

BIBLE WOMEN
Hannah – Peninnah / David’s Wives - Lesson 10
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I. HANNAH AND PENINNAH

- A. One of the most compelling stories for women in the Bible is the account of Hannah and her prayer for a child.
- B. Many women have felt the same unfulfilled longing for a child.
 - 1. The women of the Old and New Testament considered their barrenness as punishment from God for some unknown sin.
 - 2. Many women of the Bible were said to be barren before they finally had a child:
 - a. Sarah, wife of Abraham – mother of **Isaac** (Genesis 11)
 - b. Rebekah, wife of Isaac – mother of **Jacob** and Esau (Genesis 25)
 - c. Rachel, wife of Jacob – mother of **Joseph** and Benjamin (Gen. 29)
 - d. Manoah’s wife – mother of **Samson** (Judges 13)
 - e. Elizabeth, wife of Zechariah, mother of **John the Baptizer** (Luke 1)
 - 3. Notice, however, that God had a special purpose for the sons of each of these women who remained barren for so many years before they were rewarded with the desire of their hearts.
- C. Hannah was one of two wives of Elkanah. In fact, she was Elkanah’s favorite. (**I Samuel 1**)
 - 1. The other wife was Peninnah. She had sons and daughters but Hannah had no children.
 - 2. Once each year Elkanah took his family to Shiloh to offer sacrifices and worship God.
 - a. Elkanah gave portions of the offerings to Peninnah and all her sons and daughters.
 - b. But Elkanah loved Hannah more so he gave her a double portion of the offerings.
 - 3. Peninnah was apparently jealous of Hannah. She must have known that Elkanah loved Hannah more.
 - a. Peninnah made Hannah’s life miserable by constantly reminding her that the Lord has “closed her womb”.
 - b. While they were at Shiloh, Hannah was so discouraged and unhappy that she wept and could not eat.
 - c. Elkanah asked Hannah why she grieved so, since he tried to be better to her than ten sons.
 - 4. When they had finished eating, Hannah went near the Tabernacle where Eli, the high priest, was sitting in the door of the Tabernacle.
 - a. Hannah prayed and wept in anguish and then she made a vow saying:
I Samuel 1:11 – *“O Lord of hosts, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and remember me, and not forget Your maidservant, but will give Your maidservant a male child, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life, and no razor shall come upon his head.”*

- b. Eli saw Hannah as her mouth moved but no words were coming out because Hannah was “speaking in her heart” (vs 13).
 - c. Eli thought Hannah was drunk and he scolded her. But Hannah said: *“I am not drunk, but have poured out my soul before the Lord.”* (vs 15)
 - d. Eli then told Hannah that her petition would be granted, even though he didn’t know what her petition was.
 - e. Hannah went away no longer sad. (vs 18)
- D. When Hannah and Elkanah returned to her home, her petition was answered and she gave birth to a son, named Samuel, which means “I have asked for him from the Lord”.
- 1. In the first few years of Samuel’s life, Elkanah continued going to Shiloh annually to sacrifice and worship, but Hannah and Samuel did not go.
 - 2. Hannah kept Samuel at home until he was weaned, which may have been about four years old (according to Jewish history).
 - a. When Samuel was weaned Hannah took Samuel to Shiloh to offer sacrifices.
 - b. Hannah spoke to Eli saying:
I Samuel 1:26-28 – *“...I am the woman who stood by you praying to the Lord. For this child I prayed and the Lord has granted me my petition... Therefore I also have **lent** him to the Lord **as long as he lives** he shall be lent to the Lord.”*
 - c. Hannah and Elkanah went back home and left Samuel to serve the Lord with Eli, the priest.
 - d. Imagine how difficult it would be to leave your only child to be raised by someone else.
 - e. However, Hannah had made a vow to God which she was required to fulfill. **Deut. 23:21** – *“When you make a **vow** to the Lord your God, you shall not delay to pay it; for the Lord your God will surely require it of you, and it would be sin to you.”*
- E. Hannah and Elkanah could only see Samuel once each year as they came to Shiloh to offer sacrifices.
- 1. *“Samuel ministered before the Lord, even as a child, wearing a linen ephod.”*
 - 2. In our lesson on the “Priestly Garments”, we learned that an ephod was an apron-like garment that was worn over a tunic or robe.
 - a. The Levitical Priests wore a plain linen ephod, like Samuel’s.
 - b. The High Priest wore a very elaborately decorated ephod.
 - 3. Eli blessed Hannah and Elkanah each year as they brought their sacrifices to Shiloh saying *“The Lord give you descendants from this woman for the loan that was given to the Lord.”* **I Samuel 2:20**
 - 4. Hannah gave birth to three more sons and two daughters.
 - 5. It appears that the vow Hannah made to “lend Samuel to the Lord” was a Nazirite vow on behalf of Samuel.
 - 6. The details of the Nazirite vow are given in **Numbers 6:1-27**.

