

Lesson 6 – July 10

1 Samuel 15

JUDGED



LORD Sees the Heart



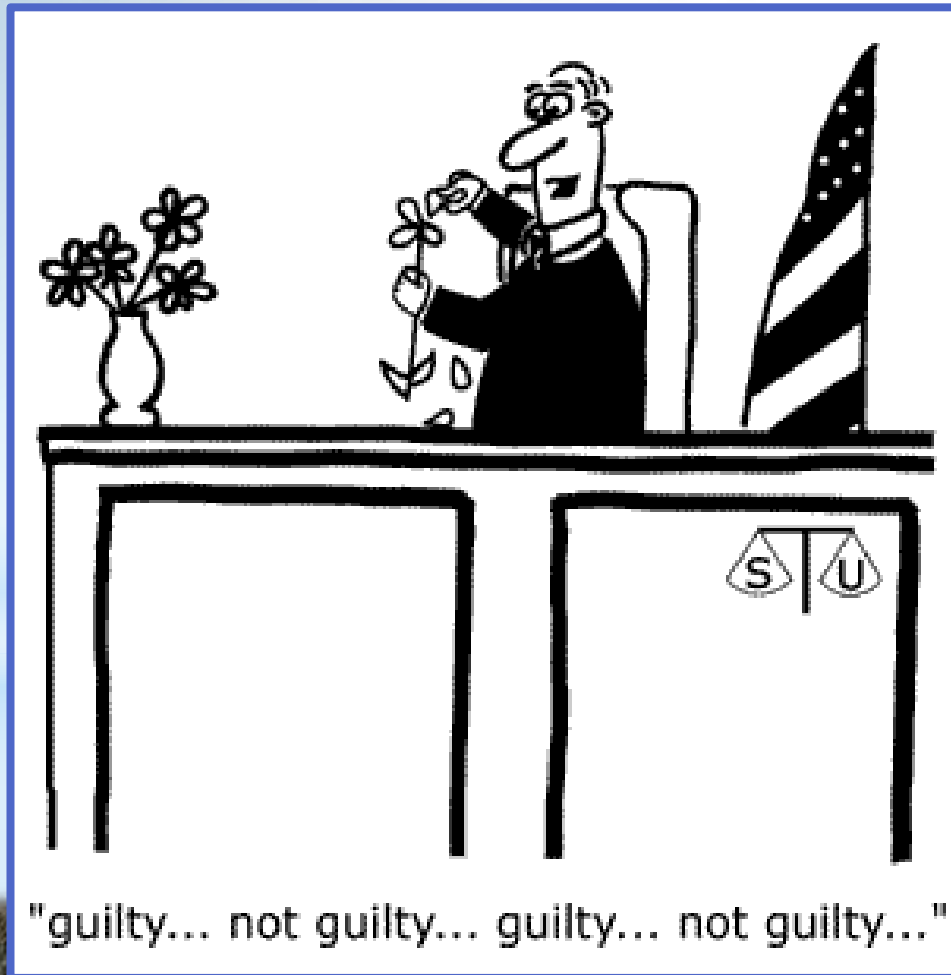
FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class
Michael G. Maness
see
PreciousHeart.net/SS



1 Samuel

1.	June 5	Answered!	1-2	Hannah Prays, Vows, Samuel Born
2.	June 12	Called	3	Boy Samuel Clearly God Called
3.	June 19	Worthy!	4-7	Philistines Take Ark ... oooops!
4.	June 26	King?	8-11	Israel, "Give us a King!"
5.	July 3	Feared	12	Thunder and Rain ... to Obey?
6.	<i>July 10</i>	<i>Judged</i>	<i>13-15</i>	<i>Samuel Regrets, Rejects King Saul</i>
7.	July 17	Anointed!	16	David Anointed—Lord sees the heart
8.	July 24	Delivered	17	David Whips Goliath
9.	July 31	Faithful	18-20	David and Jonathan's Loyalty
10.	Aug. 7	Blinded	21-23	Saul Pursues David & Followers
11.	Aug. 14	Protected	24-25	Abigail's Wisdom Saves Home
12.	Aug. 21	Respect	26-29	David Spares King Saul's Life II
13.	Aug. 28	Victory	30-31	David Pursues Raiders & Saul Killed

JUDGED



1 Samuel 13:1 – 15:35

Lesson Author's Theme

**Judgment awaits those who
reject God's instruction.**

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 13:1-23 | <i>Saul Faces Philistines, Botches Offering</i> |
| 14:1-15 | <i>Jonathan Takes Philistine Outpost—Panic by God</i> |
| 14:16-52 | <i>Saul's Curse Backfires and Other Victories</i> |
| 15:7-9 | Saul's Disobedience – Fails to Kill All Amalekites |
| 15:10-15 | Samuel's Confrontation – Sheep Bleat Testimony |
| 15:16-23 | God's Rejection – Obey Better than Sacrifice |
| 15:24-35 | <i>Samuel Kills Agag – Says Good Bye to Saul</i> |

1 Samuel

Alternative Title

**Don't Mess with Grandpa
or Jonathan**



Two Ways to Go

1 Samuel

A Key Verse 15:22

Samuel replied:

“Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD?

To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.”



13:1-23 Saul Faces Philistines, Botches Offering

NIV – 13:1 Saul was **30 years old** when he became king, and he reigned over Israel **42 years**. << oldest texts “2 years”

‘tis a Mystery Verse – “2-yr reign” doubtful

No one **REALLY** knows how **OLD** Saul was or how **LONG** he reigned

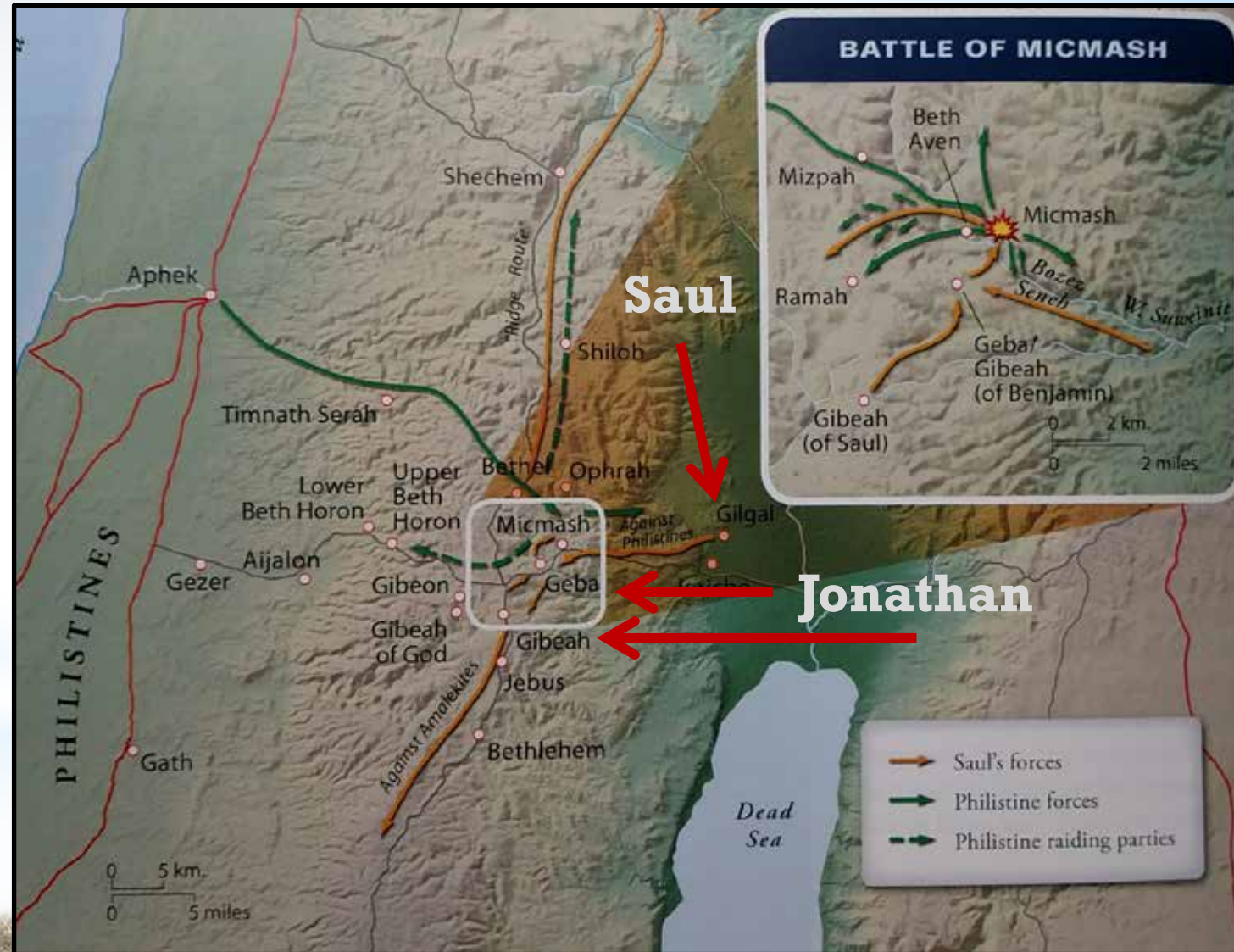
- ✓ KJV, “Saul reigned one year; and when he had reigned two years over”
 - ✓ NIV used LXX for “30 years old”
 - ✓ NASB says Saul reigned 32 years
 - ✓ JPS says Saul reigned 2 years
 - ✓ NRSV says Saul reigned 2? Years
 - ✓ Acts 13:21 and Josephus’ *Antiquities* both say Saul reigned 40 years
 - ✓ Best Texts have “2” clearly for reign
Context **CLEARLY** indicates **MORE**
- ü No original autographs
 - ü Some intimate that “2-yr reign” was meant to be facetious, in that God rejected Saul early in his reign
 - ü **Jonathan commanded 1,000, Saul had a grandson when he died on Mt. Gilboa (ch 31)**

