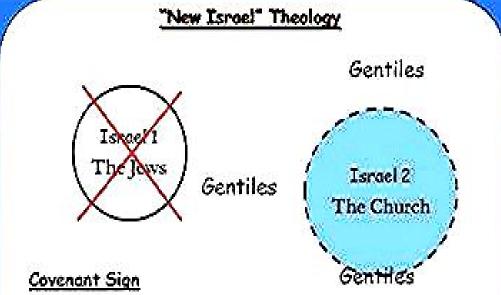


#### WHEN THE LIGHT COMES ON.....

- Bible nearly
   unintelligible without
   understanding the
   biblical cultures
- By deciding God has abolished the Law and replaced Israel, there's no point to studying the Old Testament



Physical Circumcision

Circumcision of the heart

### "I don't know what the Bible says, but I know what I believe...."

- Junior Hi kids are certain that they need NO MORE INFO!
- It is dangerous to approach the Bible with this kind of Junior Hi attitude
- ➢ Hebrews 5:11 "You ought to be teachers, but you still need someone to teach you the very 1<sup>st</sup> principles of God's Word all over again!"





I WAS TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHICH IS WORSE, IGNORANCE OR APATHY...

THEN I REALIZED I DON'T KNOW AND I DON'T CARE.





# IT TAKES: "Continuous exercise to distinguish good from evil"

- Naïve immaturity in Paul's day, Samuel's day, and our day
- Priests and Levites no longer gave thought to the Law or the Exodus
- We don't study our faith forefathers, the Pilgrims, because it would mean hard work to understand their words and culture
- Knowing God's Word takes time and dedication
- Mistaken beliefs are serious and can prove to be fatal

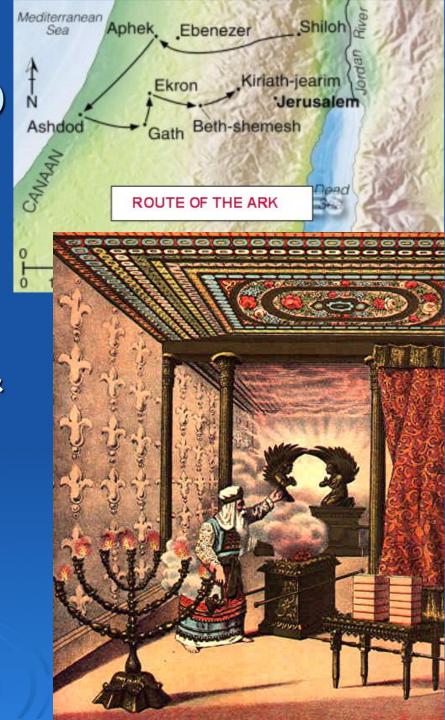
#### 70 STRUCK DEAD BY THE ARK

- Ark arrived at Beit-Shemesh
- Levites touched the Ark and saw what was especially holy and died for it
- Probably didn't know the Law
- Levites didn't seem to know WHY God reacted as He did
- Ark sent to Kiryat-Ye'arim



#### 1st SAMUEL 7: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE TABERNACLE?

- 20 years have passed since Ark sent to Kiryat-Ye'arim
- Mystery as to where the Menorah, Altar of Incense, & Table of Shewbread resided
- Time of King Saul, the High Priest was at Nob
- 2 Sam 6:3 Ark remained at Avinadav's house in Kiryat-Ye'arim









### THE BELIEVER IN THE KETTLE

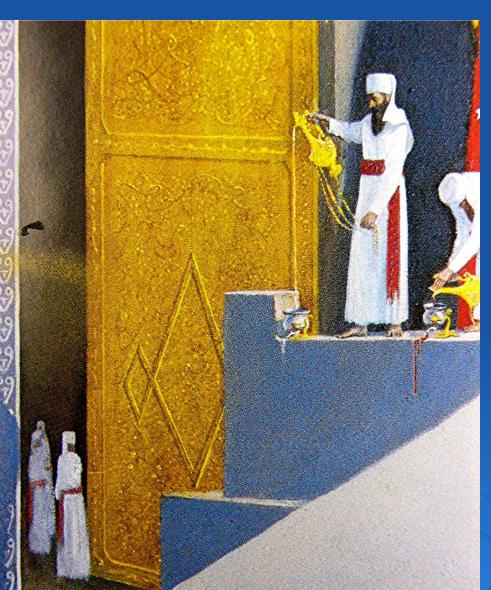
- Israel did NOT stop believing in YWHW, and did NOT renounce Moses and the Law
- They allowed impurity and paganism to creep in
- The Lord has no interest in our rationalizations, or interest in "fun" or "usefulness" of pagan elements or symbols to be used in the Name of God!

## CONVOCATION AT MITZPAH

- The God-Pattern of harmony with God, apostasy, oppression, repentance, deliverance
- At Mitzpah Samuel's career as a Shofet of Israel began
- Samuel had an unusual and wide range of duties for the Lord
- Prophets tended to be jacks of all trades



### WATER DRAWN AND POURED OUT AT MITZPAH CEREMONY



- Scholars confused and tantalized by this mention of water libation in Samuel
- NO DOUBT! It was a celebration of Sukkot
- Samuel called Israel for a pilgrimage to Mitzpah to celebrate the Fall Feasts
- Yom Kippur involves fasting, prayer, repentance, just like at Mitzpah

#### MITZPAH A SECONDARY HOLY SITE



- Shiloh was defunct as the religious center of Israel
- Mitzpah long recognized as a religious/cult center
- Judges 20 − 21, 1st Samuel 10, 1st Mac. 3
- Israel did NOT gather at Mitzpah for war!!



### GOD "THUNDERS" OVER THE PHILISTINES

- While Samuel was sacrificing and Israel was praying, the Philistines attacked
- Thunder is usually God's wrath in Heaven, that soon manifests on Earth
- Philistines panicked and ran for their lives
- Israel had a great victory, but it was God's victory

