

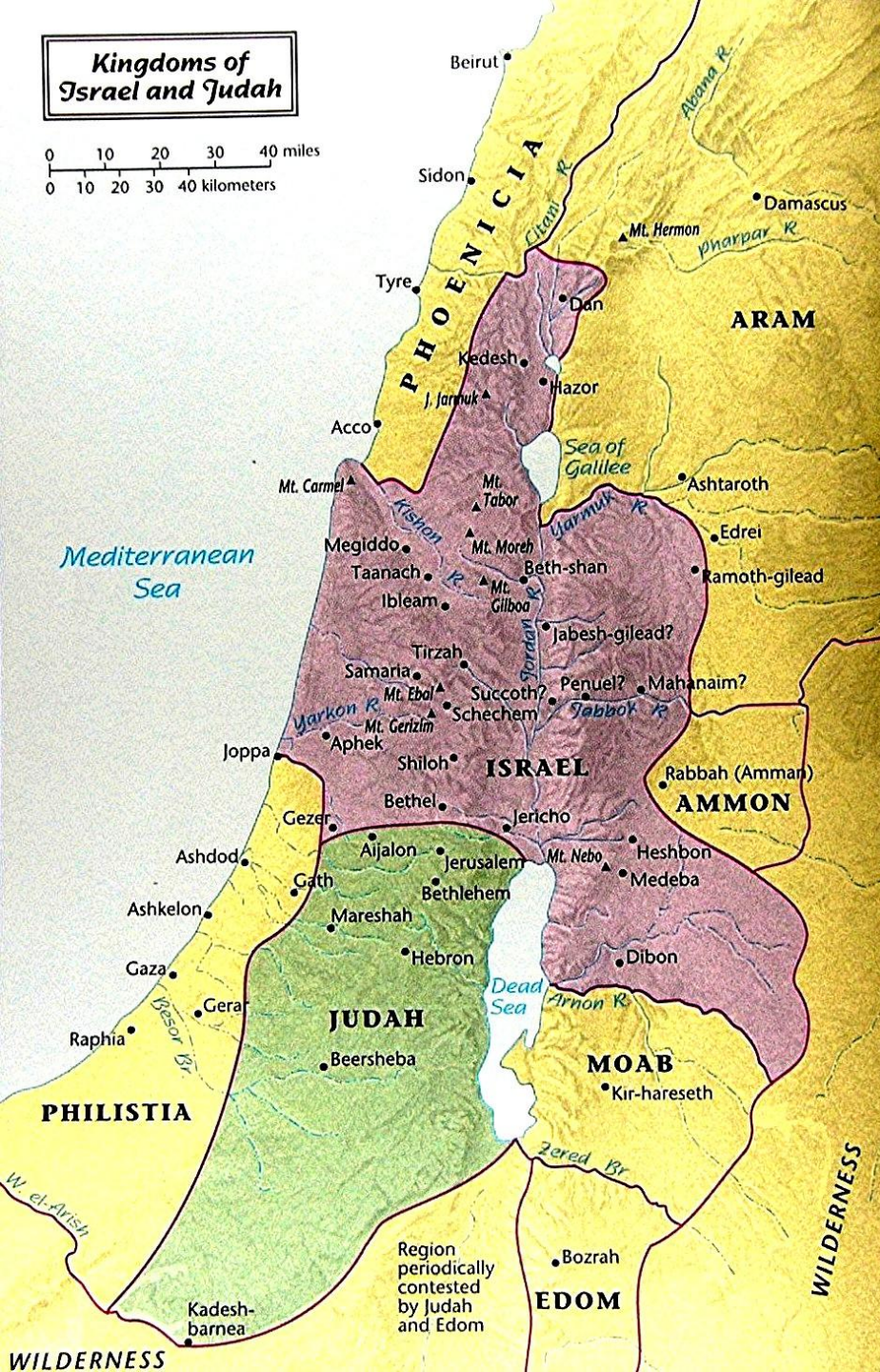
1ST SAMUEL 16: DAVID REPLACES SAUL

- Samuel has fired Saul
- King Saul had no intention of relinquishing the throne
- Samuel must have thought that it was better for Saul to stay in power until a new king was anointed
- The Philistines had regained power and were a threat to Israel



Kingdoms of Israel and Judah

0 10 20 30 40 miles
0 10 20 30 40 kilometers



A COALITION OF DIVIDED LOYALITIES

- King Saul the Anti-King, David the righteous King
- Israel was not recognized as a sovereign nation
- Relationship between northern and southern tribes was a reluctant co-operative
- Judah and Israel were independent entities

