

LESSON 2: JERUSALEM-ESTABLISHED AS ISRAEL'S CAPITAL HOMEWORK

2nd Samuel: Chapters 4-6

Directions: Use your Study Bible, the internet, or any other study source to help you with these questions.

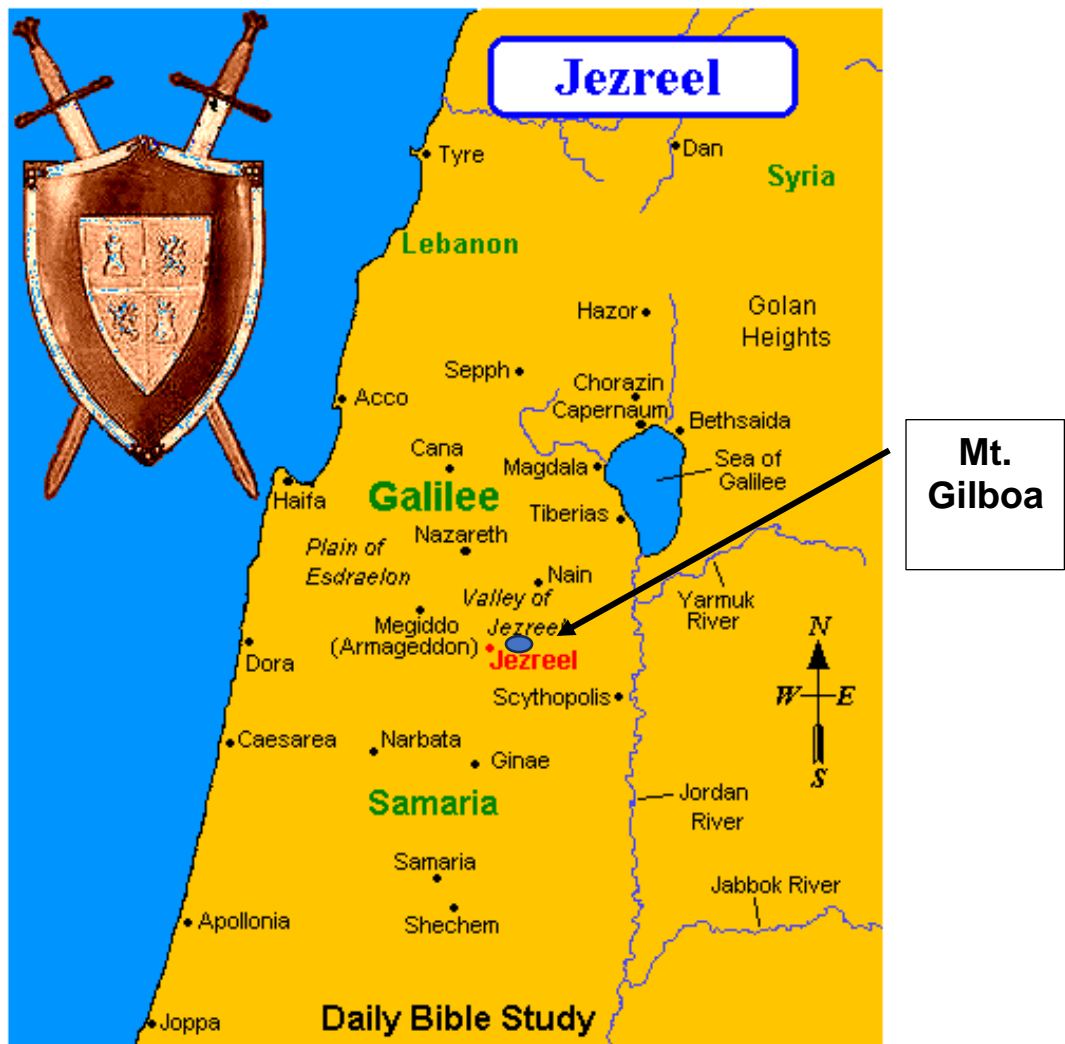
1. Read 2nd Samuel 4:1-12
 - Describe Mephibosheth?
 - What concerned Ish-bosheth after Abner's death?
 - How did David react after learning about Abner's death?
2. Read 2nd Samuel 5:1-7
 - David experienced three separate anointing's. Where did each anointing take place? 1st Samuel 16:3-4; 2nd Samuel 2:3-4; 2nd Samuel 5:3
 - Explain the possible meaning of the number 40?
 - What city became the official capital of Israel. List some other names given to this capital?
3. Read 2nd Samuel 5:7-25
 - Who lived in Jerusalem prior to David's takeover?
 - Explain David's conquests in ridding Israel of its enemies?
 - Explain the meaning of *Baal-perazim*?
4. Read 2nd Samuel 6:1-23
 - Identify the Ark of the Covenant's location during the time of David's conquests? Explain the significance of this location?
 - How did David transport the Ark of the Covenant?
 - How did God react to David's transportation method?
5. David transports the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem.
 - According to Numbers 4:15-16; 7:9, how should the priests have carried the Ark of the Covenant?
 - How did David show his joy in bringing the Ark to Jerusalem?