7. It is interesting to note that Hannah dedicated Samuel to this Nazirite vow for **the rest of his life**.
 8. Other men in the Bible that we know who were under the vow from birth were:
 - a. Samson – **Judges 13:5**
 - b. John the Baptizer – **Luke 1:13-17**
- F. Imagine how Hannah must have felt as she watched her son become so influential in the service of God.
1. Samuel was eligible to serve God as a Levitical Priest under the High Priest, Eli, because Samuel was a descendant of the tribe of Levi who were all dedicated to God.
 2. The entire lineage of Samuel is given in **I Chronicles 6:33-38**.
 3. The sons of Levi were Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. Samuel's father, Elkanah was from the family of Kohath. Kohath's sons were: Amram, Izhar, Hebron and Uzziel
 4. Amram was the father of Moses and Aaron – the High Priests had to be in the direct lineage of Aaron.
 5. Samuel was from the lineage of Izhar, son of Kohath, son of Levi.
- G. Samuel was so much more important to God and to Israel than Hannah ever could have predicted.
1. When she dedicated him to God, she could not have known how Samuel would be used in God's plan.
 - a. **I Samuel 9:9** – Samuel was a Prophet.
 - b. **I Samuel 7:6** – Samuel was a Judge in Israel.
 - c. **I Samuel 13** – Samuel was a Priest. Samuel caught Saul offering a burnt offering for which he was not qualified, since one must be a Levite, which Samuel was.
 2. She knew that her son would be dedicated to God as a Levite, but may have thought that he would only serve on a rotating schedule (as did all Levites) while he was between the ages of 25 and 50 years old. (**Numbers 8:23-25**)
 3. Hannah vowed that her first born son would be dedicated to God for his entire life and apparently he was to be bound to the Nazirite vow since she specified that "no razor would touch his hair".
 4. Samuel's service to God was elevated far above that which his mother could have envisioned.
- H. As Hannah dedicated her son to the Lord, she understood that her influence on him would be limited.
1. Her love for God was made evident in her prayer when she promised to give her son to the service of God all the days of his life"
 2. When Hannah received a son in answer to her prayer, it must have increased her faith enormously.
 3. It is logical to believe that Hannah continued to pray for her son after his birth and all during his life as he served God.

4. The only way she was able to show her love and to encourage her son in his work was to provide a new coat each year as she came to Shiloh to worship and sacrifice to God each year.
 5. No doubt that coat served as a constant reminder to Samuel of the dedication of his parents to God and only added to the teaching he received from Eli.
- I. The biggest responsibility of parents still today is to find ways to continually encourage our children and grandchildren in the faith and service to God.
1. Nothing our children ever accomplish will ever be as important as their spiritual strength and faithfulness to God.
 2. Of course we want our children to be educated and to find honorable and productive careers to support their families.
 - a. What eternal benefit will their worldly accomplishments provide them?
 - b. Jesus reminded us of this in **Matthew 16:26** – "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"
 3. If we can only teach our children and grandchildren that making the will of God our primary priority, then they will be rewarded with the things they need in life.
 - a. **Matthew 6:20-34** – "...lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
 - b. I must admit that it is very challenging for young people to think about eternal treasures that are not visible, when they are so inundated with the treasures this world has to offer. But that is why the parent's responsibility must be taken so seriously.
 - c. **Matthew 6:31-33-34** – "³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'" ³² For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."
 4. We may not be able to dedicate our children to the service of God in the same way as Hannah did, but we can dedicate ourselves to being the best possible influence on our children (even when they are grown) and to our grandchildren.
 5. We certainly can't count on their getting a godly influence from those in the world.
 - a. There will be many in the world working to undo our influence as much as possible.
 - b. We must be faithful in our own lives as an example to them.

- c. We must remember them constantly in our prayers that they will be wise enough to overcome the temptations of the world and to serve God with all their heart.
- d. We must give them encouraging words as often as possible.
- e. These are some of the ways we can follow Hannah's example in encouraging her son by making him a coat each year.