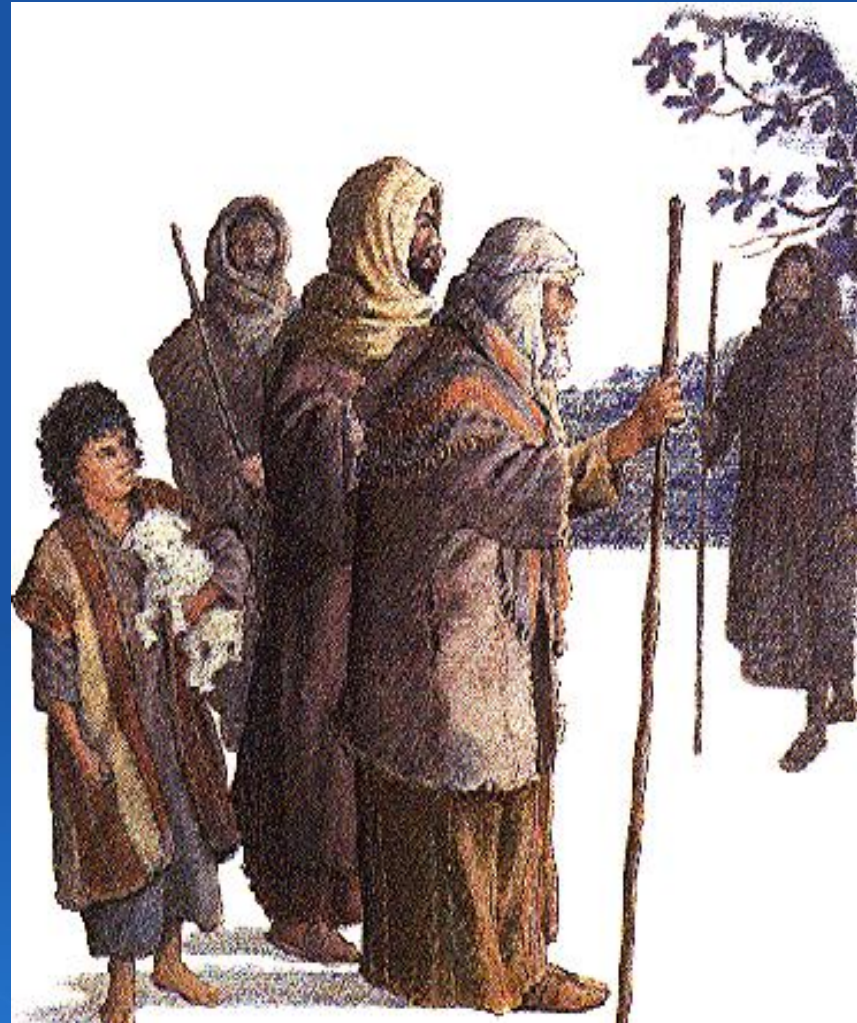
SAMUEL GOES TO BEIT-LECHEM



- *Beit-Lechem* = House of Bread
- There, from the family of Yishai, Samuel will discover the new king
- Bethlehem in Judah's territory
- Samuel is fearful to go:
 - 1) Afraid of King Saul
 - 2) Afraid of the leaders of Judah
- Lord tells Samuel to take a heifer to Judah for a "sacrifice"

“Do you come in shalom?”

- Samuel’s arrival startles the Bethlehemites
- Not usual for Samuel to come to Judah
- **Ba-zabbah** = come with me to the sacrifice
- **Zevah** = a lesser kind of sacrifice, most meat is given to the laypeople
- Participants told to consecrate themselves, meaning to wash their garments and to bathe



YISHAI PRESENTS HIS SONS



- 1st son is *Eliav*
- 2nd son is *Avinadav*
- 3rd son is *Shammah*
- None are selected
- Samuel probably using lots
- Heart = mind, seat of the intellect (NOT feelings, emotions)
- Samuel assumes the tallest son MUST be God's choice
- Charisma is usually a primary factor in selecting leaders

DAVID IS CHOSEN

- 1st Sam 16:10 says that Jesse presented 7 of his sons AND then said that there was still David
- 1 Chron.2:12 says that David is the 7th son
- 1 Chron.27:16 adds a name to David's list of brothers, giving us 8
- Bible error? Two different traditions intertwined? Are there 7 sons or 8 sons?