13:1-23 Saul Faces Philistines, Botches Offering

**² Saul 3,000 at Mikmash,
Jonathan 1,000 at
Gibeah of Benjamin**

**³ Jonathan attacks
Philistine outpost at Geba**

**⁴ Israel becomes
obnoxious to Philistines**



13:1-23 Saul Faces Philistines, Botches Offering

⁵ Philistines 3,000 chariots, 6,000 charioteers, and so “soldiers as numerous as the sand on the seashore!”

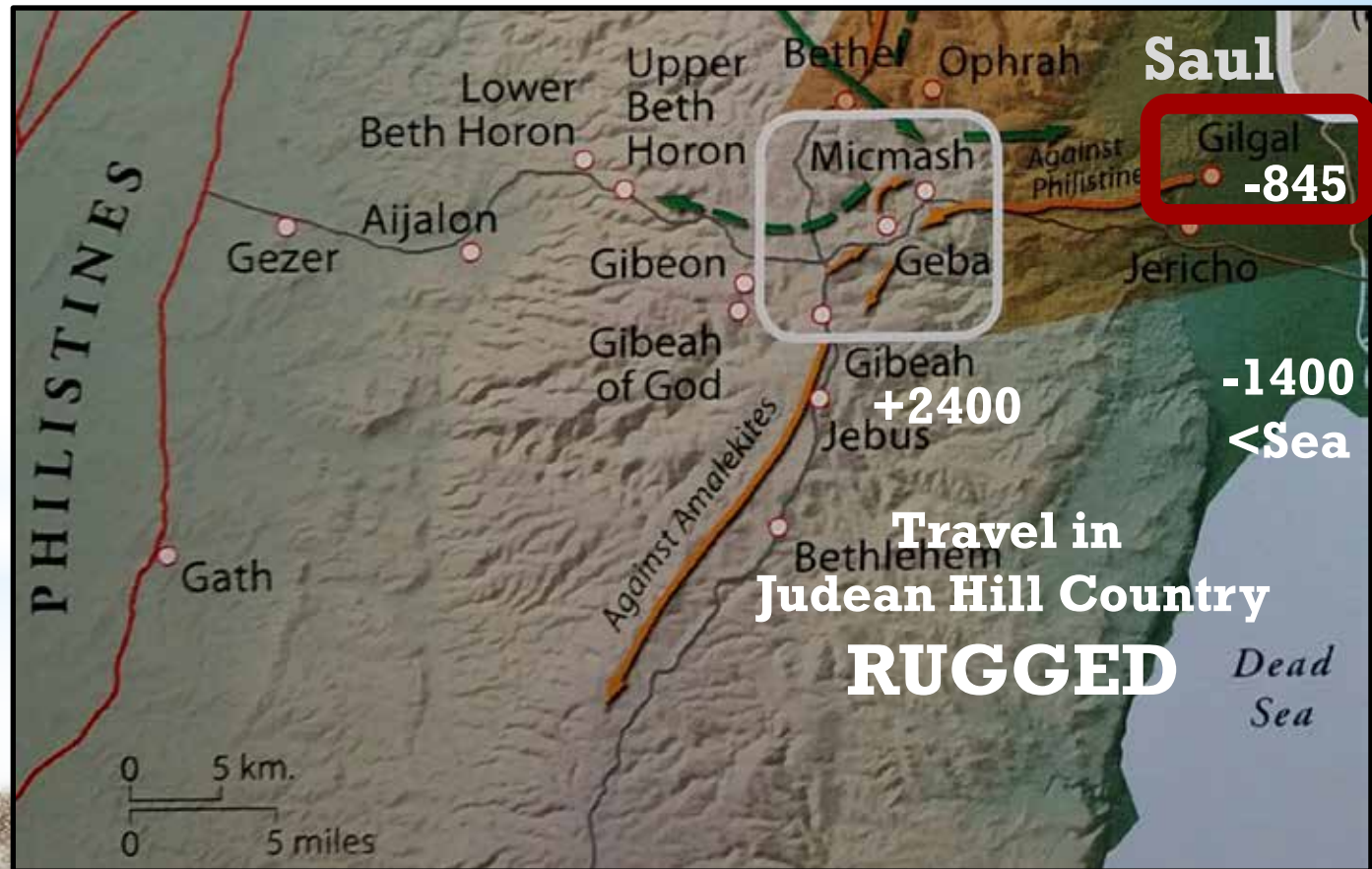
⁷ Saul remained at Gilgal ... troops were “quaking with fear.”

8 He waited seven days, the time set by Samuel; but Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and Saul's men began to scatter.

⁹ Saul makes offering

11 Samuel rebukes Saul and Saul explains ...

Saul seems reasonable



13:1-11 Saul Faces Philistines, Botches Offering

¹ ⁹ Not a blacksmith could be found in the whole land of Israel, because the Philistines had said, “Otherwise the Hebrews will make swords or spears!” ²⁰ So all Israel went down to the Philistines to have their plow points, mattocks, axes and sickles sharpened.

Philistines had Monopoly on Iron

Ancient Canaanite & Philistine straight swords



13:1-11 Saul Faces Philistines, Botches Offering

²¹ Two-thirds of a shekel for sharpening plow points and mattocks, and a third of a shekel for sharpening forks and axes and for repointing goads.

Shekel = about 4/10 of oz. – meaning of word is “to weigh”

Used in Akkadian Empire of 2100 B.C. and Code of Hammurabi 1700 B.C.



silver Jerusalem Shekel (AD 68)

First Jewish Revolt x Roman rule.

inscription "Shekel of Israel / Year 3"

reverse "Jerusalem the Holy".



Israel's Shekel today

worth 26 cents in U.S.

***When I went there in 1982,
exchange was 26 Shekels to dollar***

13:1-11 Saul Faces Philistines, Botches Offering

Philistines had Monopoly on Iron

²² So on the day of the battle not a soldier with Saul and Jonathan had a sword or spear in his hand; only Saul and his son Jonathan had them.




²³ Detachment of Philistines had gone out to the pass at Mikmash.