LESSON 2: JERUSALEM-ESTABLISHED AS ISRAEL'S CAPITAL 2ND SAMUEL CHAPTERS 4-6

CHAPTER 4: THE MURDER OF ISH-BOSHETH

Vs. 1-12

- Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son named **Mephibosheth**. At the age of five, his father-Jonathan, and Saul-his grandfather, died on Mt. Gilboa.
- After word reached Saul's home of Israel's defeat, Mephibosheth's nurse fled. In her haste, Mephibosheth fell and injured both feet. As a result, Mephibosheth-crippled for life, could not fill the role as king.



www.keyway.ca

<http://www.keyway.ca/htm2000/20000515.htm>

- At the time of chapter 4, five years had passed, and Mephibosheth was now **12** years old.
- Upon learning of Abner's death, Ish-bosheth feared he no longer had a strong leader to stabilize Israel.
- Ish-bosheth had two commanders, Baanah and Rechab. Both men came from Saul's tribe of Benjamin.
- Perhaps, both men coming from Saul's tribe showed the power struggle developing within Israel (the northern kingdom). At this time, David only ruled over the tribe of **Judah**.



[http://www.wow.com/wiki/Kingdom_of_Israel_\(united_monarchy\)](http://www.wow.com/wiki/Kingdom_of_Israel_(united_monarchy))

- One day while taking a nap, Baanah and Rechab murdered Ish-bosheth and beheaded him.
- Thinking David would reward them for their efforts, Baanah and Rechab brought the head to David at Hebron.
- Greatly angered by their actions, David killed Baanah and Rechab for murdering an innocent man and Saul's only surviving son.
- David took the head and buried it in the grave of Abner in **Hebron** (David had established Hebron as the capital of Judah).
- This action helped David unify Israel and Judah (Romans 12:17-21).



<http://www.lahistoriaconmapas.com/>

Chapter 5: DAVID BECOMES KING OVER ALL THE TRIBES OF ISRAEL

Vs. 1-6: David Crowned King Over All Israel

- The elders of all Israel's tribes came to Hebron to anoint David as King.
- This amounted to David's third anointing: 1 Samuel 16:13, 2 Samuel 2:4, and now.
- Even though the tribes had united politically, an underlying tension between Israel and Judah continued.
- David, 30 years old at the time of his anointing, reigned 40 years.
- David reigned seven years at Hebron and thirty-three years in Jerusalem.
Saul also reigned forty years over Israel.

