

THE DANGERS OF IRREVERENCE

2 Samuel 6

February 24, 2019



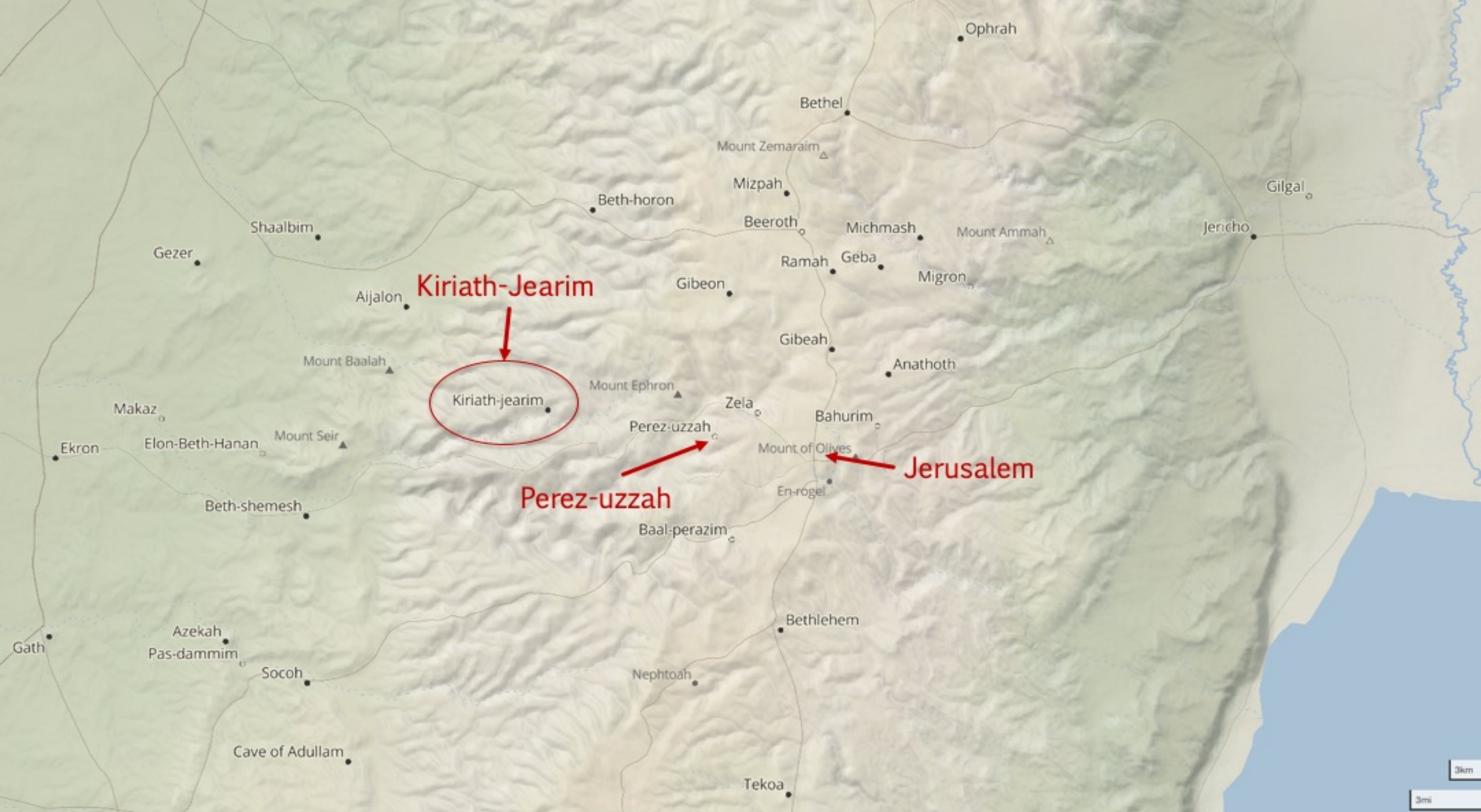
Kiriath Jearim from east

Introduction

- 4 Distinct Threads in this passage
 - Historical narrative – Ark moved to Jerusalem
 - Teaches us something about the nature and character of God
 - Provides a positive example of how a Godly man should respond to the Lord and the Lord's lessons.
 - Provides a couple of negative examples of things that God's followers should seek to set aside
- Central message: God is exalted and holy and demands that His people worship and revere Him, but only as He has prescribed.

