



So, You Think You Can Dance?

2 Sam. 6:14-23; 1 Chr. 15

1 Chronicles 13:13-14

13 So David did not take the ark with him to the city of David, but took it aside to the house of Obed-edom the Gittite. **14** Thus the ark of God remained with the family of Obed-edom in his house three months; and the Lord blessed the family of Obed-edom with all that he had.



Did Someone Say “Blessings?”

- David resolves that Jerusalem could experience similar blessings, and the Ark should be brought to the city.
- This time he does his homework and makes proper preparations.



1 Chronicles 15:1-5a

1 Now David built houses for himself in the city of David; and he prepared a place for the ark of God and pitched a tent for it. **2** Then David said, “No one is to carry the ark of God but the Levites; for the Lord chose them to carry the ark of God and to minister to Him forever.” **3** And David assembled all Israel at Jerusalem to bring up the ark of the Lord to its place which he had prepared for it. **4** David gathered together the sons of Aaron and the Levites: **5** of the sons of Kohath...

1 Chronicles 15:11-15

11 Then David called for Zadok and Abiathar the priests, and for the Levites, for Uriel, Asaiah, Joel, Shemaiah, Eliel and Amminadab, **12** and said to them, “You are the heads of the fathers’ households of the Levites; consecrate yourselves both you and your relatives, that you may bring up the ark of the Lord God of Israel to the place that I have prepared for it. **13** Because you did not carry it at the first, the Lord our God made an outburst on us, for we did not seek Him according to the ordinance.” **14** So the priests and the Levites consecrated themselves to bring up the ark of the Lord God of Israel. **15** The sons of the Levites carried the ark of God on their shoulders with the poles thereon, as Moses had commanded according to the word of the Lord.

2 Samuel 6:13-15

13 And so it was, that when the bearers of the ark of the Lord had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling. **14** And David was dancing before the Lord with all his might, and David was wearing a linen ephod. **15** So David and all the house of Israel were bringing up the ark of the Lord with shouting and the sound of the trumpet.



Notice The Method Has Changed

- This time Levites are carrying the Ark as prescribed in the Torah.
- Costly fellowship offerings are offered after the Levites took 6 steps.

Why after 6 steps?

David Made Preparations

- He erected a special tent in Jerusalem that would house the Ark.
- For an interesting addition to this story, look over at 1 Chronicles 16:39-40.

