

**7**[1] And the men of Town of Forests came and brought up the ark of Yehvah. And they brought him to the house of Abinadab<sup>1</sup> on the hill. And Eleazer his son they set apart<sup>2</sup> to keep the ark of Yehvah. [2] And it was, from the day of the sitting of the ark in Town of Forests, so the days were many. And they were twenty years. And all the house of Israel lamented after Yehvah.

[3] And Samuel spoke to all the house of Israel, saying, “If in all your heart you return to Yehvah and put away the gods of the foreigner from your midst, and the Ashtaroths,<sup>3</sup> and prepare your heart to Yehvah and serve him only, so he will deliver you from the hand of Philistines.” [4] And the sons of Israel put away the Baals and the Ashtaroths and served Yehvah only.

[5] And Samuel said, “Gather all Israel to the Lookout,<sup>4</sup> and I will pray for you to Yehvah. [6] And they gathered to the Lookout, and drew water, and poured out before Yehvah, and fasted on that day. And they said, “We have sinned against Yehvah.” And Samuel judged the sons of Israel at the Lookout. [7] And Philistines heard that the sons of Israel had gathered to the Lookout. And the lords of Philistines went up to Israel. And the sons of Israel heard and were afraid of Philistines.

[8] And the sons of Israel said to Samuel, “Do not be silent from crying out to Yehvah our Gods for us, so he may save us from the hand of Philistines!” [9] And Samuel took one milk lamb<sup>5</sup> and offered a whole burnt offering to Yehvah, and Samuel cried out to Yehvah for Israel; and Yehvah answered him.

[10] And it was, Samuel was offering the burnt offering, and Philistines drew near to battle against Israel. And Yehvah thundered in a great voice on that day upon Philistines and troubled and struck them before Israel. [11] And men of Israel went out from the Lookout and pursued Philistines and struck them as far as below House of Kar.<sup>6</sup>

[12] And Samuel took one stone and set it between the Lookout and the Tooth<sup>7</sup> and called her name “The Stone of Help.”<sup>8</sup> And he said, “Until here Yehvah has helped us.” [13] And the Philistines were subdued and did not yet again enter Israel's border. And the hand of Yehvah was against the Philistines all of Samuel's days.

[14] And the cities returned to Israel that Philistines had taken from Israel were from Ekron unto Winepress. And their<sup>9</sup> border Israel snatched from Philistines'

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1 אַבִּינָדָב ('aviynâdâv) “Abinadab” = my father is noble – this name for this man is found also in 2 Samuel 6:3-4; 1 Chronicles 13:7. There is also a son of Jesse in 1 Samuel 16:8; 17:13; 1 Chronicles 2:13, and a son of Saul in 1 Samuel 31:2; 1 Chronicles 8:33; 9:39; 10:2. There is also a “son of Abinadab” in 1 Kings 4:11.

2 קִדְּשׁוּ (qiddeshu) “set apart” NLV, OJB ; “sanctified” YLT, KJV; “consecrated” NKJV, NAS

3 עֲשֵׁתָרוֹת ('ashttârot) “Ashtaroths” - see footnote for Deuteronomy 1:4.

4 “Lookout”; NKJV, etc. “Mizpah” - see Genesis 31:49 and footnote.

5 טֵלֵה חֵלָב (telêh châlâv) “milk lamb” Green; “suckling lamb” NKJV, KJV, NAS. It is the word for milk (e.g. Judges 5:25 “milk” חֵלָב [châlâv]).

6 בֵּית כָּר (bêyt kâr) “House of Kar”; NKJV, etc. “Beth Car” - only found here.

7 שֵׁן (shên) “Tooth” (e.g. “tooth” in Exodus 21:24); NKJV, etc. “Shen”

8 This is where the name came from for this location. See 1 Samuel 4:1 and footnote.

9 גְּבוּלָן (gevulân) “their boarder” - “their” is plural feminine referring to the cities (cities are feminine).

hand. And there was peace between Israel and the Amorite.

[15] And Samuel judged Israel all days of his life. [16] And he went from year to year and went around House of God and the Gilgal and the Lookout. And he judged Israel at all those places. [17] And his return was to the Height, because his house was there. And there he judged Israel. And he built there an altar to Yehvah.