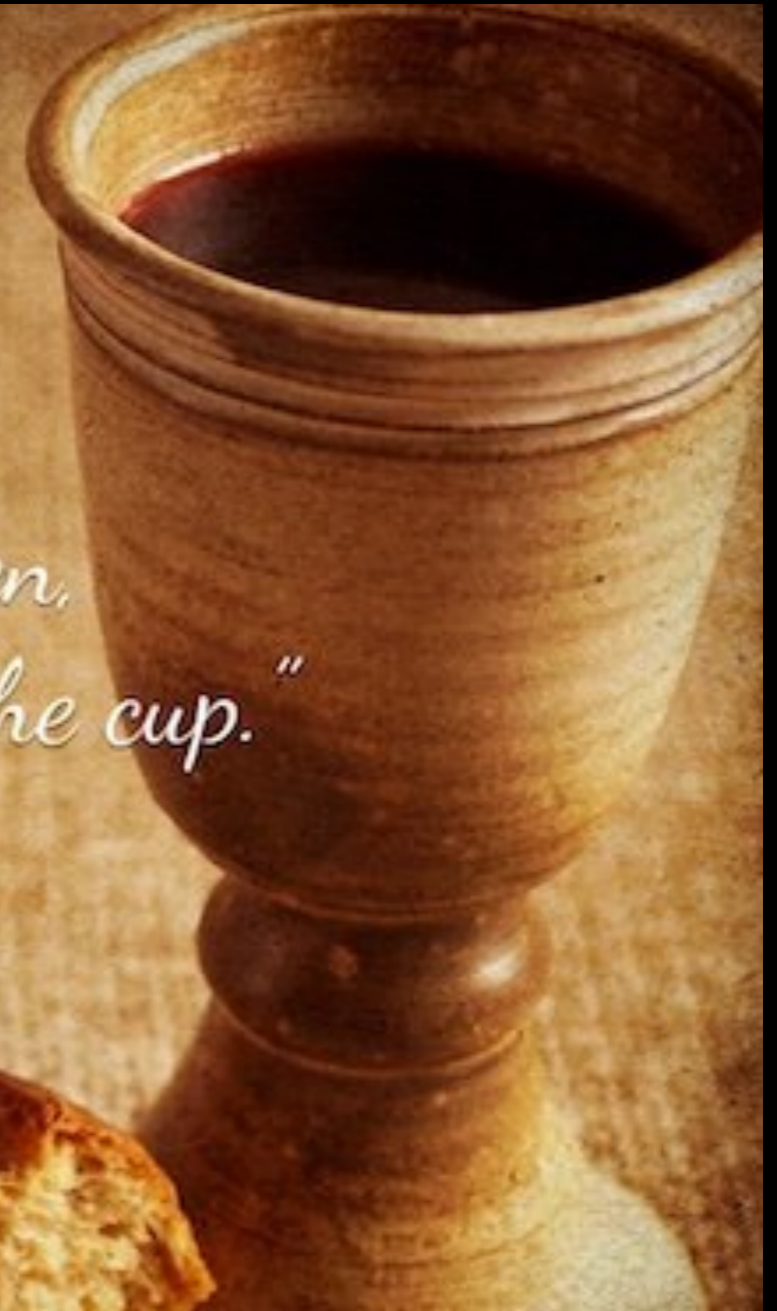
What sacred ritual could we mishandle today?



Paul warned the Corinthians regarding their perversion of communion.



*Let a person examine himself, then,
and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup."
(1 Corinthians 11:28, ESV)*





How do they react?

Send it away! Just like the Philistines. These Levites are no more holy than the Philistines. The perverted Priests and Levites are a repeating theme in Judges-Samuel starting with no one less than the grandson of Moses in the story of Dan in Judges.