II. DAVID'S WIVES

- A. After the Israelites settled in Canaan and after their leader, Joshua, died *"everyone did what was right in his own eyes."* **Judges 17:6**
 1. The Israelites again proved their weakness of faith in God when they turned away from God and worshipped the idols of the heathen nations that remained in Canaan.
 2. The Lord was provoked to anger against Israel because of their idolatry so he allowed their enemies to plunder and despoil Israel. The hand of the Lord was against them.
 3. When the people suffered from the harsh treatment of their conquerors, they would eventually call out to God to save them.
 4. God saved them by sending a Judge to lead and inspire the people to fight against their enemies and God gave them victory. However, the same events occurred over and over in a very destructive cycle.
 5. As long as the judge lived, the people were faithful; but as soon as the judge died they drifted back to idolatry again and again.
 6. While Samuel was judge, the people decided they wanted a King, like the other nations around them.
 7. Samuel's heart was broken when the people asked for a king, but God told Samuel: **I Samuel 10:19** – *"Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them."*
 8. Saul was chosen by God to be Israel's first king. **I Samuel 20-24**
 9. There is a saying, "Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely." This statement applies to Saul.
 - a. **I Samuel 13:9** – Saul unlawfully offered a burnt offering to God before a battle because Samuel was late in arriving to do it.
 - b. **I Samuel 15:17-23** – Saul failed to obey God when he was told to utterly destroy the Amalekites, both people and animals. But Saul saved King Agag and the best of the flocks.
 - c. Because of Saul's disobedience God regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel. **I Samuel 15:23** – *"For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king."*
 10. David was chosen to be the next king of Israel even while Saul still served as king. **I Samuel 16:1-13**

B. It took many years before David actually was able to ascend to the throne of King Saul. During this time, David was winning the hearts of all of Israel.

1. David killed the Philistine giant, Goliath. **I Samuel 17:48-51**
2. David remained with King Saul from that day and became a hero among the Israelites because of his skill as a warrior.
3. Saul became afraid of David because of his great popularity with the people.
4. Saul even made David a captain over a thousand soldiers then offered his oldest daughter Merab as a wife for David if he would fight the Lord's battles. All the while, Saul hoped David would be killed in battle.

I Samuel 17

5. Instead of giving Merab to David as his wife, she was given to another man. **Vs. 18**

C. **MICHAL – David's first wife.**

1. However, Saul's youngest daughter, Michal, loved David so Saul decided to give her to David as a wife, *"that she might be a snare to him (David)."*
 - a. Saul knew that the Lord was with David and that the people loved him, so Saul feared David even more. **I Samuel 18:28-30**
 - b. Even Saul's son, Jonathan, loved David like his own soul.
 - c. Saul became so paranoid that he threw a spear at David in an attempt to kill David himself. But David dodged the spear and ran away. **I Samuel 19:9-10**
 - d. Saul sent messengers to David's house to watch him and to kill him in the morning.
2. Michal heard of her father's order to kill David and she warned him that he must leave or he would be killed in the morning. **Vs. 11**
 - a. Michal let David down through a window and David left the city.
 - b. Michal then took a statue and put goats hair on its head and covered it with clothes and laid it in the bed.
 - c. When Saul's messengers came for David, she told them that he was sick in the bed.
 - d. The messengers went back to Saul with that message, but he ordered them to bring the bed with David in it to him.
 - e. When Saul saw that it was a trick, he said to Michal, *"Why have you deceived me like this, and sent my enemy away, so that he has escaped?"* **Vs. 17**
 - f. Michal answered her father by saying that David had threatened to kill her if she didn't help him.
 - g. David and those that supported him (about 400 men) their time trying to evade Saul and his army who were pursuing him.

D. **ABIGAIL and AHINOAM**

1. While David and his army were in the wilderness, evading Saul, they were near the land of a man named Nabal.
 - a. Nabal was a very rich man with very large herds of sheep, goats and camels. His wife's name was Abigail. **I Samuel 25:1-3**