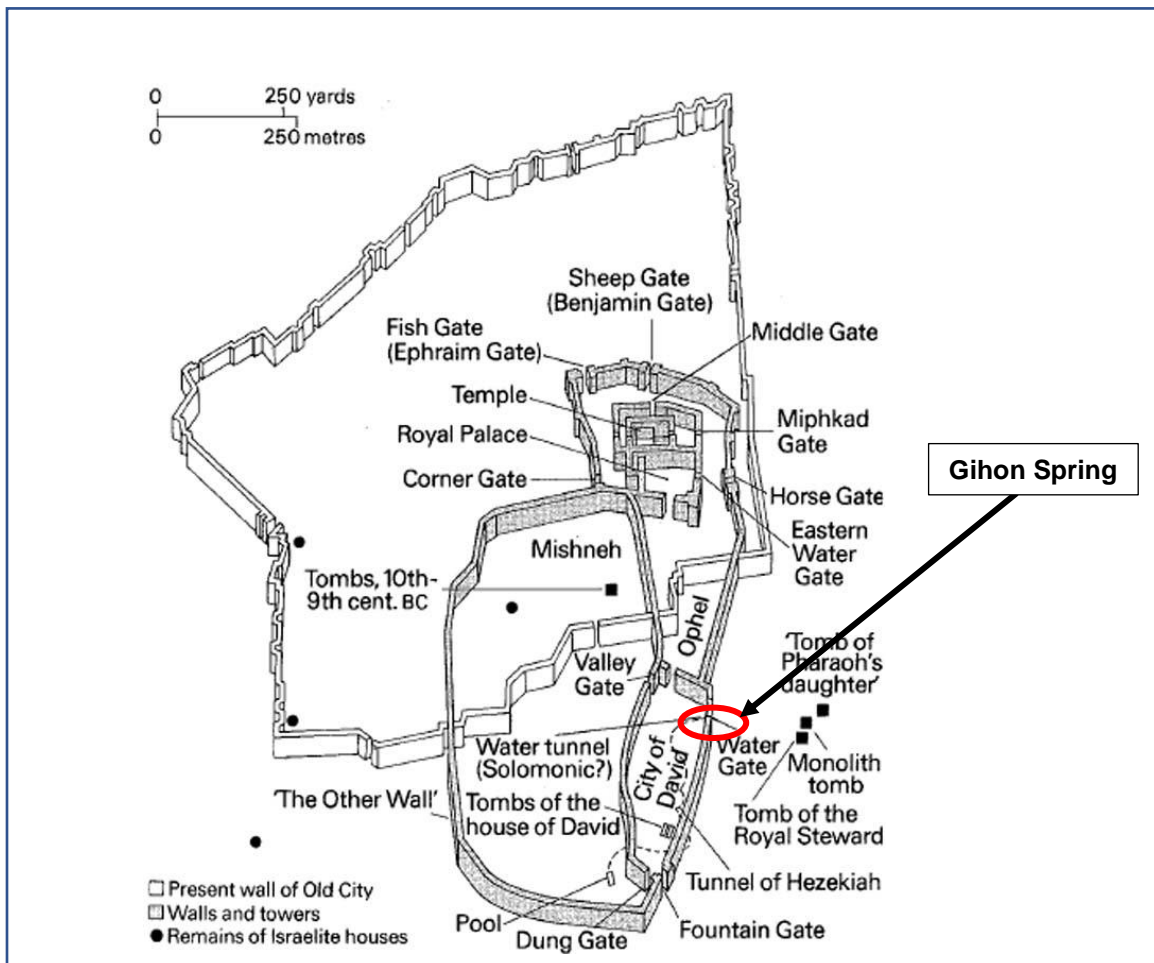


- The Bible often uses the number 40 to represent a time of **testing**. Noah stayed in the Arc 40 days and nights. Moses spent 40 years exiled in Midian. The children of Israel wandered in the wilderness 40 years, and Satan tested Jesus 40 days.
- An interesting point to note, the elders recognized David's success in leading the Israelites in battle, not Saul. We do not have to prove ourselves to anyone if we trust God and do our work as unto Him. God will give us glory at the proper time (2nd Samuel 5:1-2; Psalm 44:6-8; Psalm 90:14-17).
- David wanted to establish **Jerusalem** as the capital, however, the Jebusites dwelt in the land.
- Jerusalem, located in the region of **Benjamin** near Judah's northern border, had an excellent fortification due to its elevation and surrounding deep valleys. Jerusalem had good trade routes along its borders and had a good water source from the Gihon Spring located on its eastern border.