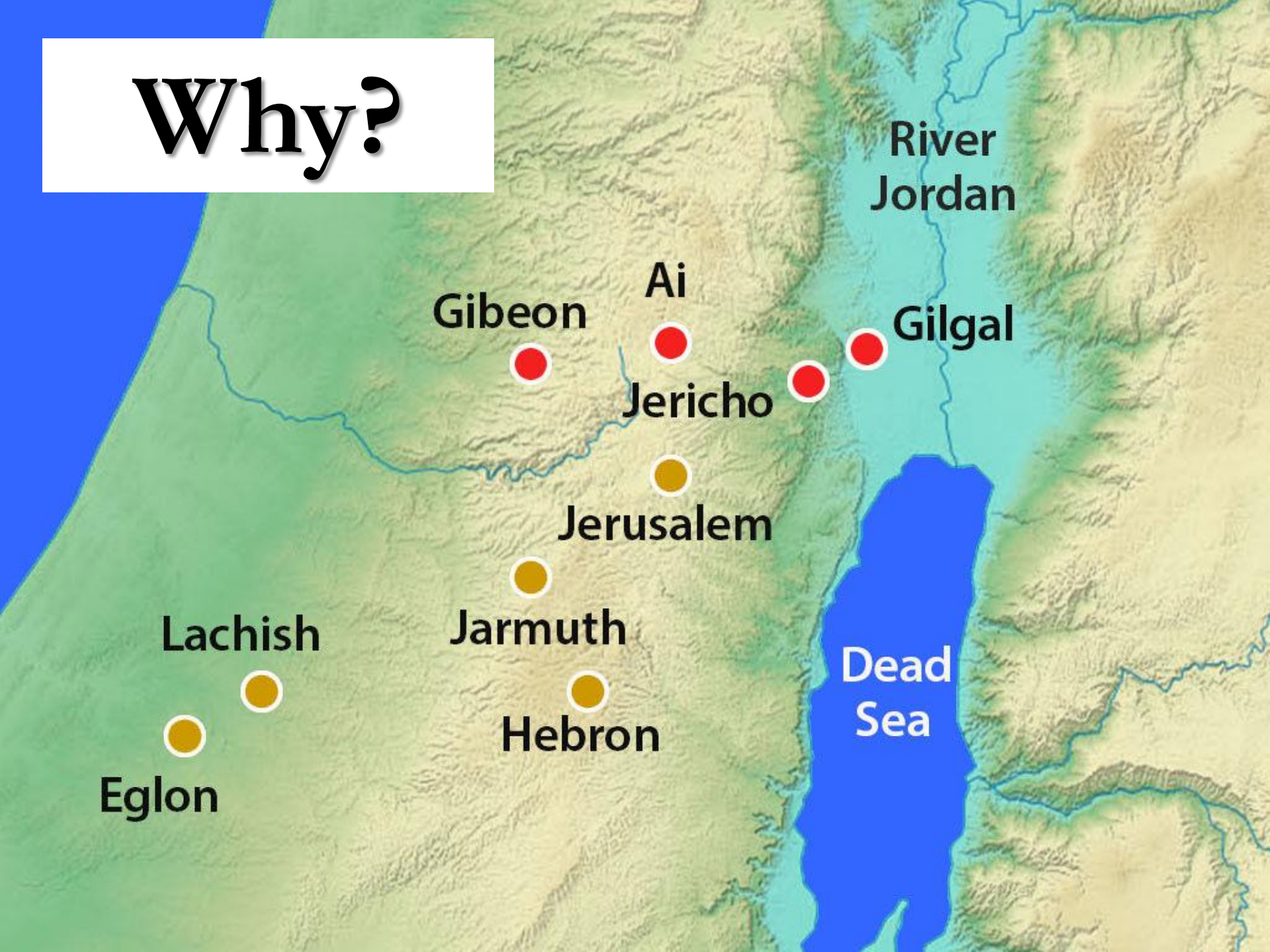


1 Chronicles 16:39-40

39 He left Zadok the priest and his relatives the priests before the tabernacle of the Lord in the high place which was at Gibeon, **40** to offer burnt offerings to the Lord on the altar of burnt offering continually morning and evening, even according to all that is written in the law of the Lord, which He commanded Israel.



Why?