- b. Abigail was an understanding woman and she was very beautiful
 - c. Nabal was very harsh and evil. Their marriage was likely the result of a deal struck between their parents. This practice carried the risk that the man and woman would have very little in common.
2. When David heard that Nabal and his men were shearing sheep, David sent ten young men to Nabal to request food for their men. **Vs. 4-5**
- a. Shearing time also was a time of celebration and feasting, so David knew that food would be plentiful among Nabal's workers.
 - b. The young men greeted Nabal in David's name and gave a blessing to Nabal that his household would live in peace and prosperity.
 - c. Then they informed Nabal that they had often protected his shepherds as they worked in the field and they never took animals from Nabal's flocks.
 - d. Then they asked if he would allow David's men to come to feast with them.
 - e. Nabal's answer was "*who is David, son of Jesse*". It wasn't that Nabal had never heard of David, he meant that David was nothing to him. Then he responded, "*Shall I take my bread and my water and my meat that I have killed for my shearers, and give it to men when I do not know where they are from?*" **Vs. 10**
 - f. David's men returned to David with Nabal's message and David was very angry. He told his men to get their swords and about four hundred of them went to confront Nabal.
3. When David's men left Nabal, one of the young shepherds told Abigail how crudely Nabal had treated David's men.
- a. The young man also confirmed that David's men had been good to them in the fields, protecting them both day and night.
 - b. The young man said to Abigail: **I Samuel 25:17** "Now therefore, know and consider what you will do, for harm is determined against our master and against all his household. For he is such a scoundrel that one cannot speak to him."
 - c. Immediately, Abigail gathered food to take to David. She took:
 - 1) 200 loaves of bread
 - 2) 2 skins of wine
 - 3) 5 sheep already dressed for cooking
 - 4) 5 seahs of roasted grain
 - a.) 1 seah = $\frac{2}{3}$ of a peck
 - b.) 1 peck = $\frac{1}{4}$ of a bushel
 - c.) 5 seahs = a little less than 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ bushels
 - 5) 100 clusters of raisins
 - 6) 200 cakes of figs – these were fresh figs that had been dried and pressed into round discs called "cakes". They could then be sliced like cheese and were a very valuable food source.
 - d. Abigail loaded all of this on donkeys and she sent her servants ahead of her as she went to David, but she did not tell Nabal what she was doing.

- 1) When she met David, he said to her, *"Surely I have protected all that this fellow has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that belongs to him. And he has repaid me evil for good. May God do so, and more alwso, to the enemies of David, if I leave one male of all who belong to him by morning light."*
- 2) Abigail fell on her face before David and said: **I Samuel 25:24-31** – *"On me, my lord, on me let this iniquity be! And please let your maidservant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your maidservant. Please let not my lord regard this scoundrel Nabal For as his name is, so is he: Nabal is his name, and folly is with him! But I, your maidservant did not see the young men of my lord whom you sent. Now therefore, my lord, as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, since the Lord has held you back from coming to bloodshed and from avenging yourself with your own hand now then, let your enemies and those who seek harm for my lord be as Nabal. And now this present which your maidservant has brought to my lord, let it be given to the young men who follow my lord. Please forgive the trespass of your maidservant. For the Lord will certainly make for my lord an enduring house, because my lord fights the battles of the Lord, ad evil is not found in you throughout your days.... But when the Lord has dealt well with my lord, then remember your maidservant."*
- 3) David's anger was calmed with Abigail's words and he said: **I Samuel 25:32-34** – *"Blessed is the LORD God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me!³³ And blessed is your advice and blessed are you, because you have kept me this day from coming to bloodshed and from avenging myself with my own hand.³⁴ For indeed, as the LORD God of Israel lives, who has kept me back from hurting you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, surely by morning light no males would have been left to Nabal!"*
4. Abigail went to Nabal while he was hosting a feast in his house, like the feast of a King. **I Samuel 25:36-38**
 - a. Nabal had been feasting and drinking with his shepherds and he was very drunk, so she did not tell him what she did until morning.
 - b. The next morning when Nabal was sober, Abigail told him all that she did.
 - c. Verse 37 says that *"his heart died within him, and he became like a stone."* Perhaps he had a sever heart attack or a severe stroke because he lingered in that state for ten days and then he died.
5. When David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, *"Bless the Lord, who has pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and haws kept His servant from evil! For the Lord has returned the wickedness of Nabal on his own head."* **I Samuel 25:39**
 - a. Immediately David sent servants Abigail at Carmel, saying, *"David sent us to you to ask you to become his wife."*

- b. Abigail arose and quickly gathered her things and five of her maidens and she followed the messengers of David and became his wife.
6. During the time when David was evading Saul, he also married another woman, Ahinoam of Jezreel, so both Abigail and Ahinoam were David's wives.

