

1 & 2 Samuel Series

Lesson #026

September 22, 2015

Dean Bible Ministries

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Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.



THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S
ICHABOD: GLORY IN EXILE

1 SAMUEL 4:5–22

Judg. 17:6, “In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”

Judg. 21:25, “In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”

Outline

- 1A. ***Yhwh*** prepares to deliver Israel by a great change, 1 Sam. 1–7
- 2B. ***Yhwh*** orchestrates the collapse of the old order [Eli], 1 Sam. 2:11–4:22
- 3C. ***Yhwh*** causes Israel to be defeated and allows the Ark to be captured to demonstrate His sovereignty over the enemies of Israel and their gods, to cleanse Israel of the corruption of the priesthood, and to teach Israel to trust in Him alone. 1 Sam. 4:1–22

1 Sam. 4:1, “And the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out to battle against the Philistines, and encamped beside Ebenezer; and the Philistines encamped in Aphek.”

Jephthah, 1150–1100 BC

Samson, ca. 1123–1084 BC

Samuel, ca. 1115–1020 BC

1124 BC

1106 BC

Saul, 1075–1010

**Ammonite
Oppression**

1084 BC 1050 BC

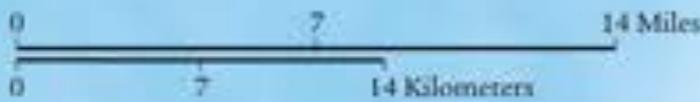
**Philistine
Oppression**

**Battle of
Aphek
ca. 1104 BC
(1 Sam. 4)**

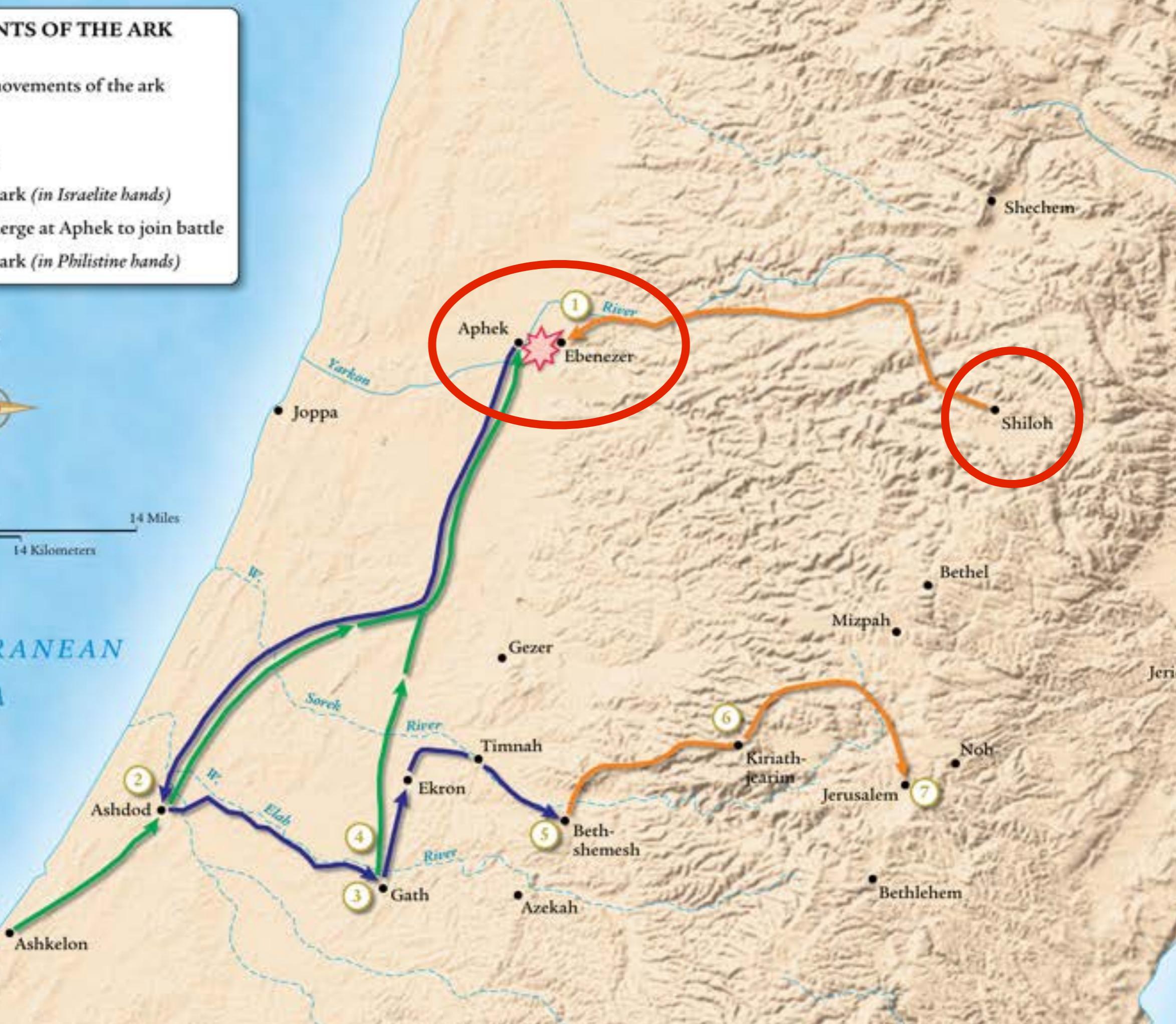
**Battle of
Mizpah
ca. 1084 BC
(1 Sam. 7:11)**