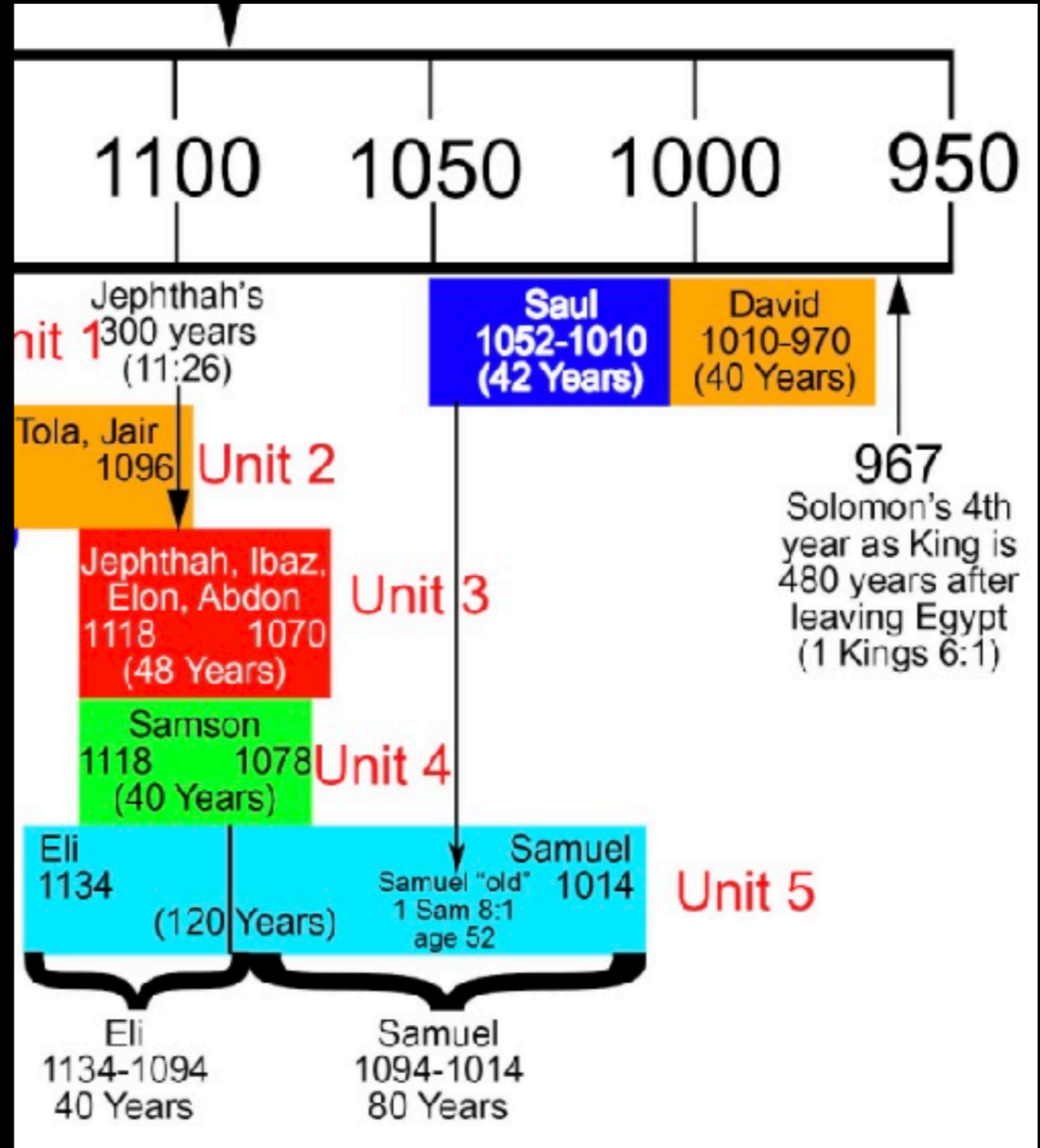
Why Kiriath-jearim?

It was a city of the Gibeonites who tricked Joshua into a sinful treaty. This place is like a mini-version of being in the wilderness: an island of wilderness within the land. It is like the wilderness because the "slave" has been freed but has not entered the promised land. Amazingly, it remains there until David conquers Jerusalem.



We are told in 7:2 that 20 years pass. What is happening during this time?

After the Ark decapitates Dagon in Ashdod, Samson crushes Dagon and his followers in Gaza. Was this the catalyst that caused the people to return to the Lord?





Both Eli end their Judgeships as blind men but Samson gets revenge.

Their heads are crushed which should make us think of the prophesy of the son of the woman crushing the head of the serpent.





Samuel gathers the people to repent and reject false gods.

True repentance requires feeling the **weight** of our sins; showing **honor** to God, and seeking to **glorify** Him by being living images of Him.

Jesus transfers the **weight** of our sins onto himself and shares his **glory** with us. For this, we **honor** him.



The prior battle of APHĒK is reversed. Now the Israelites are in fear but choose to trust the Lord and the Lord "thunders" and confuses the Philistines.

The new stone is not a stone of manipulation but a stone of remembrance of salvation.

Then Samuel took a stone and set it up;
for he said, "Till now the Lord has helped us."



and he called it

Ebenezer



Hannah's prophecy comes true:

The bows of
the warriors
are broken,
but those who
have stumbled
are armed with
Strength.

-1 Samuel 2:4

THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE LORD WILL BE
SHATTERED. HE WILL THUNDER FROM
HEAVEN AGAINST THEM. THE LORD WILL
JUDGE THE ENDS OF THE EARTH AND WILL
GIVE POWER TO HIS KING. HE WILL EXALT
THE HORN OF HIS ANOINTED."

- 1 SAMUEL 2:10

Samuel



The Lord is given **glory**, Samuel is **honored**, and the **weight** of the Philistines on Israel is lifted.

A holy God can be trusted to **honor** those who **glorify** Him.





The Robert Robinson story.

Come thou fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace.
Streams of mercy, never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise.

Here I raise my **Ebenezer**
Here there by Thy great help I've come.

Let thy goodness like a fetter
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above.



God chose Robert Robinson and called him back.
God chose the Israelites and called them back...
again....and again.

If God has chosen you, then he will call you back.
He called me back at age 48 after 34 years of
wandering.

How well can you trust that the Lord has sealed
your heart for his courts above?

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Why not choose or make an object as your personal Ebenezer... your stone of remembrance ... to remind you to trust your Holy God?

THINK ABOUT IT



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