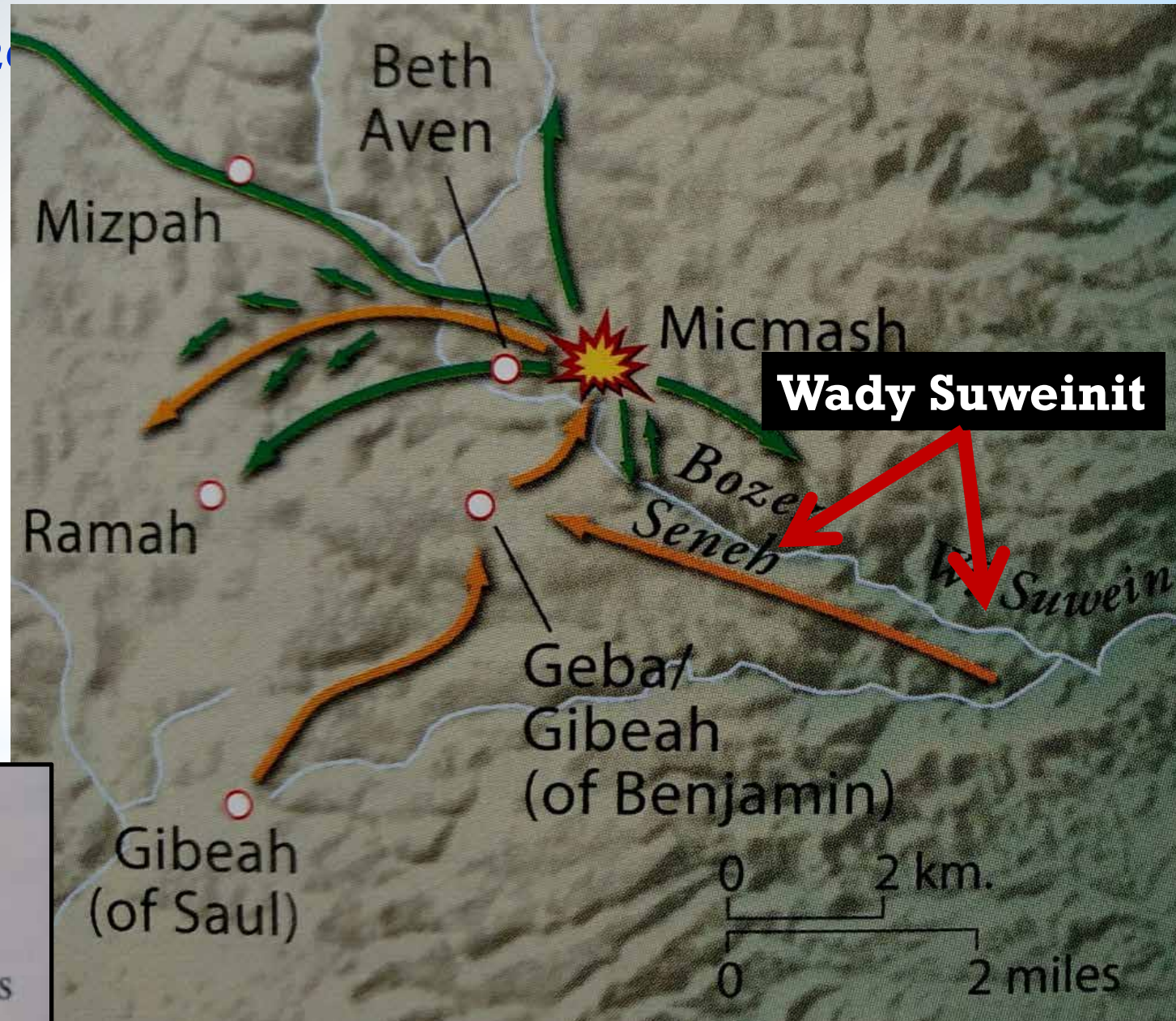
13:1-11 Saul Fa

13:23 **Detachment of Philistines had gone out to the pass at Micmash.**

Micmash –
something hidden

Wady Suweinit – valley
of little thorn tree, acacia

-  Saul's forces
-  Philistine forces
-  Philistine raiding parties



1 Samuel Intro

Judges to Samuel to Saul's Death Ark at Kiriath Jearim

David fights Amalekites at Ziglag, as Saul battles Philistines at Mt. Gilboa, dying there **c. 1010 B.C.**

1 Samuel outlined in **RED**

CANAAN

Eli, Priest at Shiloh

Samson

Samuel

Saul

David

✕ Apeh Ebenezer

✕ Jabesh Gilead

✕ Amalekites

✕ Mt Gilboa

Ark captured and returned

Mizpah ✕

✕ Micmash

David and Goliath ✕

✕ David at Ziglag

Philistine oppression 40 years

Ark at Kiriath Jearim

c.1048 B.C.

c.1028 B.C.

1100 BC

1090 BC

1080 BC

1070 BC

1060 BC

1050 BC

1040 BC

1030 BC

1020 BC

1010 BC

1000 BC

13:1-23 Saul Faces Philistines, Botches Offering

Philistines had Monopoly on Iron

22 So on the day of the battle not a soldier with Saul and Jonathan had a sword or spear in his hand; only Saul and his son Jonathan had them.

23 Detachment of Philistines had gone out to the pass at Mikdash.

Imagine facing a horde of Philistines with swords outnumber you 3 to 1 — only the king and his son have swords

and the King says, “BE BRAVE and fight!”

Aaahhh ... maybe we have the wrong king here?

You and I—we *KNOW* what they are thinking

WHERE'S GRANDPA Samuel?!?

14:1-52 Two and Half Narratives

Chapter 14 – Two Main Narratives

ONE: 14:1-15 – Story of Jonathan and his Armor Bearer's Bravery

TWO: 14:16-52 – Sad story of Saul's abuse – as Jonathan's victory causing confusion in Philistines, and Saul's curse backfires.

As All This Unfolds—Notice

- ✓ Saul appears to lose all concern over the well-being of his troops
- ✓ Saul appears to **NOT** have complete control
- ✓ Jonathan has an independent spirit of fearlessness, akin to David's
- ✓ Jonathan appears to be **ONE HECK** of a fighting man

14:1-35 Jonathan Takes Philistine Outpost—Panic

¹ One day Jonathan ... said to his young armor-bearer, “Come, let’s go over to the Philistine outpost on the other side.” ... did not tell his father.

² Saul ... Gibeah under a pomegranate tree in Migron.... 600 men.
.... No one was aware that Jonathan had left.

⁴ On each side of the pass that Jonathan intended to cross to reach the Philistine outpost was a cliff; one called **Bozez** and the other **Seneh**. ⁵ One cliff stood to the north toward **Mikmash**, other to the south toward **Geba**.

⁶ Jonathan said to his young armor-bearer, “Come, let’s go over to the outpost of those uncircumcised men. **Perhaps the LORD will act in our behalf.** Nothing can hinder the LORD from saving, whether by many or by few.”

⁷ “Do all that you have in mind,” his armor-bearer said.

“Go ahead; I am with you heart and soul.”

*let that marinate
for a moment*

ww-Whhaattt? ... “PERHAPS the Lord will...”

Who is this man Jonathan?

14:1-35 Jonathan Takes Philistine Outpost—Panic

⁸ Jonathan said, “Come on, then; we will cross over toward them and let them see us.

⁹ If they say to us, ‘Wait there until we come to you,’ we will stay where we are and not go up to them.

¹⁰ But if they say, ‘Come up to us,’ we will climb up, because that will be our sign that the LORD has given them into our hands.”

What Kind of SIGN is THAT?

“WAIT” or “COME” ... Lord has given ...

Here is a fellow LOOKING for a FIGHT

Ever went looking for a fight?

Better pray God is with you ... if you do



14:1-35 Jonathan Takes Philistine Outpost—Panic

¹¹ So they showed themselves to the Philistine outpost. “Look!” said the Philistines. “The **Hebrews are crawling out of the holes** they were hiding in.”