MOVEMENTS OF THE ARK

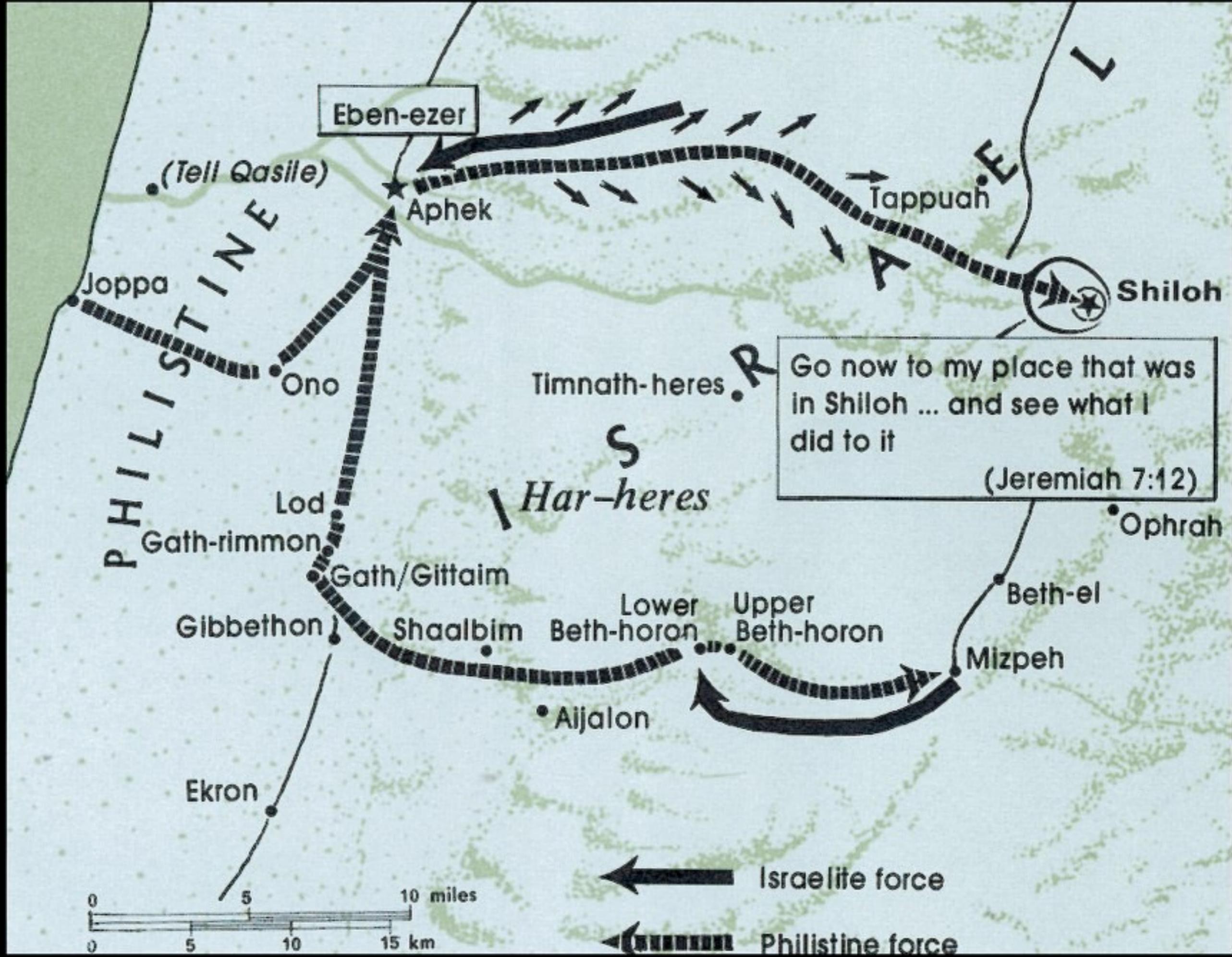
- ① Numbered movements of the ark
- City
- ★ Battle scene
- Route of the ark (in Israelite bands)
- ← Philistines merge at Aphek to join battle
- ← Route of the ark (in Philistine bands)



MEDITERRANEAN SEA



1 Sam. 4:2, “Then the Philistines put themselves in battle array against Israel. And when they joined battle, Israel was defeated by the Philistines, who killed about four thousand men of the army in the field.”