<https://wallpapercave.com/jerusalem->

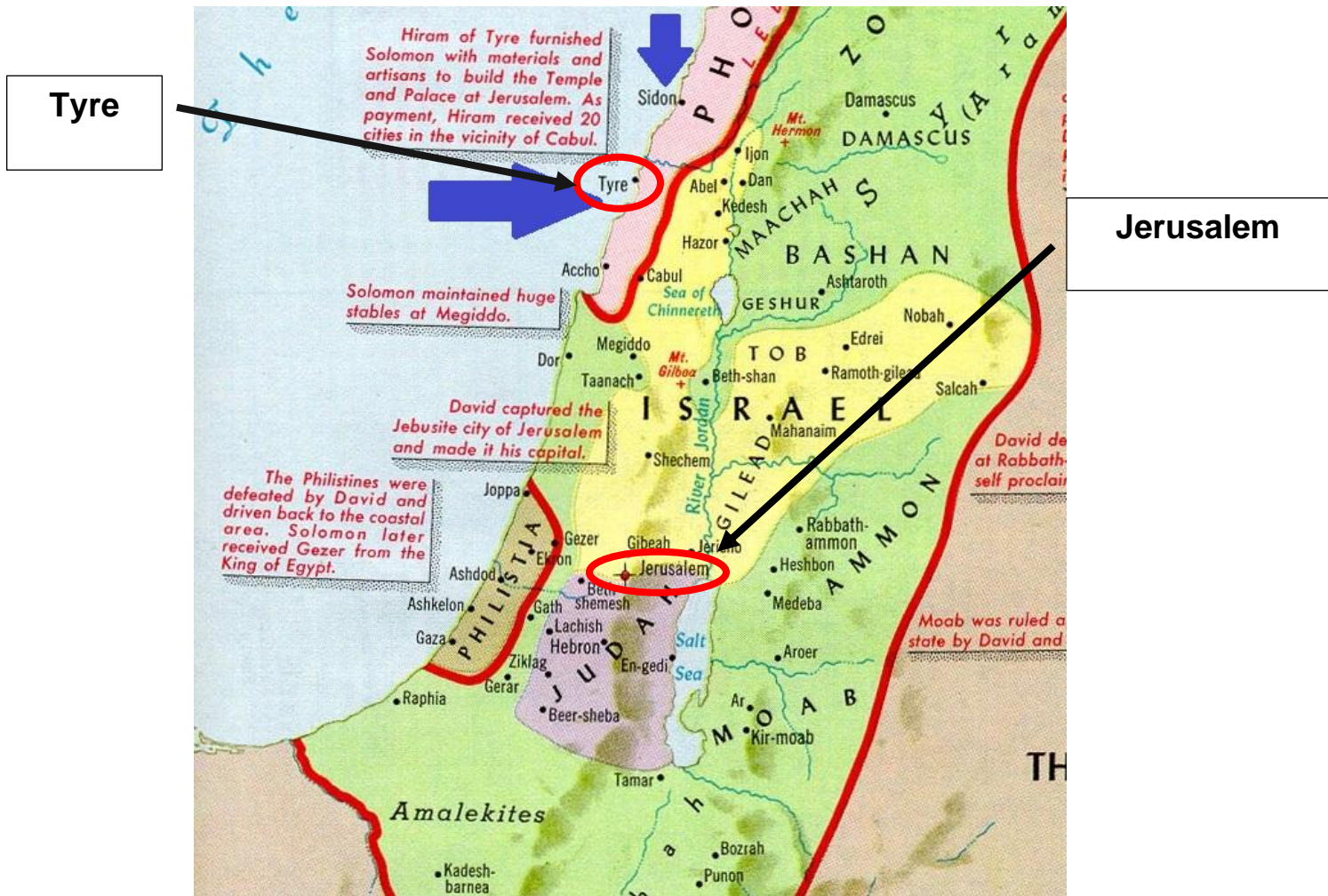
- Unfortunately, after the death of Joshua, the tribe of Benjamin did not completely drive out the **Jebusites**. Therefore, the Jebusites continued to live in Jerusalem. Since the Jebusites had lived in Jerusalem for so many years and had fortified it, they taunted David, believing he did not have the strength to conquer them.
- Verse 7 cites the first instance in which the Israelites referred to Jerusalem as **Zion** (fortress). They also referenced Jerusalem as the City of David.
- The Israelites established Jerusalem as the official **capital** of both Israel and Judah.



<http://jerusalemexperience.com/maps-of-jerusalem/>

Vs. 7-25: Jerusalem-The Established Government of Israel

- David captured **Zion** (Jerusalem; City of David).
- David's men entered Jerusalem through the water tunnel of the Gihon Spring on Jerusalem's eastern side-see chart above.
- David fortified the northern border of Jerusalem (the weakest point) and strengthened Jerusalem's defenses.
- David became greater and greater since the **Lord** blessed him. Compare God's dealing with David and God's dealing with Saul.
- Hiram, king of Tyre, sent David cedar trees, carpenters, and stonemasons to build David a house in Jerusalem.