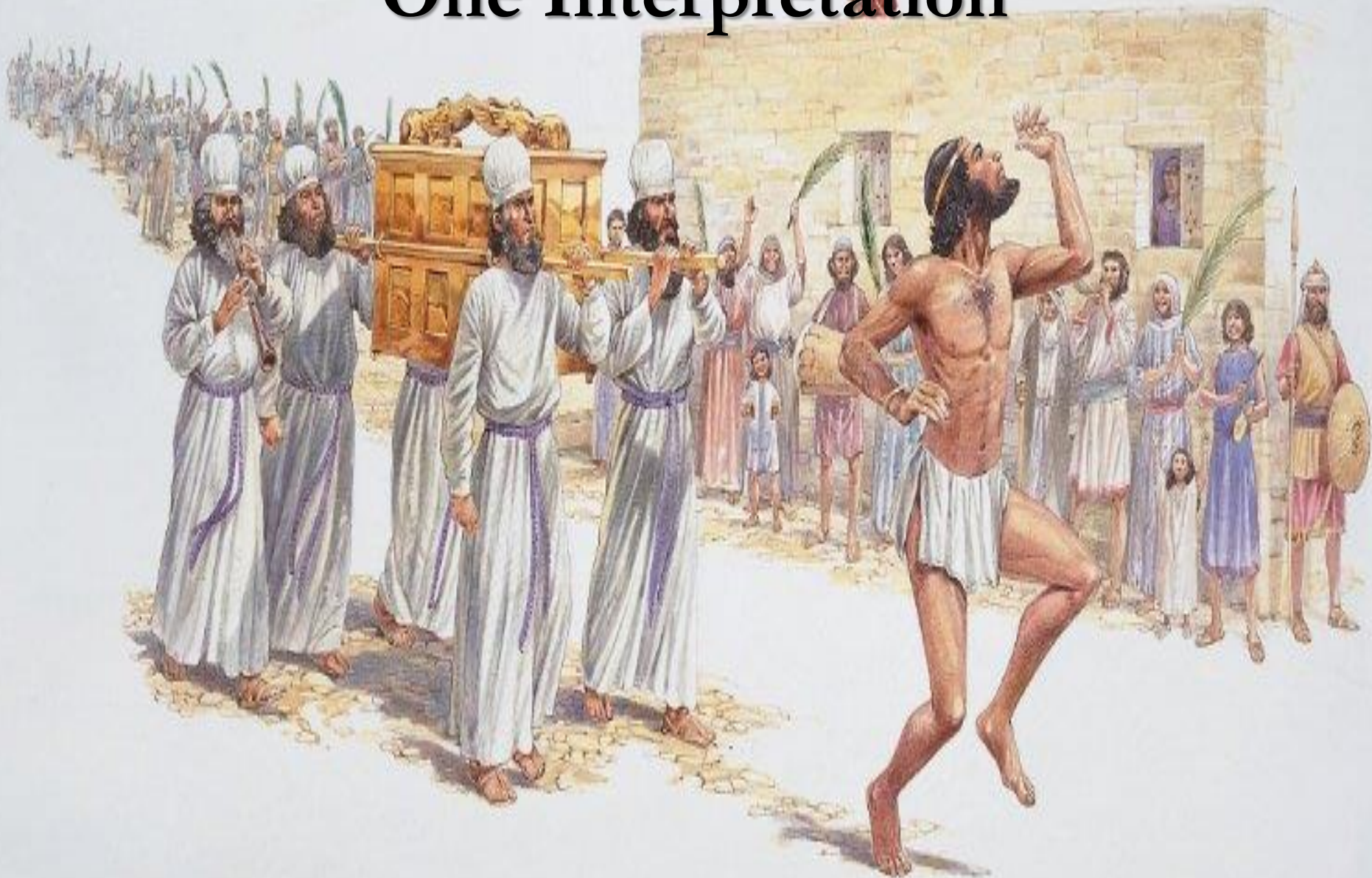
2 Samuel 6:14-15

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15 So David and all the house of Israel were bringing up the ark of the Lord with shouting and the sound of the trumpet.



One Interpretation





אֶפֹּד

Transliteration

'ephowd

Pronunciation

ā·fōde' (Key)



Outline of Biblical Usage [?]

I. ephod

A. priestly garment, shoulder-cape or mantle, outer garment

i. worn by an ordinary priest and made of white stuff

ii. worn by the high priest - more costly, woven of gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and linen threads provided with shoulder-pieces and a breast piece of like material, ornamented with gems and gold

David Prepares Himself

He wore special ritual garments: “a linen ephod,” a piece of clothing otherwise reserved in Israelite society for priests and Levites.

Why is David wearing priestly
garb?



When Do We First Hear About Jerusalem in Scripture?

Genesis 14:18

“And Melchizedek king of **Salem**
brought out bread and wine. (He
was priest of God Most High.)”



Since David is Now King of Jerusalem

Does he enjoy the same status as
Melchizedek did?

The acquisition of this title in David's
line is referenced in Psalm 110:4.

David is not an Aaronic priest, but
could he be a priest in the order of
Melchizedek?