¹² The men of the outpost shouted to Jonathan and his armor-bearer, “Come up to us and **we’ll teach you a lesson.**” So Jonathan said to his armor-bearer,

**“Climb up after me;
the LORD has given them into the hand of Israel.”**

¹³ Jonathan climbed up, using his hands and feet, with his armor-bearer right behind him. **The Philistines fell before Jonathan, and his armor-bearer followed and killed behind him.**

Wady Suweinit

Wady/Wadi – dry creek bed that floods during rain

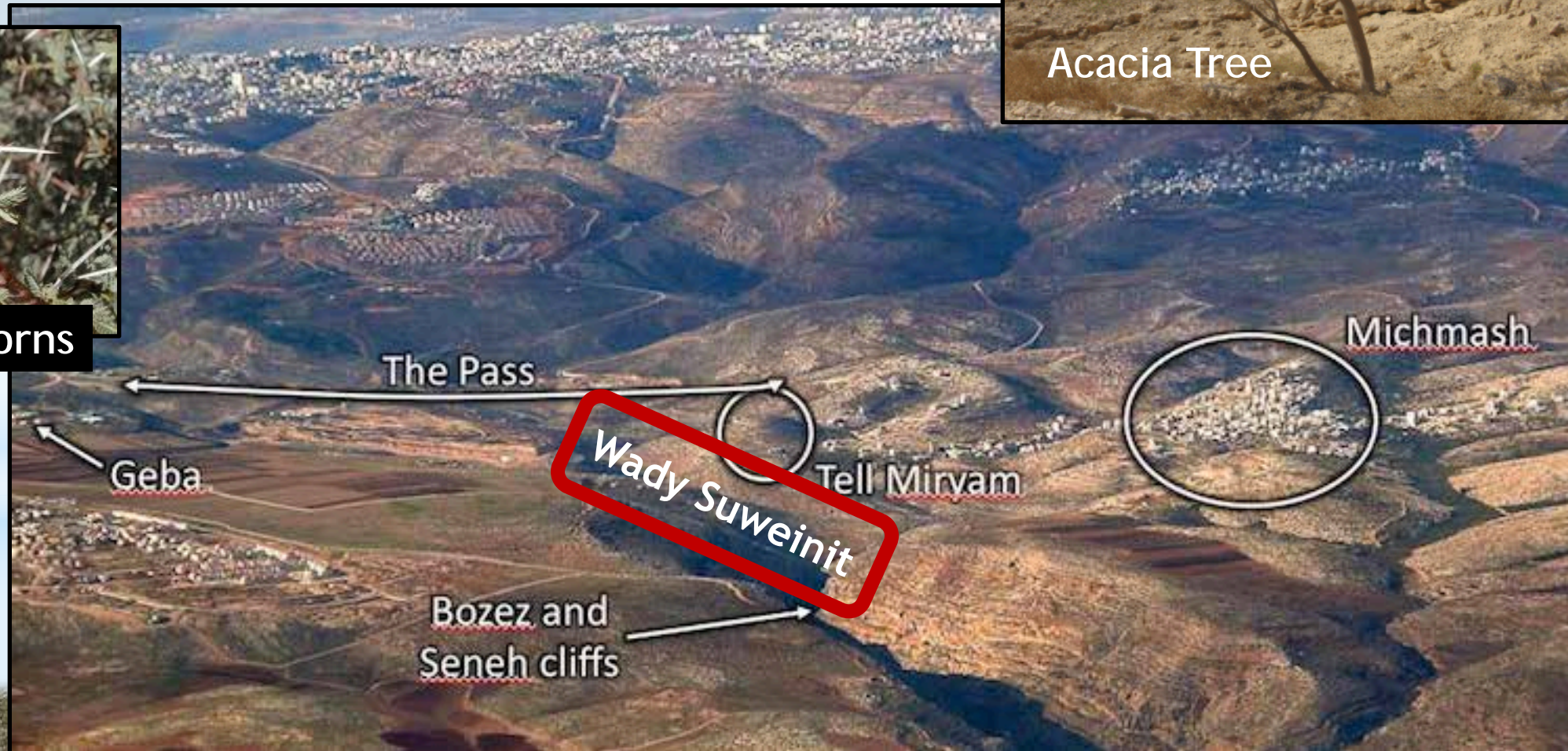
Wady Suweinit – Valley of little Thorn Tree, or Acacia



Acacia Tree



dah little thorns



Michmash

The Pass

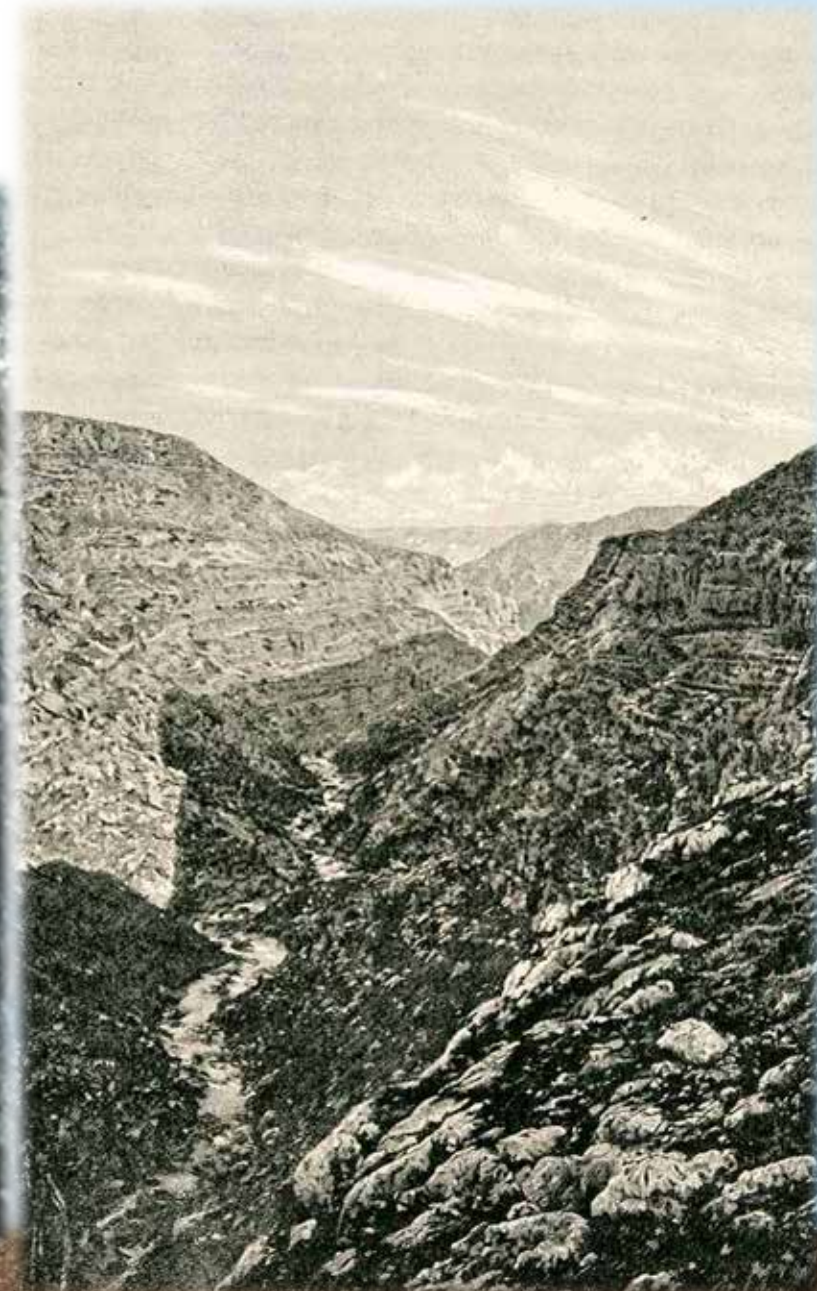
Geba

Wady Suweinit

Tell Miryam

Bozez and
Seneh cliffs

Wady Suweinit



Wady Suweinit

From Col. Wilson's 1881

Picturesque Palestine, >>>>>>>

Sinai and Egypt

*Jonathan
and
Armor Bearer
climbing
cliff of
Bozez*



"And Jonathan climbed up upon his hands
upon his feet, and his armour-bearer
him." — 1 Sam. xiv. 11.



14:1-35 Jonathan Takes Philistine Outpost—Panic

14:14 In that first attack Jonathan and his armor-bearer killed some twenty men in an area of about half an acre.

Who is this man Jonathan?

Little to nothing about the back story or his history

**a fool or a drunk might chance similar
but by the time they descended and ascended the two hills,
he would have sobered up**

a man of Superior Faith in God

Who knew or heard of the Great Samson

it's possible Jonathan as a little boy had met Samson

Jonathan was more honorable than his father

14:1-35 Jonathan Takes Philistine Outpost—Panic

After Jonathan whipped Philistine Outpost above the Wady Suweinit

¹⁵ Then panic struck the whole army—those in the camp and field, and those in the outposts and raiding parties—and the ground shook.

14:15 – “It was a panic sent by God.”

¹⁶ Saul’s lookouts at Gibeah in Benjamin saw the army melting away in all directions. ¹⁷ Saul musters forces ... The tumult in the Philistine camp increased more and more.

²² When all the Israelites **HIDDEN in the hill country of Ephraim heard that the Philistines were on the run, they joined the battle in hot pursuit.**

²³ On that day the LORD saved Israel, and the battle moved on beyond Beth Aven.

