

6/11/23

Sunday service

The Covenant and the Ark of the Covenant

1 Samuel 4:1-11

There are those who are going through a difficult and hard process. There are times where no matter how hard you try there is no answer. However, when this phase passes you will be able to see that this time was the most important time. God's covenant is the promise that can resolve original sin. This is the promise that He gave to His people that can overturn all problems that began because of original sin into blessings. This is a tremendous promise and a promise that could never exist. This is based on the covenantal Word that is mentioned many times through the messages of Nothing and Nobody. There are instances when you struggle because of the incidents that took place in the past. The only thing that can overturn this is the covenant. Those who enter into this covenant will never perish because of Satan. Rather, He will give you the keys to heaven and open all doors for you. This is the authority that you possess. Because the only way to resolve original sin and Satan is only the covenant you must go all in this. May Christ be your covenant through deep meditation and regular confession. May the covenant be deep within your heart. In any case, may you be victorious, have conquest and become witnesses of this amazing covenant to the ends of the earth.

1. The covenant and the ark of the covenant

- 1) Today's bible passage records an event that has never occurred in Israel before. The two nations were in battle in which the first time, four thousand Israelites died and even after they brought the ark of the covenant with them to the battlefield, 30,000 men died and the ark of the covenant was captured.
- 2) Further into the chapter, High Priest Eli heard the news of the capture of the ark of the covenant and the death of his two sons, Hophni and Phinehas. He fell over backward from his seat, his neck was broken, and he died. And during this time, the wife of Phinehas was pregnant and those around her told her not to be afraid during the time of the deaths, but she simply did not answer or pay attention as recorded in Verse 20. It records, "She named the child Ichabod, saying, 'The glory has departed from Israel!'"
- 3) Why did all of these events occur at once? God is relaying a significant message. The message is that you do not need the ark of the covenant if you do not have the covenant. What use does the ark of the covenant have if you do not have the covenant?
- 4) They followed the ark of the covenant when they crossed the Jordan River. There was a distance between the ark of the covenant and the Israelites that measured about 2,000 cubits in length. (Joshua 3) This was said so that they can follow it.
- 5) During the fall of Jericho, the Israelites simply marched around the city seven times with the ark of the covenant. Without even laying a hand on it, the walls of Jericho were in ruins. (Joshua 6) Because they knew of the tremendous power and authority that the ark of the covenant holds, the Israelites took it into the battlefield, but it was taken from them. Matthew 25:29 states, "For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away." This will happen when you do not have the covenant.
- 6) In Chapter 4, there was no one who knew the underlying problem. All of the Israelites came into the battlefield with a mighty shout while holding the ark of the covenant so that the earth resounded, but there was no one who spoke of bringing back the ark of the covenant.
- 7) It is the same for Eli. They took the ark of the covenant from Shiloh, where Eli was residing. If he had not allowed it, they would have never taken the ark of the covenant out to the field. He could not tell them that there was no use in taking the ark of the covenant to the field. He should have rejected this act and been the person that relays an important teaching in front of the people as he remains in Shiloh to pray and give a sacrificial offering to God. Samuel did this during the Mizpah movement. However, Eli was not sure of the covenant. He was one that simply allowed it to take place.
- 8) It is the same for the wife of Phinehas. As written in 1 Samuel 4:21, she names her son after such a curse. She should have rather given him a name that gives him a future and hope of restoring the covenant in Israel as a high priest. Ichabod was simply an absurd name.

- 9) This woman was also one that could not see the origin of the problem and simply made conclusions based on what she could see was happening. There was no one, recorded during this chapter, that was able to truly see the problem of not having the covenant. It is truly unfortunate and this is why Samuel was called to restore this.
- 10) Do all problems stem from you lacking to hold to the covenant? You should reflect on how the figures recorded in Chapter 4 compare to you. You have the significant and historical Gospel, but there is still religion that remains. May you truly reflect upon yourself and come to an answer and remain deep inside of it.
- 11) May you enjoy the life of viewing all situations with spiritual eyes of the covenant and resolve it with the covenant.

2. **Holy meditation**

- 1) It is important to personalize the things of God to yourself. Eli knew the Scripture. However, Eli should have conquered his thoughts and life by the Scripture, but he could not do it. It was the same for the rest, but even more for Eli because he was the high priest.
- 2) He was the representative evangelist from the Israelites, but the covenant was not personalized. He made a fundamental mistake by not conquering his thoughts and life by the covenant. It was just an occupation to him because he did not live by the covenant.
- 3) If the parents hold to the accurate covenant, then it will be upon their children as well (1 Samuel 3:14). It does not make sense for the priest to not know what the covenant is. Eli did not have the covenant as his own. The covenantal Word must conquer your thoughts, life, and the future. You must allow the Word to be within your thoughts to the extent that the Word leads your life. Then, you will see evidence and have conquest.
- 4) The spiritual method for this to take place in you is through Holy meditation (Meditating on the Word). Simultaneously, deep prayer and enjoyment will take place. If you set the time to confess the covenant and continue to plant it in yourself, then meditating on the Word will take place as you enjoy in prayer.
- 5) All the problems of the world have derived from sin. At the same time, all the problems of the world are from Satan. Furthermore, all the problems in the world are the problem of lacking to hold to the covenant. Satan and sin is the cause to all and the covenant is the solution to all. No matter how strong the cause of the problem is because the answer is complete.
- 6) The incident of Sodom and Gomorrah arose because there were no ten righteous scouts that were centered on God's word. God was not asking for anything else. God wanted to forgive all their sins, but did not because all the ten scouts did not hold to the answer (Genesis 18).
- 7) It is the same for your personal life. God is centered on the answer. The covenant is the answer to which God is centered on the covenant. Therefore, you must live your life following God's will.
- 8) For that to take place, you must have the covenant as yours. Then, your life will be compelled by the covenant and live a covenantal life. If so, you will never perish. In contrast, you will conquer all.
- 9) The answer is for you to personalize the covenant. If so, all problems will be resolved. The events stated in the Bible testifies this. The event that arose in today's scripture speaks of this as well. Everything became a problem because they lack to hold to the covenant.
- 10) May you go all in to personalization. Then, all problems will be resolved. You will stand as a witness. God will give you great blessings. Everything will be overturned.