2 Samuel 6:16-19

16 Then it happened as the ark of the Lord came into the city of David that Michal the daughter of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord; and she despised him in her heart. **17** So they brought in the ark of the Lord and set it in its place inside the tent which David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the Lord. **18** When David had finished offering the burnt offering and the peace offering, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of hosts. **19** Further, he distributed to all the people, to all the multitude of Israel, both to men and women, a cake of bread and one of dates and one of raisins to each one. Then all the people departed each to his house.

Michal Looks On

- Other women are present at the festivities, so it is unclear why Michal is not there, but the tone of the passage suggests her negative attitude toward the Lord and His anointed.
- Remember, her father was once king...



Assessing Michal

- She is a daughter of Saul.
- In 1 Samuel 19:13, it says, “Michal took the household idol [teraphim] and laid it on the bed, and put a quilt of goats’ hair at its head, and covered it with clothes.”
- Michal could have resented David for forcing her to leave her second husband.



Whatever the Motivation

- David's "leaping and dancing before the Lord" was not appreciated.
- In fact, she "despised him in her heart."
- In this moment, she is much more a daughter of Saul than a wife of David.



The Ark is Set in Place

- And David, once again acting quite priestly, “offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the Lord.”
- While the priests could have been commanded by David to offer the sacrifices, once again, I see potential parallels between David and Melchizedek.



Melchizedek and David

- Melchizedek blessed Abram “by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth”
- Melchizedek brought Abram and his men “bread and wine”
- David “blessed the people in the name of the Lord of hosts”
- David gave the people of God “a cake of bread and one of dates and one of raisins to each one”



2 Samuel 6:20-23

20 But when David returned to bless his household, Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David and said, “How the king of Israel distinguished himself today! He uncovered himself today in the eyes of his servants’ maids as one of the foolish ones shamelessly uncovers himself!” **21** So David said to Michal, “It was before the Lord, who chose me above your father and above all his house, to appoint me ruler over the people of the Lord, over Israel; therefore I will celebrate before the Lord. **22** I will be more lightly esteemed than this and will be humble in my own eyes, but with the maids of whom you have spoken, with them I will be distinguished.” **23** Michal the daughter of Saul had no child to the day of her death.