- David realized God had exalted him for the sake of **Israel**-(Genesis 12:2-3; (a good remedy for pride).
- David took more concubines and wives and continued to have more sons and daughters. These multiple families will cause David many **problems**.
- At the time of Saul's Death, David lived in Philistine territory. After David's coronation, the Philistines decided to invade Israel to keep it weak.
- The Philistines spread themselves out in the valley of **Rephaim**.

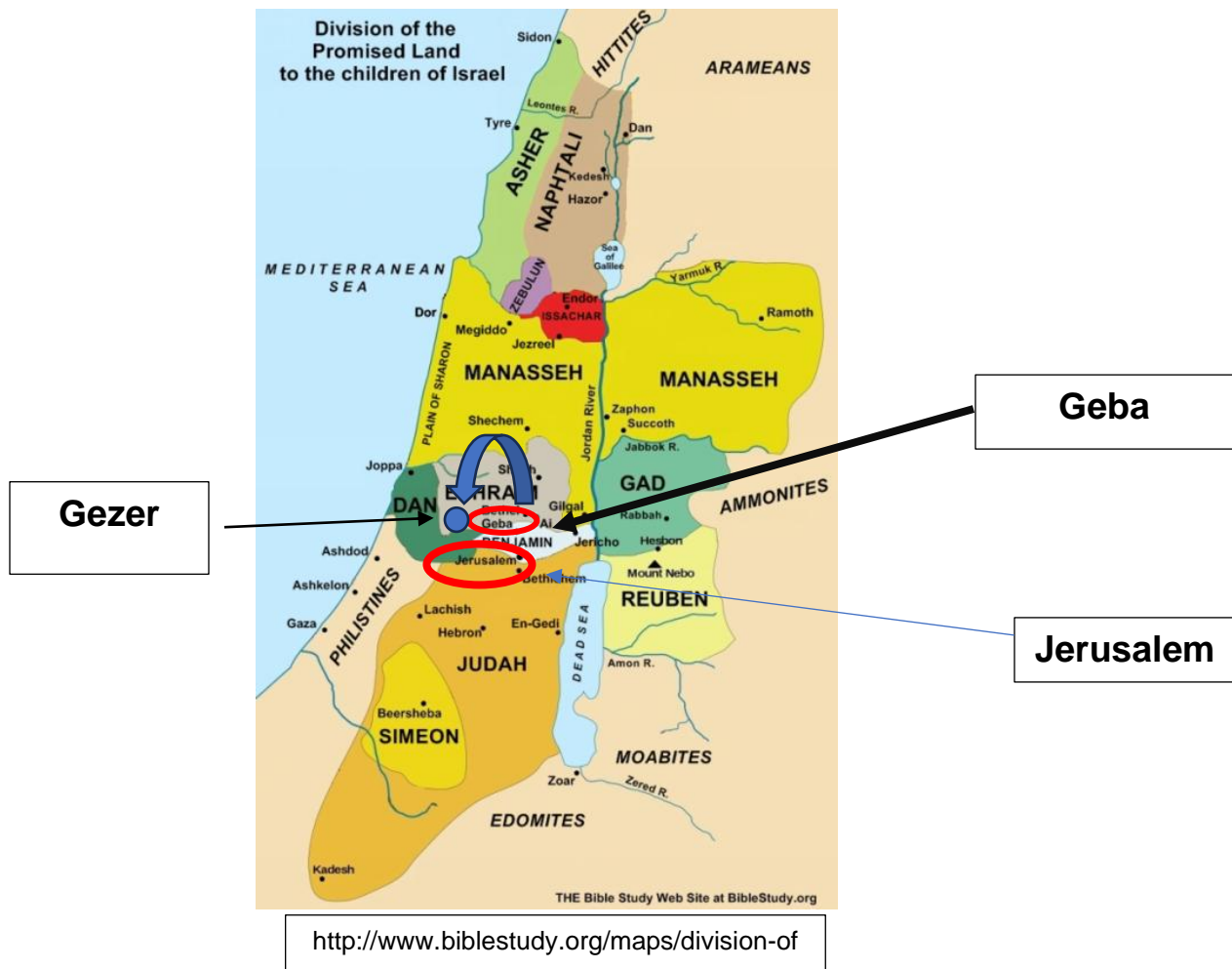
Rephaim



Ziklag

<http://atthattimedaniel12.weebly.com/ziklag-judah-simeon.html>

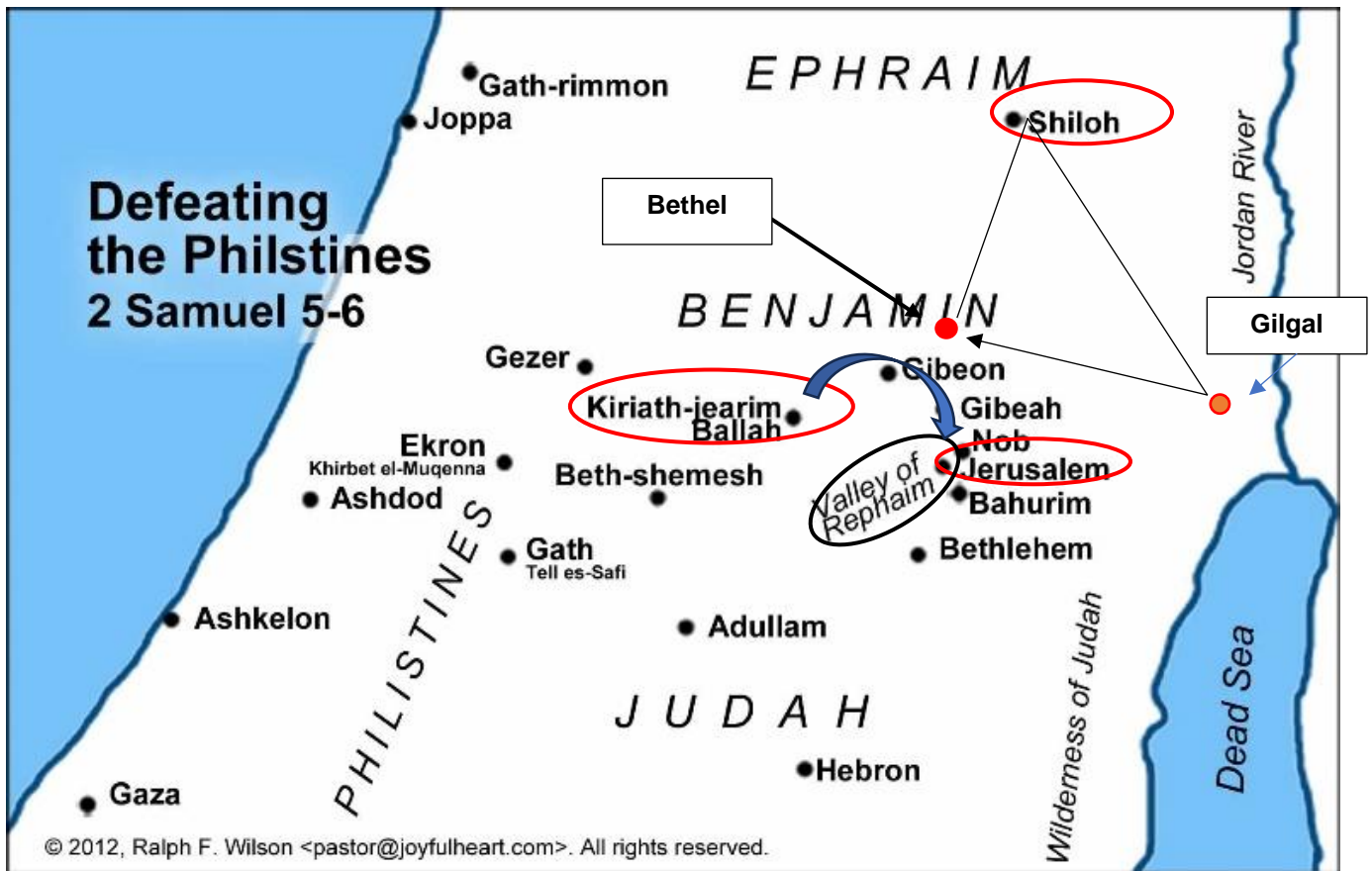
- David asked the Lord whether he should fight the Philistines. The Lord told David to go fight and have the victory.
- After the Philistine's defeat, David named the battleground *Baal-perazim*. This name depicts **flooding waters** breaking through a dam.
- Undaunted by their defeat, the Philistines came again to the valley of Rephaim. This time the Lord told David **not to go** directly toward the Philistines but to circle around behind them and come at them in front of the balsam trees.
- The Lord told David, when he heard marching in the tops of the balsam trees, to act promptly and defeat the Philistines for the Lord had gone ahead of him to prepare the defeat.
- David obeyed, pursued, and defeated the Philistines from Geba to Gezer.