E. MICHAL RETURNS TO DAVID

1. Remember, Michal told her father, Saul, that David threatened to kill her if she didn't help him escape Saul. This was not true, it was her idea that David escape through the window to avoid being captured and killed by Saul.
2. However, perhaps Saul assumed that Michal had been deserted by David, so Saul gave Michal to another man for his wife. His name was Palti.
3. There was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David.
4. During this time David grew stronger and more popular with the people and Saul grew weaker and weaker.
5. However, the Philistines began to attack Israel and Saul had to stop pursuing David and take his army back to fight the Philistines.
6. David and his army and their families remained in Hebron. During this time sons were born to David while he and his army were there:

2 Samuel 3:2-5

- a. Amnon by Ahinoam, the Jezreelitess
 - b. Chileab (also known as Daniel – **I Chron. 3:1**) by Abigail, the widow of Nabal
 - c. Absalom by Maacah, the daughter of Talmaj, king of Geshur. Geshur was an independent nation that was never driven out of Canaan when the Israelites took possession of the land. It was located in northern Israel, east of the Sea of Galilee. Maacah was one of several wives that David married in order to make political alliances in his effort to consolidate his power in his war with Saul. This is all the information we have about Maacah.
 - d. Tamar, daughter of Maacah
 - e. Adonijah by Haggith
 - f. Shephatiah by Abital
 - g. Ithream by Eglah.
- F. Israel was defeated by the Philistines and they killed three of Saul's sons, (Jonathan, Abinadab and Malchishua). An archer hit Saul and severely wounded him to that he fell on his own sword to kill himself rather than being taken prisoner by the Philistines.
1. Abner was the commander of the army for Saul and he was gaining a powerful hold on the house of Saul. He even began a relationship with one of Saul's concubines named Rizpah. To claim a king's concubine was equal to claiming the throne as king.
 2. Saul's son, Ishbosheth, confronted Abner saying, **2 Samuel 3:7** – "*Why have you gone in to my father's concubine?*" After all, Ishbosheth was the oldest surviving son of Saul and entitled to his crown.

- a. Abner became very angry and said that today I show loyalty to the house of Saul, but now I will help David secure the throne, as God has sworn to give him.
 - b. Then Abner sent a message to David saying, *"Make your covenant with me, and indeed my hand shall be with you to bring all Israel to you."*
 - c. David said, *"Good, I will make a covenant with you. But one thing I require of you: you shall not see my face unless you first bring Michal, Saul's daughter, when you come to see my face."*
 - d. It has been many years since David escaped through a window with the help of his first wife, Michal, but he has not forgotten her. He simply was not able to get access to her since she was the daughter of Saul, with whom he was still fighting a war for power over Israel.
 - e. Then David sent a message to Ishbosheth, Saul's son, saying, *"Give me my wife Michal, whom I betrothed to myself for a hundred foreskins of the Philistines."* **2 Samuel 3:14**
 - f. So Ishbosheth took Michal from her husband that Saul had given her to. Her husband went with her part of the way, weeping behind her.
 - g. Ishbosheth ordered him to go back home so he did.
3. Then Abner communicated with the elders of Israel saying, **2 Samuel 3:17-18** – *"In time past you were seeking for David to be king over you. ¹⁸ Now then, do it! For the LORD has spoken of David, saying, 'By the hand of My servant David, I will save My people Israel from the hand of the Philistines and the hand of all their enemies.'"*
- a. Abner went back to David with twenty men and David made a feast for Abner and his men.
 - b. Abner agreed to go and gather all Israel and convince them to make a covenant with David to make him king over all Israel instead of Ishbosheth, then Abner left.
 - c. Shortly after Abner left, Joab (David's commander of the army) came back from a raid bring the spoils of war with them. When Joab heard that Abner had been in their camp and had left in peace, he was very upset.
 - d. Joab told David that Abner was not to be trusted and that he just wanted to find out all that David was doing.
 - e. When Joab left David he sent messengers to bring Abner back, but David did not know it. **2 Samuel 3:23-25**
 - f. When Abner was returned to Hebron, Abner took him aside privately and stabbed him to death. Joab was not really trying to protect David, he simply wanted vengeance for the death of his brother whom Abner had killed in a battle. **Vs. 27**
 - g. When David learned that Abner was dead, he mourned for him and instructed his people to do the same.
 - h. David was so upset that he refused to eat all day and the people knew that he did not have anything to do with the death of Abner.
4. When Ishbosheth learned that Abner had been murdered he understood that he would never be king of Israel and that the nation was in trouble.