14:1-52 Saul's Curse Backfires

14:26-25 Israelites in distress ... because Saul had bound the people under an oath, saying, “Cursed be anyone who eats ... before I’ve avenged myself!”

14:27 In the woods, Jonathan not heard the oath, so using his staff, he it into the honeycomb, raised his hand to his mouth, and his eyes brightened.

Saul casted lots and Jonathan implicated ... **Jonathan MUST DIE!**

14:45 But the men said to Saul, “Should Jonathan die—he who has brought about this great deliverance in Israel? **Never!**

As surely as the LORD lives, not a hair of his head will fall to the ground, for he did this today with God’s help.” **So the men rescued Jonathan, and he was not put to death.**

14:46-52 **All the days of Saul there was bitter war with the Philistines,** and whenever Saul saw a mighty or brave man, he took him into his service.



David and Saul

by Ernst Josephson, 1878

15:1-9 Saul's Disobedience

15:1-6 Samuel tells Saul, “**LORD Almighty says: ‘I will punish the Amalekites for what they did to Israel when they waylaid them as they came up from Egypt.**

³ Now go, attack the Amalekites and totally destroy all that belongs to them. Do not spare them; put to death men and women, children and infants, cattle and sheep, camels and donkeys.’ ”

4-5 Saul musters 200k at Telaim.... Set ambush in ravine near Amalek
[debate 200k ... likely several years after chap. 14]

⁶ Saul told Kenites to leave so he would not destroy them too.



15:1-9 Saul's Disobedience

⁷ Saul attacked the Amalekites all the way from Havilah to Shur, near the eastern border of Egypt.

Amalekites – descendants of Amalek son of Eliphaz, grandson of Esau

- ✓ **Originated in Edom**
- ✓ **From Egypt, Ex. 17, God gave water for Israel by Moses rock striking**
- ✓ **Amalekites savagely attack Israel**
- ✓ **Cursed in Ex. 17:14 & Deut. 25:19**
God will “Blot out the memory”
- ✓ **Later, while David fights Amalekites, Saul dies fighting Philistines**



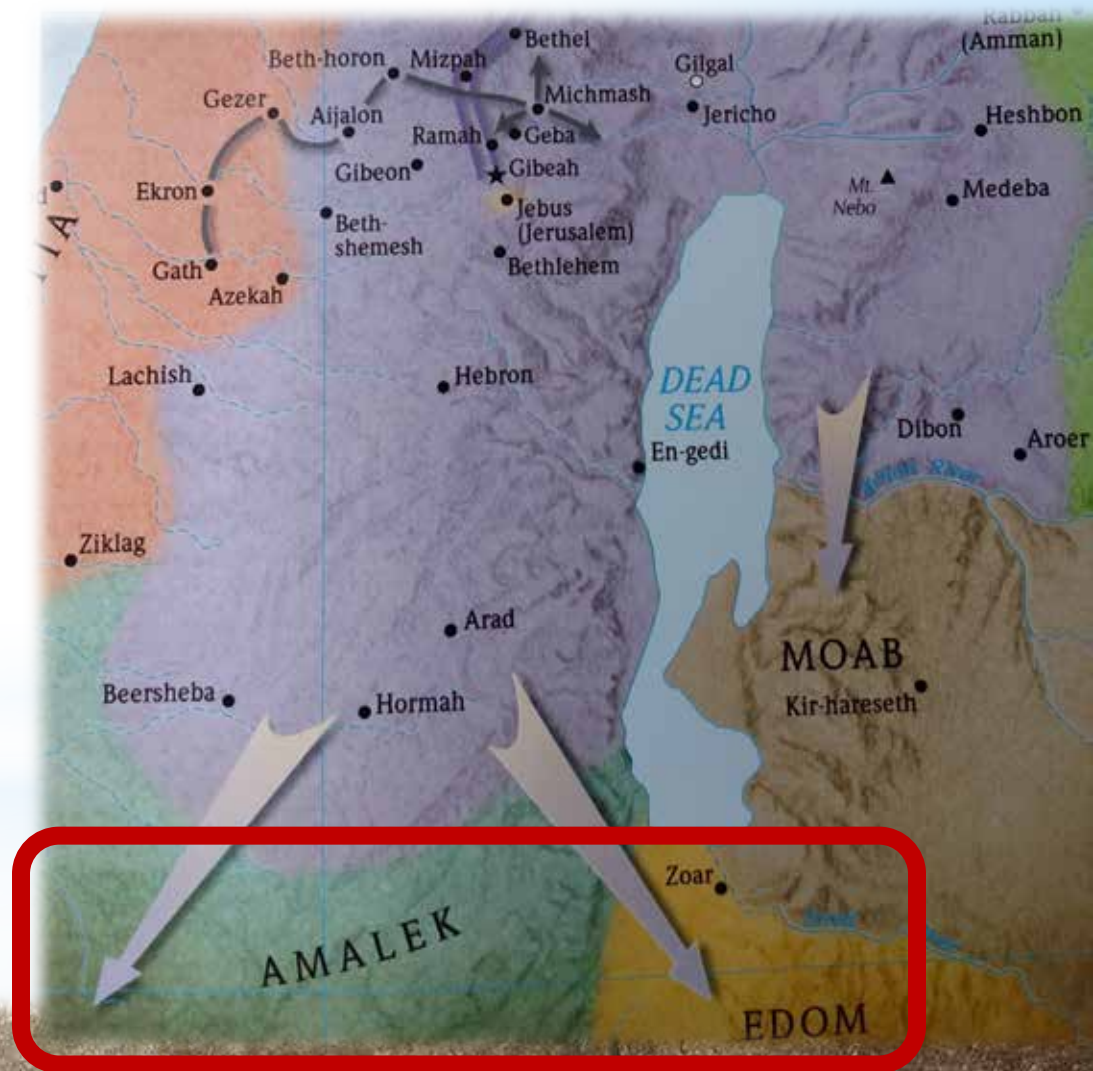
15:1-9 Saul's Disobedience

⁷ Saul attacked the Amalekites all the way from Havilah to Shur, near the eastern border of Egypt.

⁸ He took Agag king of the Amalekites alive, and all his people he totally destroyed with the sword.

**⁹ But Saul and the army spared Agag and the best of the sheep and cattle, the fat calves and lambs—
everything that was good.**

But everything that despised and weak was destroyed.



15:10-15 Samuel's Confrontation – Sheep Bleat Testimony

¹⁰ Word of the LORD came to Samuel:

**¹¹ “I regret that I have made Saul king,
because he has turned away from me
and has not carried out my instructions.”**

**Samuel was angry, and
he cried out to the LORD
all that night.**

**cried out to the LORD
ALL that night.**

**Sunset in
Southern Negev**



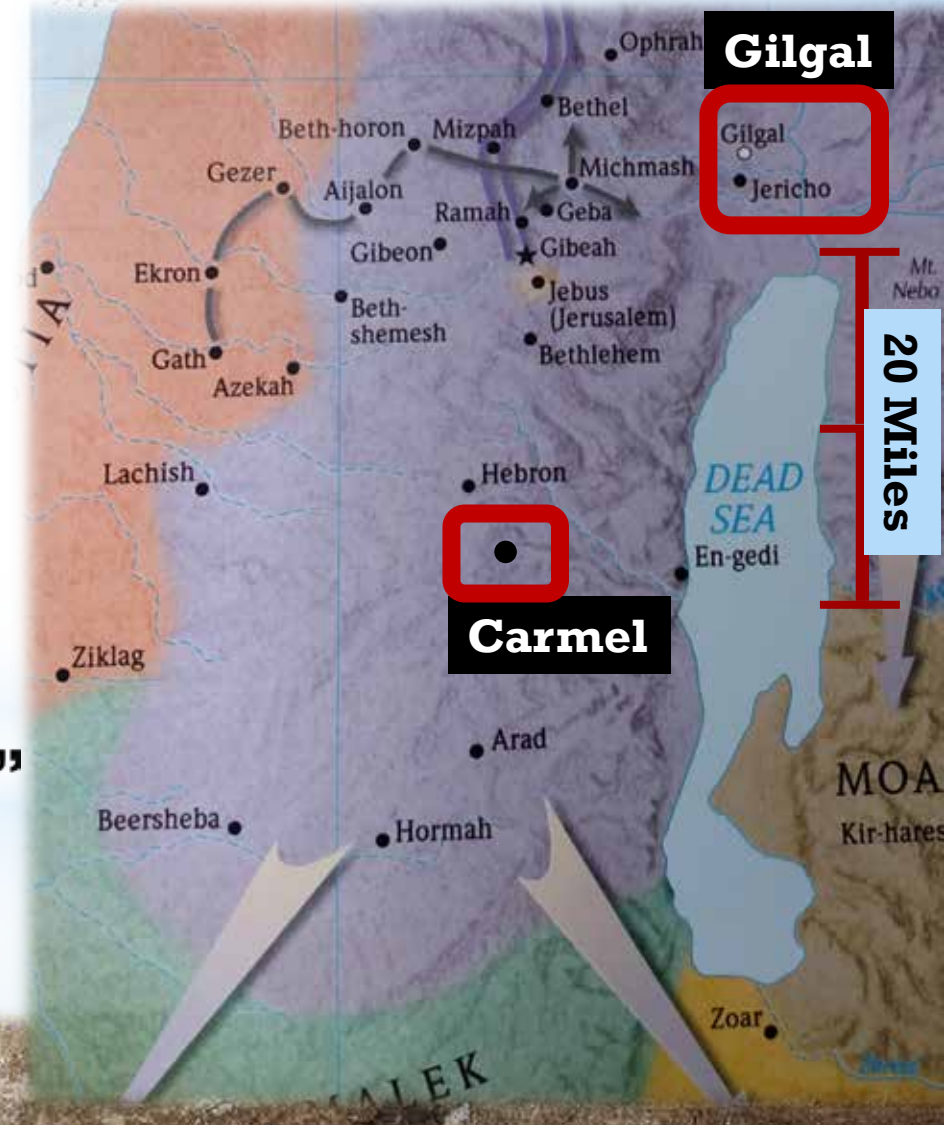
15:10-15 Samuel's Confrontation – Sheep Bleat Testimony