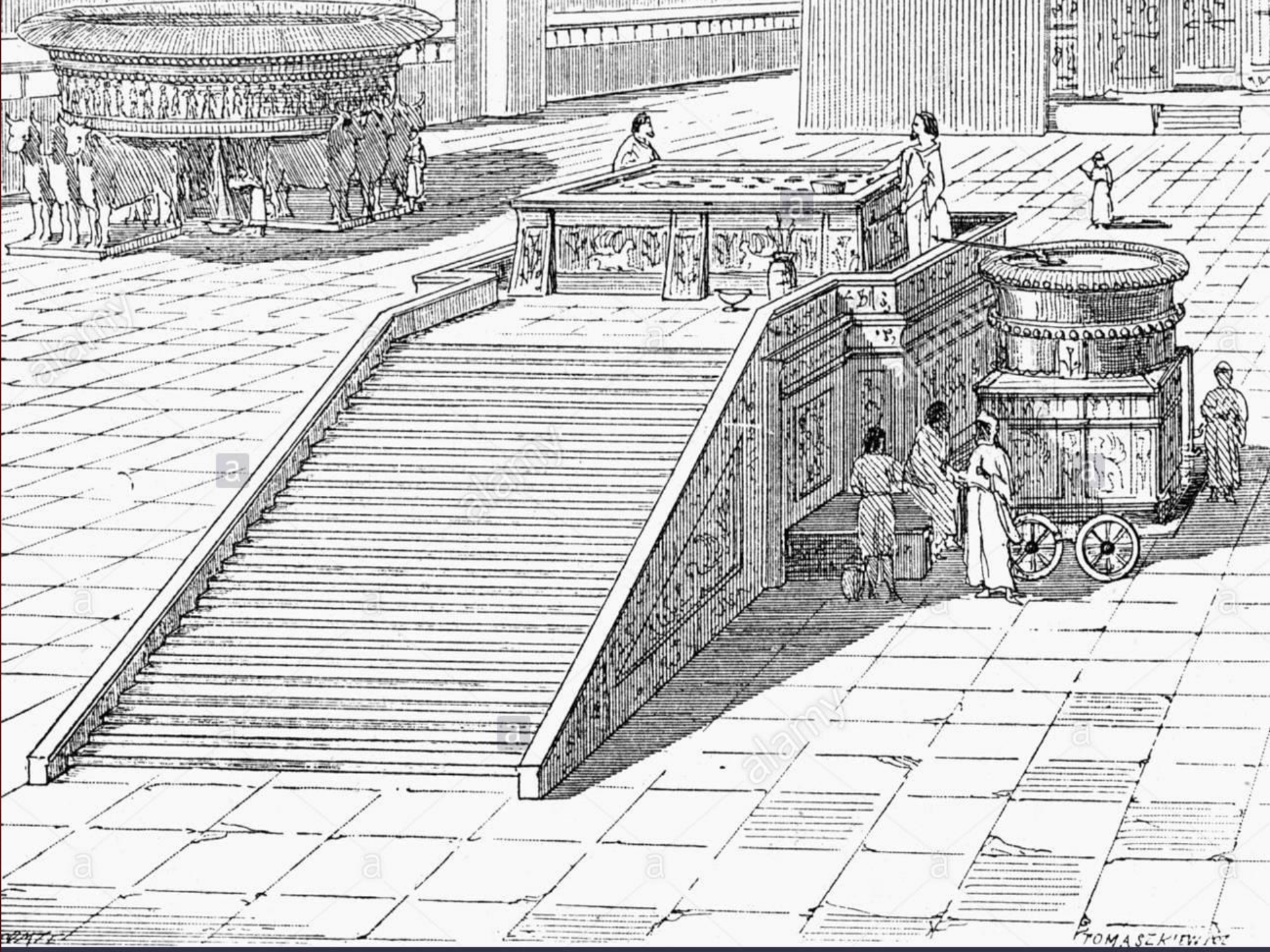


Michal's Accusations

1. “uncovered himself today in the eyes of his servants’ maids”
2. “one of the foolish [worthless] ones”

I believe her criticism of David has less to do with sexual immorality and more to do with social standing.





Therefore...

I believe Michal is criticizing David for removing his kingly attire, wearing a simple linen ephod, and congregating among the common people.

She apparently views the throne in Israel in much the same way her father did.



David Rejects Her Accusations

- He claims that his emotional display was “before the Lord,” and furthermore, such actions are appropriate for one who had been appointed by the Lord as “prince over Israel, the people of the Lord.”
- In rejecting David, Michal was rejecting the Lord.



David's Actions

- May have resulted in some “embarrassing” moments, but he was willing to become even more undignified, even humiliated for the Lord’s sake.
- David was willing to risk being misunderstood and even humiliated as he pursued a deeper relationship with God.



Paul Shared This Sentiment

- **1 Corinthians 3:18** – “Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you thinks that he is wise in this age, he must become foolish, so that he may become wise.”
- **1 Corinthians 4:10** – “We are fools for Christ’s sake, but you are prudent in Christ; we are weak, but you are strong; you are distinguished, but we are without honor.”



There is a Parallel Here For Us



As a Result of this Incident

“Michal the daughter of Saul had no child to the day of her death.”

In the Torah, a blessing associated with obedience to the Lord is a fruitful womb, so to a Jewish audience, Michal's barrenness would be interpreted as a curse against a disobedient woman.



Another Interpretation

Some commentators believe that this was not a case of barrenness of Michal's part, but that David ceased having sexual relations with her from this point forward.



One More Interpretation

Because of her disgust of David, Michal chooses never to have relations with the king again.



And Consider This:

Michal's lack of faith would mean that the house of Saul would be forever separate from Israel's eternal royal dynasty.

(And remember the blessings of Obed-edom earlier in Chapter 6.)



Next Week: The Davidic Covenant