The Dangers of Irreverence

- David determined to restore the true worship of God (1-2)
 - David called the leaders of Israel together (1)
 - Key issue – the full worship of God had been abandoned for a long time. (1 Chron 13:3)
 - David and the people travel to Kiriath-Jearim to retrieve the ark (2a)



Kiriath-Jearim

Kiriath-jearim

Perez-uzzah

Perez-uzzah

Jerusalem

Mount of Olives

Bahurim

Zela

Mount Ephron

Gibeon

Gibeah

Ramah

Geba

Michmash

Mizpah

Mount Zemaraim

Bethel

Ophrah

Gilgal

Jericho

Mount Ammah

Migron

Mount Baalah

Aijalon

Shaalbim

Gezer

Makaz

Ekron

Elon-Beth-Hanan

Mount Seir

Beth-shemesh

Gath

Azekah

Pas-dammim

Socoh

Cave of Adullam

Nephtoah

Baal-perazim

Bethlehem

Tekoa

3km

3mi



Kiriath Jearim from east



Kiriath Jearim from north aerial

The Dangers of Irreverence

- David determined to restore the true worship of God (1-2)
 - David called the leaders of Israel together (1)
 - Key issue – the full worship of God had been abandoned for a long time. (1 Chron 13:3)
 - David and the people travel to Kiriath-Jearim to retrieve the ark (2a)
 - The ark described (2b)
 - Called by the name of God
 - God's throne on earth
 - Lessons from the Ark
 - God is the ruler of His people
 - God is holy
 - Holiness – God's transcendence over all His creation. (Isa 46:8-10, 40:25, 48:11)
 - God is righteous and just and demands judgement of sin
 - Humanity is thoroughly sinful
 - God is merciful
 - God has revealed Himself

The Dangers of Irreverence

- The Ark moved from Abinadab's house (3-5)
 - Ark loaded onto a new cart and began journey (3-4)
 - Problem – mode of transportation (Num 4, 1 Chron 15:13)
 - Positive – fanfare and celebration (5)

The Dangers of Irreverence

- God's startling lesson (6-7)
 - Uzzah took hold of the ark to keep it from falling (6)
 - God struck down Uzzah (7)
 - How does God describe the sin of Uzzah?
 - Irreverence – a failure to appropriately respect the holiness of God.
 - Problem – his view of God was not high enough.
 - He imposed his own thoughts of what was best over God's revealed law.
 - Isa 55:8-9 – “For My thoughts are not your thoughts . . .”
 - It is a great sin to exalt our own thinking above God's revealed word.
- David's response (8-11)
 - Anger
 - Illustrates that David's view of God was not high enough
 - Fear
 - Abandoned his initial plan

The Dangers of Irreverence

- David brings the ark into Jerusalem (12-15, 17-19)
 - vs 12 – significant difference from David’s previous response – Why?
 - David was reminded that the presence of God brings blessing
 - David learned his lesson and redirected his steps (1 Chron 15:2, 13-15)
 - He ordered that the ark be properly carried by the Levites
 - He went to great lengths to carefully follow God’s requirements (1 Chron 15-16)
 - Walking by the word brings security rather than uncertainty
 - Vs 13 – David offers a thank offering
 - Vs 14 – David’s personal response of worship
 - David’s worship conforms to God’s requirements
 - There is full commitment by David to fully engage in worshipping the Lord
 - There is a humility in David’s worship.
 - Vs 15 – The worship of the other Israelites
 - 17-19 – The ark arrives at its new home

Conclusion / Lessons

- We must cultivate a healthy reverence for the Holiness of God and reflect that in our worship.
- We must approach God and worship him only in the ways He has prescribed and humbly set aside our own notions.
- Our minds have to be engaged in our worship.
- Pay attention to the lessons that God brings your way and be ready and willing to alter your course.