¹⁰ Word of the LORD came to Samuel:

¹¹ “I regret that I have made Saul king, because he has turned away from me and has not carried out my instructions.”

Samuel was angry, and he cried out to the LORD all that night.

¹² Early in the morning Samuel got up and went to meet Saul, but he was told, “Saul has gone to **Carmel**. There he has set up a monument in his own honor and has turned and gone on down to **Gilgal**.”



15:10-15 Samuel's Confrontation – Sheep Bleat Testimony

¹² “Saul has gone to **Carmel**. ... set up a monument ... and gone on down to **Gilgal**.”

Carmel – Saul's Monument victory over Amalekites

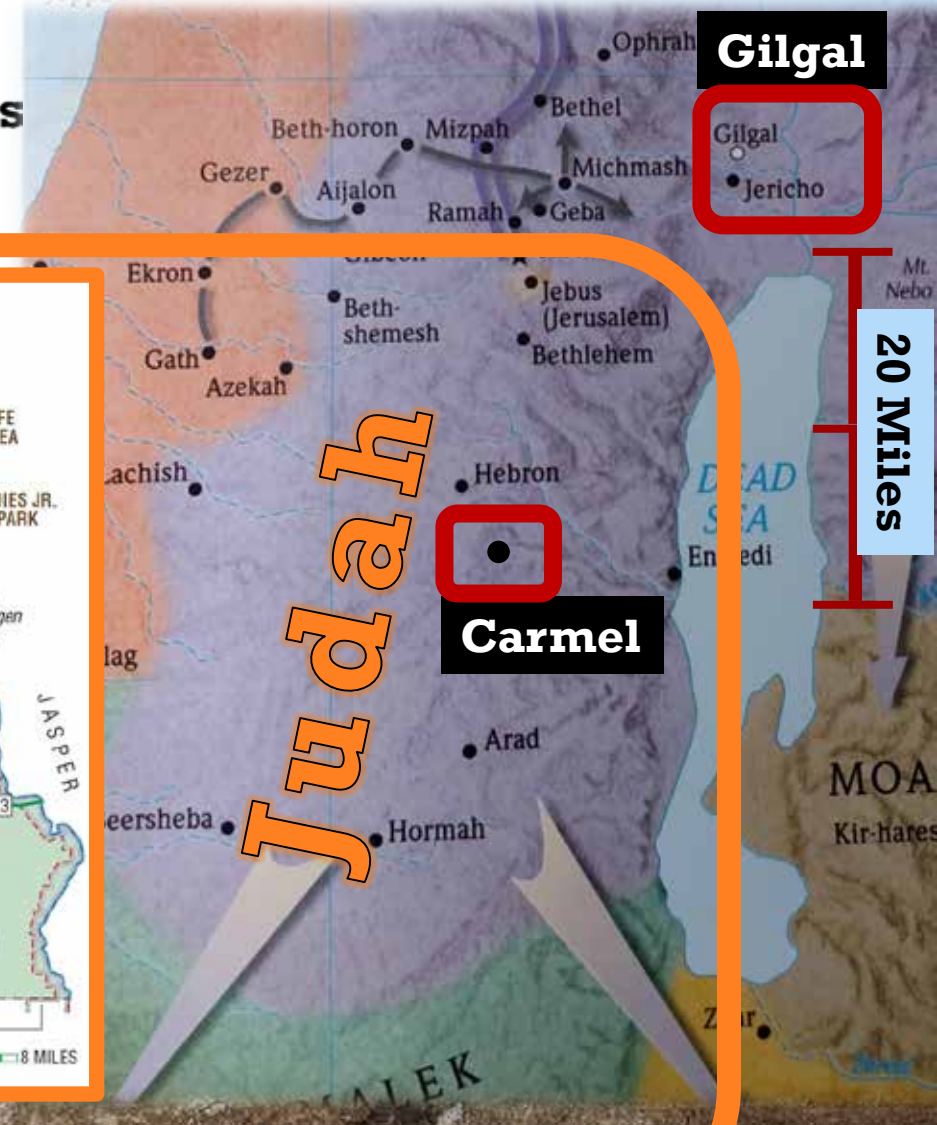
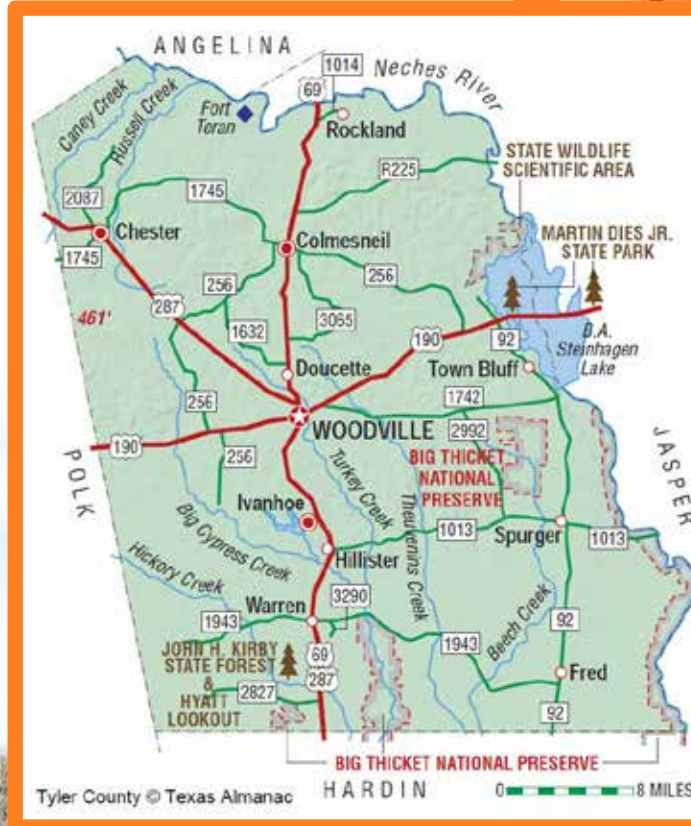
Joshua 15:55 –
Carmel is one of
103 towns/villages
within given
“**border**” of Judah

For Perspective

Larger than Tyler County,
Judah goes farther down
into Amalekite territory

Now, imagine ...

