

2019 EXPERIENCE ISRAEL TOUR

Study Guide for 3c: Shiloh



Historical background: Shiloh, a city on a hill, is the place where God first dwelt and where the tabernacle stood for over 360 years after the Israelites conquered the land. Joshua 18, which we will study below, tells us Israel assembled in Shiloh and seven tribes received their portion of land there. It was at Shiloh where Hannah prayed for a son. God answered her prayer by giving her Samuel, and the prophet was born. As a very young child, he was dedicated to the Lord at Shiloh and raised in the Tabernacle. Shiloh was also the place God announced the destruction of Eli's family, because of sin. Eli's sons moved the ark, soon to be captured by the Philistines, from Shiloh. After its capture, Eli's two sons died and, hearing the news, Eli died as well.

Bible Application: Read [Joshua 18](#) and [1Samuel 1 and 4](#)

1. Israel assembled under Joshua's command at _____ ([Joshua 18:1](#)). In verses 2-3 Joshua encouraged the last of the seven tribes to take the inheritance God had given them.
2. Hannah cried out to God in prayer in the city of _____. She made a vow to the Lord. She prayed for a _____ and promised to give him back to the _____. God answered her prayer, she gave birth to a son, and she named him _____ ([1 Samuel 1:9-20](#)).
3. After Samuel was weaned, Hannah took her son to the house of the Lord (the tabernacle) at _____ and dedicated him to God, keeping her vow ([1 Samuel 1:24-28](#)).
4. The Israelites took the Ark of the Covenant with them to battle against the Philistines. The Ark of the Covenant was taken and _____ Israelite men were slaughtered ([1 Samuel 4:1-11](#)).
5. The ark of God was taken from Shiloh, and Eli's two sons _____ and _____ died. Eli, hearing about this sad news, died as well ([1 Samuel 4:11-18](#)).
6. Shiloh's importance became less when the ark was taken from the tabernacle there. God forsook his _____ at Shiloh, which was the tent he had set up among men ([Psalm 78:60](#)).
7. David made Jerusalem the capital city and, ultimately, the tabernacle in Shiloh was forsaken



([Jeremiah 26:1-5](#)). The prophet Jeremiah reminded the people in Jerusalem what happened in Shiloh. What was God's warning to His people, according to ([Jeremiah 7:12-15](#))?

Thanksgiving and Praise: God commands us to pray ([1 Thessalonians 5:17](#)). Why should we pray if God does what he wants? What if God wants us to participate in His plan by praying? Hannah prayed for a son, and God answered her prayer with the birth of one of the greatest prophets known to man. What if Hannah didn't pray for a son? What if we don't pray for the peace of Jerusalem? God's plan will still move forward, but will we miss out on His blessings? Let's participate in His plan ([Psalm 122:6](#))!

Digging Deeper:

Did you know Jerusalem has not always been the capital of Israel? Indeed, when the Israelites came into the land, Shiloh became the first center of worship before the first Temple was built in Jerusalem?

For a modern-day peek at the newly excavated Shiloh check out the video at [A Look at Ancient Shiloh – Israel's First Capital](#).

The Tabernacle was the portable dwelling place of the Ark of the Covenant. A detailed description of the making of the tabernacle is in the book of [Exodus 25-27](#). Later the Ark was placed in a structure built in Shiloh where the children of Israel assembled together ([Joshua 18:1](#)).

Remember when Jesus spoke to the Samaritan woman? Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth" John 4:21-24.

When Jesus died on the cross, the veil protecting the Holy of Holies was split in two, leaving the place where God dwelt wide open. No longer was there a need to make an offering for sin, for Jesus, the perfect lamb, became that perfect sacrifice. The Holy Spirit can dwell in us. To find out what the Bible says about the Holy of Holies and the Ark of Covenant, go [here](#).

For more background, location, history, and photos of places and things that you may see, check out [Shiloh](#).

Keep looking for blessings!