CHAPTER 6: THE ARK BROUGHT TO JERUSALEM

Verses 1-23: David Brings the Ark

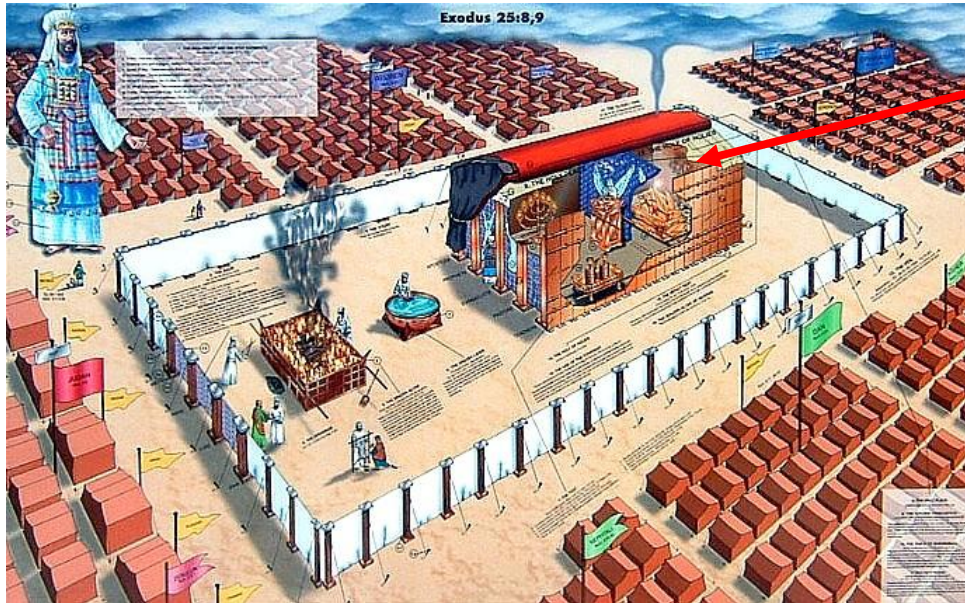
- After the Philistine defeat, David ordered 30,000 men to go with him to bring the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem from Kiriath-Jearim (Balle-judah).



<http://www.jesuswalk.com/david/maps/philistine-defeat-2sam-5-1800x1170x300.jpg>

- Kiriath-Jearim, an Israelite city, secured the Ark after God smote the Philistines with tumors (1st Samuel 6:21).
- Gilgal, Bethel, and Shiloh had previously held the ark.

- The **Holy of Holies**, a separate chamber within the tabernacle, held the Ark of the covenant.