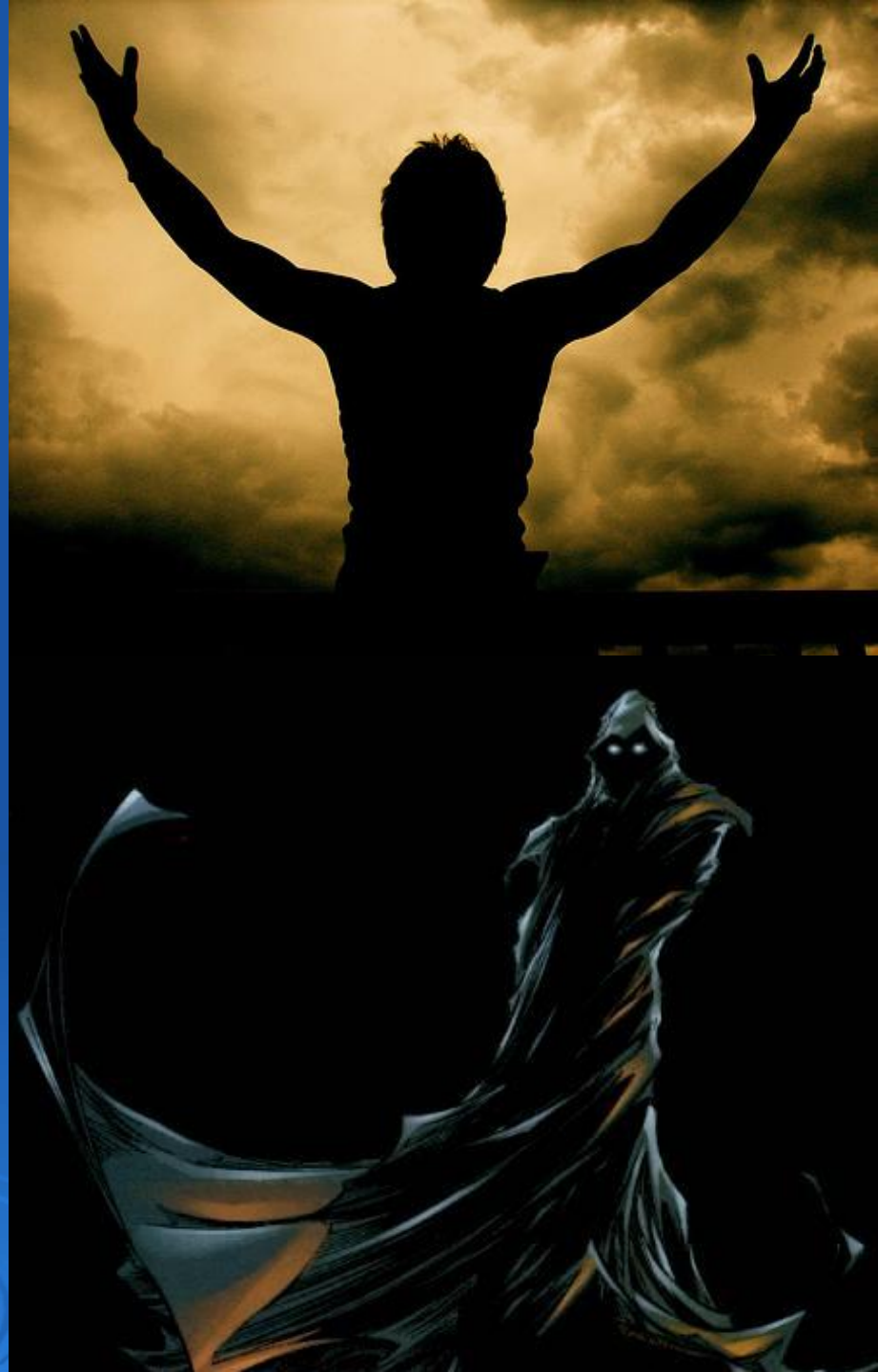
ARE THERE 7 SONS, OR 8 ?



- *Hatammu hanne-arim* = are the sons complete?
- 7 is the number of completeness, the ideal number
- The word “complete” and the number 7 work as a parallel to denote the same thing
- Theologically the issue is NOT whether or not David was the 7th or 8th son, the issue was that the number 7 tells us that a God-thing was happening, and that Jesse’s family was divinely IDEAL, which was needed for a proper King to come from it

THE SPIRIT OF GOD

- Holy Spirit withdrew from Saul, and now rested upon David
- Saul now received an “evil spirit from Adonai”
- What is “an evil spirit from God”?
- Did God send a different kind of “divine” spirit that was evil?
- Did God send a demon?
- Did Saul’s evil nature take over?
- Is only that Saul tumbles into depression and mental illness?



THE NATURE OF EVIL

- **Isaiah 45:7** *“I form the light and create darkness; I the Lord....”*
- **Amos 3:6** *“....Shall evil befall a city and the Lord hath not done it ?”*
- **Lamentations 3:38** *“ Out of the mouth of the Most High proceeds not evil and good ?”*
- *“Evil is simply the absence of God.....”*
Albert Einstein
- **Ruach Ra-ah** SHOULD be translated as: *“God sent a spirit that brings forth evil”*
- 1st Samuel 16:14 presents a case NOT of a spirit who’s nature is evil but of a spirit that CAUSES evil to happen

HUMANS ARE NOT SPIRITUALLY NEUTRAL



- God can allow or not allow evil to occur
- Every human is either occupied by a holy spirit or a spirit of another kind
- When the Holy Spirit left Saul, another kind rushed in to fill the vacuum
- This spirit now in King Saul has divine purpose behind it
- Human vocabulary will never allow us to adequately communicate the mysteries of the spiritual sphere
- God is NOT a man

DID THE FAMILY KNOW THE PURPOSE OF DAVID'S ANOINTING?

- No indication that Jesse or his sons knew what this anointing was about
- David seemed to be aware of this powerful new presence upon him
- David in time developed a fear of losing the Holy Spirit
- Psalm 51
- David had many sleepless nights worrying about losing the Ruach HaKodesh
- Saul willing to give up the Holy Spirit in order to keep his power and do things his way