1 Sam. 4:3, “And when the people had come into the camp, the elders of Israel said, ‘Why has the LORD defeated us today before the Philistines? Let us bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD from Shiloh to us, that when it comes among us it may save us from the hand of our enemies.’ ”

1 Sam. 4:4, “So the people sent to Shiloh, that they might bring from there the ark of the covenant of the LORD of hosts, who dwells between the cherubim. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God.”

“And there I will meet with you; and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are upon the ark of the testimony, I will speak to you about all that I will give you in commandment for the sons of Israel.”

Exodus 25:22





1 Sam. 4:7, “So the Philistines were afraid, for they said, ‘God has come into the camp!’ And they said, ‘Woe to us! For such a thing has never happened before.

1 Sam. 4:8, “ ‘Woe to us! Who will deliver us from the hand of these mighty gods? These are the gods who struck the Egyptians with all the plagues in the wilderness.

1 Sam. 4:9, “ ‘Be strong and conduct yourselves like men, you Philistines, that you do not become servants of the Hebrews, as they have been to you. Conduct yourselves like men, and fight!’ ”

1 Sam. 2:34, “Now this shall be a sign to you that will come upon your two sons, on Hophni and Phinehas: in one day they shall die, both of them.”

1 Sam. 4:12, “Then a man of Benjamin ran from the battle line the same day, and came to Shiloh with his clothes torn and dirt on his head.

1 Sam. 4:13, “Now when he came, there was Eli, sitting on a seat by the wayside watching, for his heart trembled for the ark of God. And when the man came into the city and told it, all the city cried out.

1 Sam. 4:14, “When Eli heard the noise of the outcry, he said, ‘What does the sound of this tumult mean?’ And the man came quickly and told Eli.

1 Sam. 4:15, “Eli was ninety-eight years old, and his eyes were so dim that he could not see.”







Tabernacle from above

1 Sam. 4:16, “Then the man said to Eli, ‘I am he who came from the battle. And I fled today from the battle line.’ And he said, ‘What happened, my son?’”

1 Sam. 4:17, “So the messenger answered and said, ‘Israel has fled before the Philistines, and there has been a great slaughter among the people. Also your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead; and the ark of God has been captured.’ ”

1 Sam. 4:18, “Then it happened, when he made mention of the ark of God, that Eli fell off the seat backward by the side of the gate; and his neck was broken and he died, for the man was old and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years.”

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כָּבֵד *kaved*

masc sing abs

“weighty (lit. and fig.), heavy, oppressive, burdensome, honored”

1 Sam. 4:19, “Now his daughter-in-law, Phinehas’ wife, was with child, due to be delivered; and when she heard the news that the ark of God was captured, and that her father-in-law and her husband were dead, she bowed herself and gave birth, for her labor pains came upon her.

1 Sam. 4:20, “And about the time of her death the women who stood by her said to her, ‘Do not fear, for you have borne a son.’ But she did not answer, nor did she regard it.”

1 Sam. 4:21, “Then she named the child Ichabod, saying, ‘The glory has departed from Israel!’ because the ark of God had been captured and because of her father-in-law and her husband.

1 Sam. 4:22, “And she said, ‘The glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God has been captured.’ ”

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אֵי־כָבוֹד *i-khavod* Ichabod

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אֵי־כָבוֹד *i-khavod* Ichabod

גלה *glh*

qal perf 3 masc sing

to uncover, remove; to go into exile

Psa. 78:57, “But turned back and acted unfaithfully like their fathers; They were turned aside like a deceitful bow.

Psa. 78:58, “For they provoked Him to anger with their high places, And moved Him to jealousy with their carved images.

Psa. 78:59, “When God heard this, He was furious, And greatly abhorred Israel,”

Psa. 78:60, “So that He forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, The tent He had placed among men,

Psa. 78:61, “And delivered His strength into captivity, And His glory into the enemy’s hand.

Psa. 78:62, “He also gave His people over to the sword, And was furious with His inheritance.”

Psa. 78:63, “The fire consumed their young men, And their maidens were not given in marriage.

Psa. 78:64, “Their priests fell by the sword, And their widows made no lamentation.”

Jer. 7:12, “But go now to My place which was in Shiloh, where I set My name at the first, and see what I did to it because of the wickedness of My people Israel.

Jer. 7:13, “ ‘And now, because you have done all these works,’ says the LORD, ‘and I spoke to you, rising up early and speaking, but you did not hear, and I called you, but you did not answer,

Jer. 7:14, “ ‘therefore I will do to the house which is called by My name, in which you trust, and to this place which I gave to you and your fathers, as I have done to Shiloh.’ ”

Jer. 26:6, “ ‘ “then I will make this house like Shiloh, and will make this city a curse to all the nations of the earth.” ’ ”