Holy of Holies

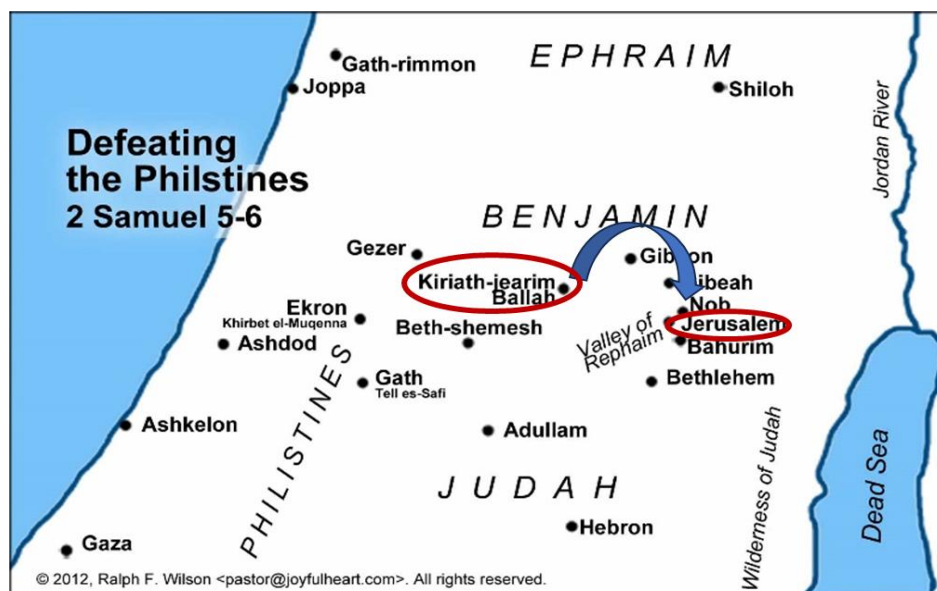
<http://freecoloringpages.co.uk/>

- Excited to bring the Ark back to Jerusalem, David built a new **cart** for transportation. Unfortunately, a major problem erupted. According to Numbers 4:15-16; 7:9, only the sons of Kohath (Levites) could carry the Ark on their **shoulders**.
- David probably used the same technique as the **Philistines** when they transported the ark to Kiriath-Jearim (1 Samuel 6:2-3, 7-8). Not bound under the Law, God did not punish the Philistines for using a cart to transport the Ark. (Romans 12:2).



<https://www.israelvideonetwork.com/we-know-where-the-ark-of-the-covenant-is-share/>

- During the transportation, the oxen upset the Ark and Uzzah reached out his hand to steady it. The Lord's anger burned against Uzzah for his irreverence and the Lord killed him. David and the Israelite leaders did not read the proper directions for the Ark's **transportation**. God viewed the Ark as holy and the meeting place between God and the Israelites.
- David kept the ark at the house of Obed-edom for three months until he understood how to move it.
- God **blessed** the house of Obed-edom.
- David transported the Ark a second time and carried it according to the Law. When the Ark had moved six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fattened calf.
- As the Ark arrived in Jerusalem, **Michal**-David's wife-saw him dancing and despised him for exhibiting unkinglike behavior.
- After the Ark's arrival, David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings and blessed the people.
- After David returned home, Michal admonished him for his unsightly behavior.
- David rebuked Michal and said he had humbled himself before the Lord. As a result, and condemned by disgrace, Michael never bore children nor an heir to the throne.



<http://www.jesuswalk.com/david/maps/philistine-defeat-2sam-5->

Summary

Job 1:21 states the Lord gives, and the Lord takes away. As Christians, we should realize all blessings come from the Lord. We should give thanks for all God does in our life and not take credit for our accomplishments. God gives us talents and desires to achieve many things, however, only through God's grace and mercy will prosperity come our way.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
2nd Samuel: Chapters 4-6

1. Mephibosheth could never acquire the kingship due to his physical handicap.
 - A. Have you ever felt cheated in life due to a physical limitation?
 - B. Do you find it easy to blame God for your situation?
 - C. How can we find strength in times of weakness?
 - D. Did good ever come from your physical limitation?

2. Many years had passed from the time Samuel first anointed David as king to the time he acquired the throne. (1 Samuel 16:13).
 - A. Why do you think God took so long to establish David's kingship?
 - B. Have you ever had to wait for God to fulfill a dream or a prayer?
 - C. What did you do during your waiting period?
 - D. Did good come from your waiting?

3. God often used the number 40 to mean a time of testing.
 - A. Can you think of a time of testing when you had to wait for an answer?
 - B. How did you feel or react during that time?
 - C. Did the time of testing make you stronger or weaker? Explain.
 - D. What can we do during times of testing?

4. God allowed David to change Israel's capital in Jerusalem.
 - A. Why might God have chosen Jerusalem for the capital's site?
 - B. Has God ever made a major change in your life?
 - C. How did you react when the change came?
 - D. Did you then or can you now see God's hand in that change?

5. David danced with great enthusiasm when he brought the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem.
 - A. Can you think of a time when you rejoiced because of a certain blessing?
 - B. How did you react to that blessing?
 - C. Scripture tells us that Michal despised David due to his outward display of gratitude. How did others react to your blessing in question "A"? Jealousy? Happy?
 - D. How should we react toward others when God blesses us? When He blesses them?