- a. Two of the sons of captains in the army of Saul then stabbed Ishbosheth in his bed. **2 Samuel 4:6**
 - b. When their fathers Rechab and Baanah came in they found him wounded and they killed him and cut off his head and took it to David, thinking he would reward them for eliminating his enemy.
 - c. The men were no doubt surprised when David said that they had not done him any favor. In fact, David told them they were wicked to kill a righteous person in his own bed. **Vs. 11**
 - d. David then commanded his young men to execute them, cut off their hands and feet and hang them by the pool in Hebron. **Vs. 12**
 5. Finally, David was anointed king over all of the tribes of Israel. He was thirty years old and he reigned forty years (7 ½ years in Hebron and 33 ½ years in Jerusalem).
 6. David took more wives and concubines in Jerusalem. Thirteen sons and daughters born in Jerusalem to David. **I Chronicles 14:4-6**
- G. When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king, they gathered an army against Israel.
1. David inquired of the Lord whether he should go against the Philistines and God told David to go against them because God would give them victory. **2 Samuel 5:19**
 2. Afterward David decided to bring the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem. It had been in the house of Abinadab since the Philistines returned it because of the curse it caused in their land.
 3. David gathered all Israel together and they went to retrieve the Ark of God.
 - a. They placed it on a new cart pulled by oxen.
 - b. Suddenly the oxen stumbled and Uzza put out his hand to keep the Ark from falling from the cart. Immediately he was struck dead.
 - c. God had given specific instructions in the law of Moses regarding how the Ark was to be moved.
 - 1) Poles were to be placed through gold rings on each side of the Ark.
 - 2) Only the Levites were permitted to carry the Ark
 - 3) David didn't know these instructions it had been many generations since the Ark had been moved, since the Tabernacle was placed permanently at Shiloh.
 - d. David became angry that Uzza was killed and he was afraid to move the Ark saying, *"How can I bring the Ark of God to me?"*
 - e. The Ark was left at the home of Obed-Edom for three months and God blessed all that he had.
 4. David built himself a grand palace in Jerusalem and he also prepared a place for the Ark of God.
 - a. Finally, David had researched the means of properly moving the Ark.
 - b. The Priests and the Levites sanctified themselves to bring the Ark of God to Jerusalem and they carried it on their shoulders by the poles as God had commanded Moses.

- c. There were singers and musicians accompanying the Levites as they carried the Ark.
 - d. David was clothed with a robe of fine linen, and he wore a linen ephod.
 - e. As the Ark of God approached Jerusalem, Michael (David's wife) looked through a window and saw David whirling and playing music and she despised him in her heart. **I Chronicles 15:29**
 - f. When David returned home, Michal said mockingly, *"How glorious was the king of Israel today, uncovering himself today in the eyes of the maids of his servants, as one of the base fellows shamelessly uncovers himself!"*
 - g. David defended his actions and said to Michal: *"It was before the LORD, who chose me instead of your father and all his house, to appoint me ruler over the people of the LORD, over Israel. Therefore I will play music before the LORD. ²² And I will be even more undignified than this, and will be humble in my own sight. But as for the maidservants of whom you have spoken, by them I will be held in honor."*
 - h. The last bit of information we have about Michal is that "she never had children until the day of her death."
 - i. Whether this was a punishment from God for disrespecting her husband OR (more likely) she and David never lived as husband and wife after that, we don't know.
 - j. I believe it is more likely that they never had a relationship after that incident. After all, Michal was returned to David as his wife against her wishes, since she had been living with another husband who loved her very much for many years.
- H. The women in David's life were very different from each other.
1. Michal might have made a very good wife for David, since she loved him very much, if her father had not been determined to kill David in his insanity. Since David could not return to her, their relationship was dissolved by Saul when he gave Michal to another man. Even though David wanted her back about seven years later, it was too late to recapture the love she once had for David.
 2. Abigail was chosen by David because of he was impressed with her integrity, her ingenuity, her courage and her kindness and generosity toward his men.
 3. Maacah was the daughter of Talmai, King of Geshur, which was a politically beneficial union to secure the support of the King of Geshur in David's war against Saul.
 4. Ahinoam, the Jezreelitess was also most likely a political union as well.
 5. We have no information about Haggith, Abital or Eglah. These may also have been political alliances to help David gain support in the war against Saul.
 6. There is one wife we have not covered, Bathsheba. We will begin our next class with her.