103 towns/villages
in Tyler County



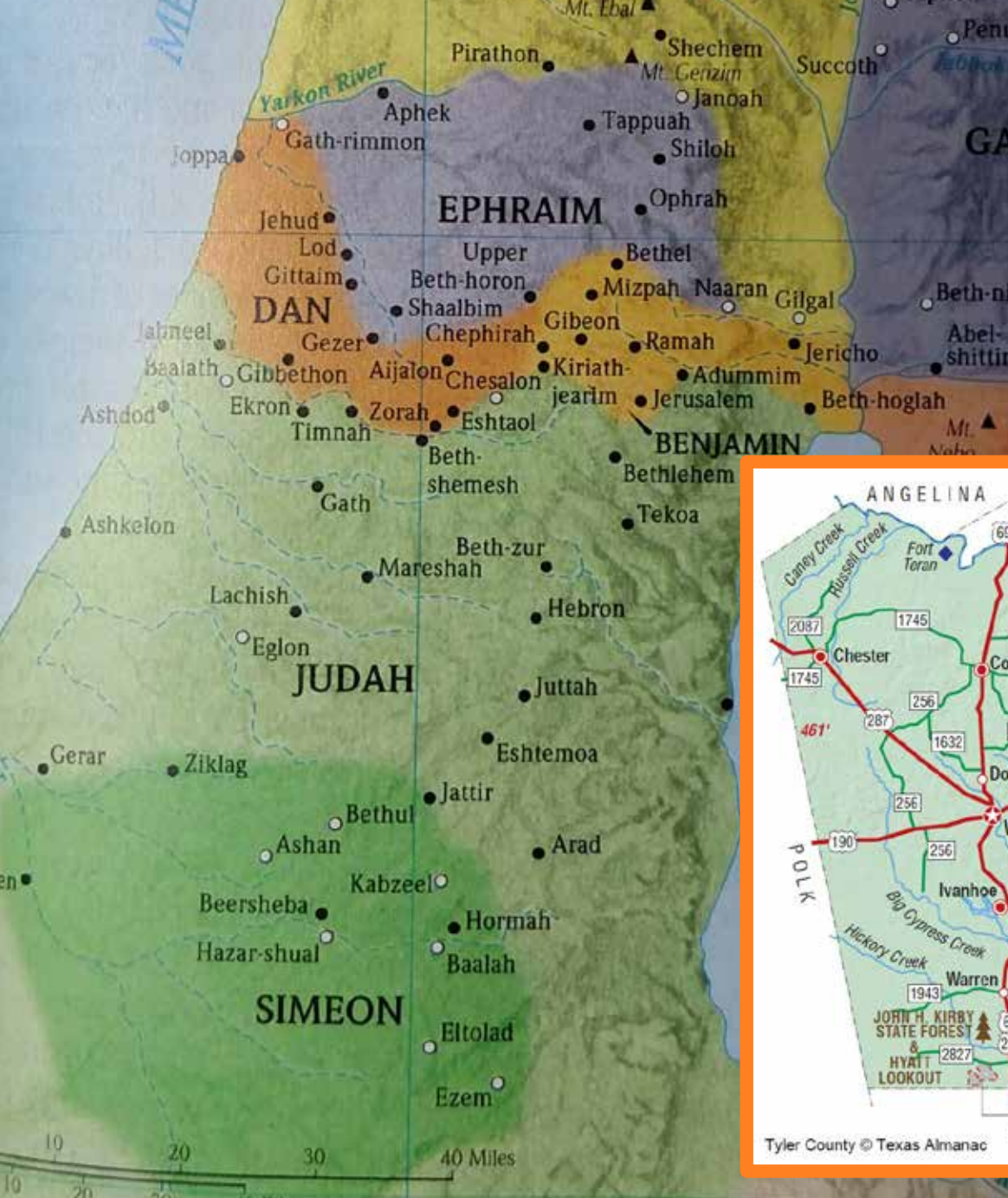
Gilgal

20 Miles

Carmel

Judah

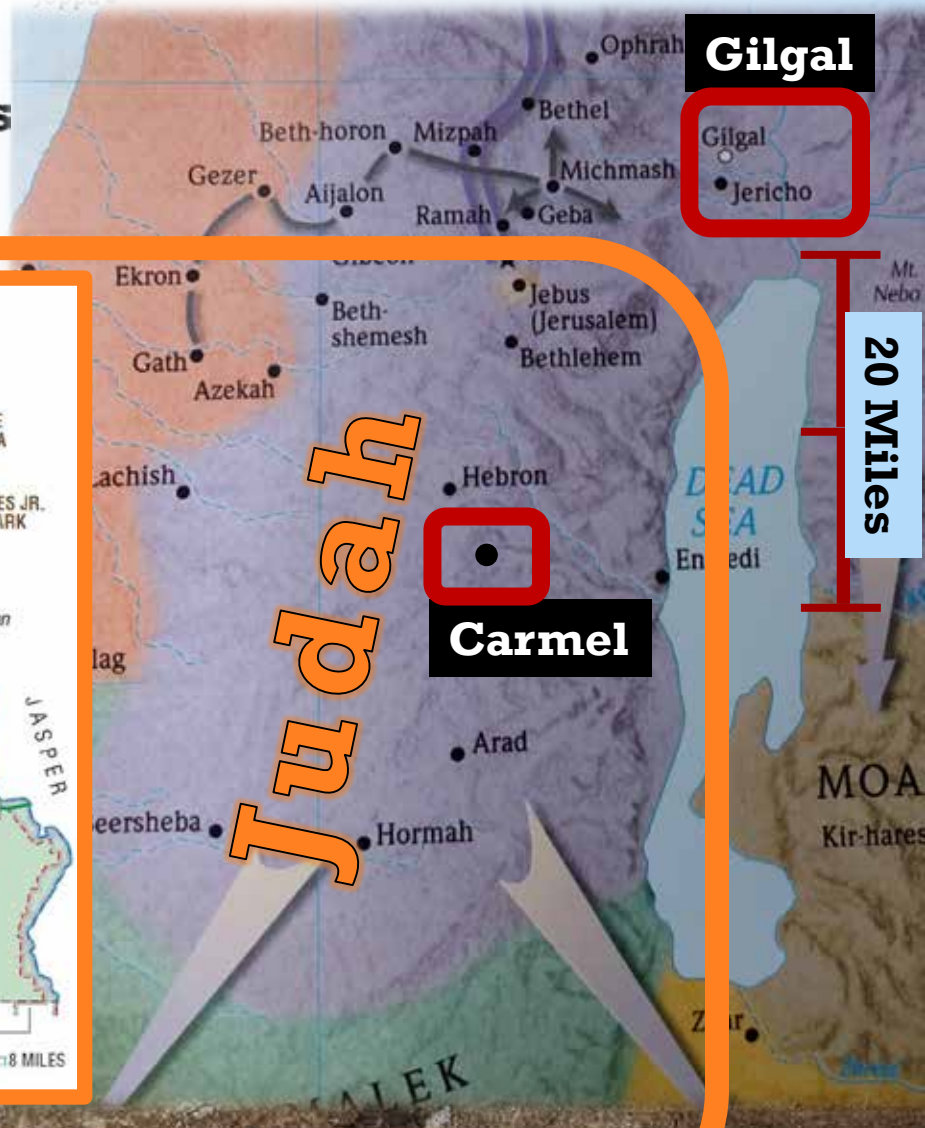
MOA
Kir-hares



atation – Sheep Bleat Testimony

Gal.”

Amalekites

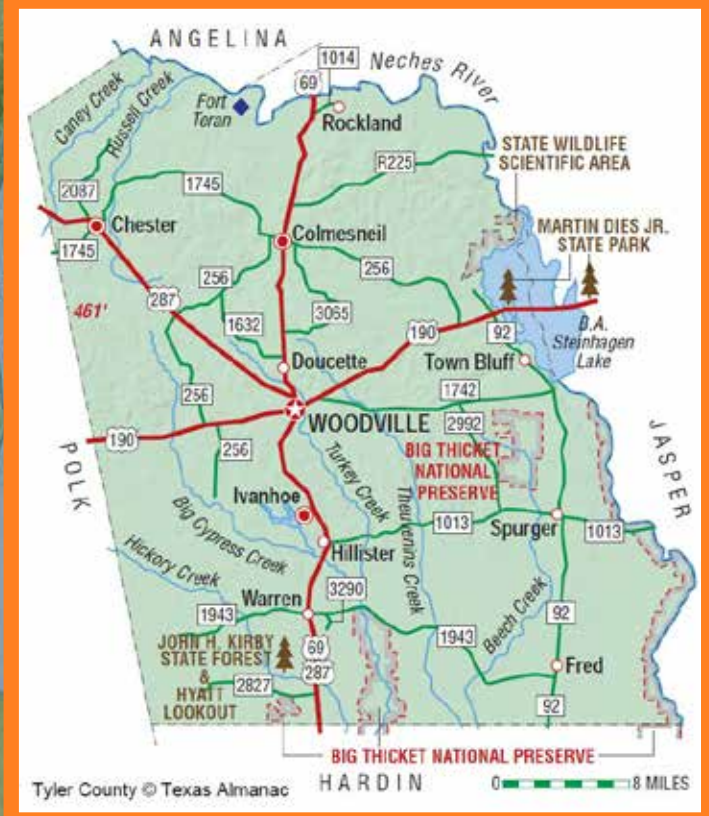


Gilgal



20 Miles

Carmel



Judah

15:10-15 Samuel's Confrontation – Sheep Bleat Testimony

¹² “Saul has gone to **Carmel**. ... set up a monument ... and gone on down to **Gilgal**.”

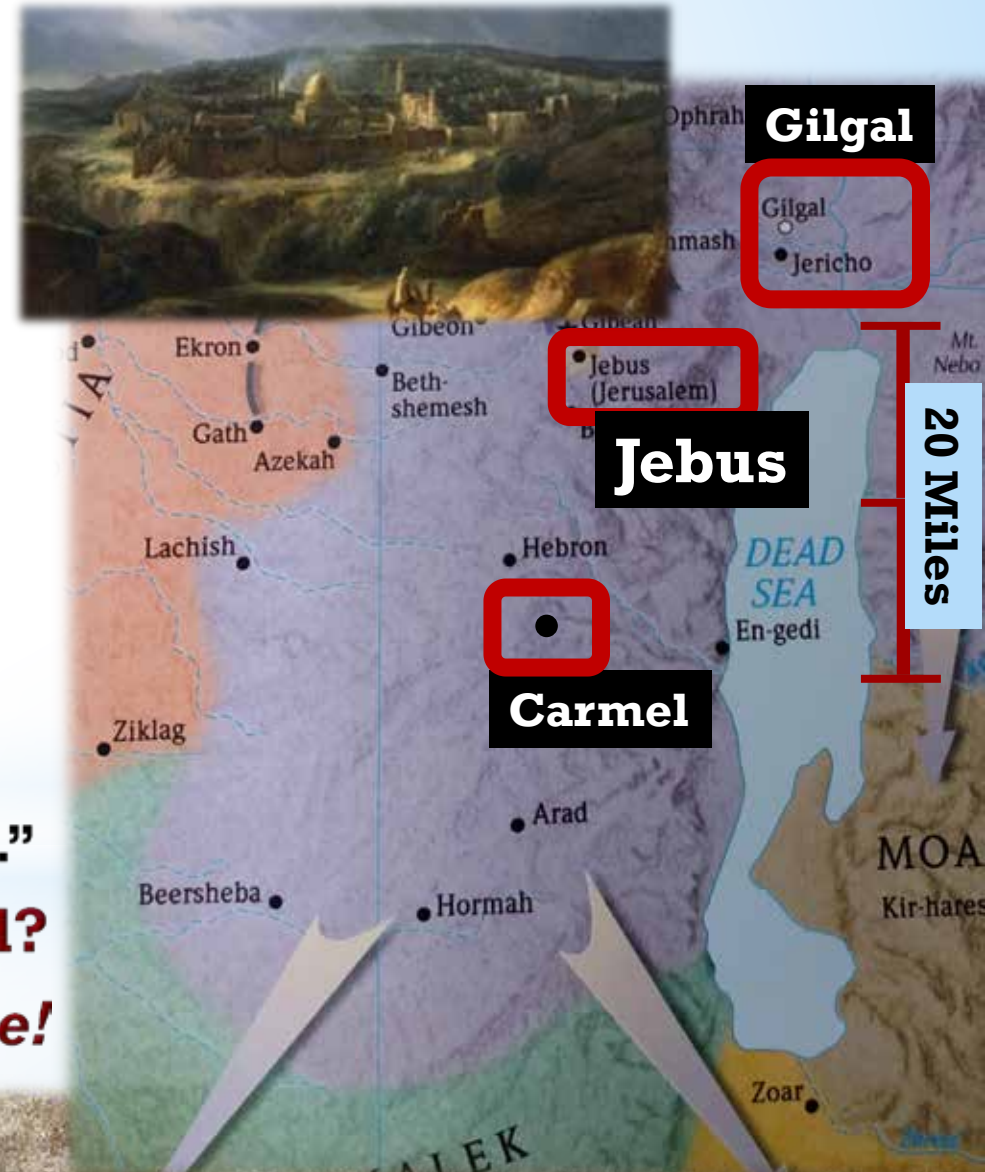
Carmel – Monument to victory over Amalekites

- ✓ Joshua 15:55 – **Carmel** is one of **103 towns/villages** within the given “**border**” of Judah
- ✓ 1 Sam. 25, home of Nabal and wife Abigail
- ✓ 2 Chron. 27, King Uzziah had vineyards there
- ✓ Then in Joshua 15:63, we read something exceedingly INFORMATIVE:

“Judah could not dislodge the Jebusites, who were living in **Jebus (Jerusalem)**; to this day the Jebusites live there with the people of Judah.”

Hint: Want to unite Israel & found a capitol?
Find a central city no one else could subdue!

hint, hint, hint ... King David on the way



15:10-15 Samuel's Confrontation – Sheep Bleat Testimony

¹³ When Samuel reached him, Saul said, “The LORD bless you!
I have carried out the LORD’s instructions.”

What a politician he has become ... or *TRIED* to become now
Samuel is not buying it ... Grandpa KNOWS better

¹⁴ But Samuel said, “What then is
this bleating of sheep in my ears?
What is this lowing of cattle I hear?”

¹⁵ Saul answered, “The soldiers
brought them from the Amalekites;
they **spared the best of the sheep**
and cattle to sacrifice to the
LORD your God, but we totally
destroyed the rest.”



15:16-23 God's Rejection – Obey Better than Sacrifice

¹⁶ “Enough!” Samuel said to Saul. “Let me tell you what the LORD said to me last night.”

***GULP, GULP* “Tell me,” Saul replied.**

You sniveling rascal

**Do you REALLY think I am like one
of your little fawning lobbyists?**

**¹⁷⁻¹⁸ Samuel said, “Though once small in your own eyes ...
The LORD anointed you king.... sent you to, ‘Completely
destroy ... Amalekites.’**

**What part of COMPLETELY DESTROY
did you NOT understand?**

15:16-23 God's Rejection – Obey Better than Sacrifice

GULP, GULPUPITY, GULP, GULP

20-21 “But I DID obey the LORD,” Saul said. “I ... completely destroyed the Amalekites and brought back Agag their king. ²¹ The soldiers took sheep, cattle ... the best ... to sacrifice them to the LORD ... at Gilgal.”

Blame the soldiers – you sniveler

Mr. King Sniveler!



22 But Samuel replied: “Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.

23 For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has rejected you as king.”

15:24-35 Samuel Kills Agag – Good Bye to Saul

24-25 Saul repents, afraid of his men, begs Samuel.

26-28 Samuel rejects, Saul accidentally tears Samuel's garment, Samuel declares that "The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today."

15:29 He who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind; for he is not a human being, that he should change his mind."

30-31 Saul repents again, asks for honor.... So Samuel went back with Saul.

32-33 Samuel curses Saul and kills King Agag of the Amalekites at Gilgal.

34 Samuel left for Ramah, but Saul went up to his home in Gibeah of Saul.

35 Until the day Samuel died, he did not go to see Saul again, though Samuel mourned for him. And the LORD regretted that he had made Saul king over Israel.

Samuel Mourned for Saul ...



Samuel Mourned for Saul

Samuel LOVED Saul and his people
UNCONDITIONALLY

yet that **TOUGH LOVE** also **KEPT** Samuel
from supporting a wayward, conceited, self-deluded heart

Samuel genuinely cared enough
to draw the line ... and walk away
let God be God and deal with Saul



In Conclusion

How often do you feel like you are ALONE

That it's YOU and God against the World

often, we are left with TWO directions

BOTH equally right, daring, traumatic

TWO ways by TWO men of God

Jonathan and Samuel



ONE, Jonathan: trust God, climb the hill

Give'm ALL

fight with ALL of your power and resources



19 And Jonathan climbed up upon his hands and feet, and he was not seen.

TWO, Samuel: know when to walk away

Let God be GOD
to deal with whatever may come



FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class
Michael G. Maness
see
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