

**Intro**

~ Joseph Parker (minister at City Temple, London UK) pastored from 1869-1903

~ The word Ichabod once figured prominently in religious life of London. At the City Temple, Joseph Parker had become a famous pulpit orator. One day in a burst of eloquence, Parker declared that if anyone ever preached any other gospel at the City Temple, someone should write across her portals the word of doom, "Ichabod!" Some years later throngs of passersby were startled to see painted across the front of the Temple, "Ichabod." The cowardly deed of those vandals would prompt us to meditate ... Is it not possible that the most spiritually minded congregation may lose her glory by forgetting the person of God and replace him with rituals, signs and symbols. If we look forward to chapter seven, we shall find the record of a sweeping victory on the field of that former defeat, and thus its name "Ebenezer," rock of my help (1 Sam. 7:12).

~ For Israel formality replaced fellowship

~ For Israel ritual replaced relationship

~ In this chapter we see a failure of fellowship. The ark had become a "good luck" charm instead of a place of worship

~ We read in this chapter about a wife/mother who mourned for and longed for the glory of God

**Text****1 Phineas' wife – She saw no glory in her life**

~ No name given for her

~ Her circumstances

- She's with child
- Power, prestige and position
- But, perhaps people talked about her when they saw her in the market as, "oh, that poor woman married to that unfaithful man."
- They're called corrupt (1 Sam 2:12); they didn't know the Lord (1 Sam 2:12); they violated the law in respect to taking whatsoever they wanted of the offering (1 Sam 2:13-16); they were sleeping with woman who came to the tabernacle (1 Sam 2:22). They used their position to be served instead of serving

**2 Phineas' wife – She saw no glory in her death**

~ When she heard the news of the death of her husband, father-in-law and brother-in-law it sent her into labor

~ She should've been optimistic but she was so overcome with grief

~ What seemed to have more impact was the capture of the ark of God

~ She had more spiritual insight than her father-in-law, her husband, and her brother-in-law. The two brothers used the Ark as a good luck charm, Eli was concerned with the safety of the Ark, but she was burdened for the glory of God

*Wiersbe*

~ the news of the loss of the ark is what distressed Phinehas' wife more than the news of the deaths of her husband, father-in-law, and brother-in-law

~ Her dying words, "where is the glory"?

**3 God's glory throughout the bible**

~ The glory of God becomes a theme throughout the bible and represents the presence of God

OT Scriptures on the glory of God

*Ex 16:10 Aaron spoke and the glory of the Lord appeared in a cloud*

*Ex 24:16 Glory of the Lord abode in Mount Sinai and the cloud covered it for 6 days and God called unto Moses out of the midst of the cloud*

*Ex 40:34 Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle*

*Numb 16:42 When the congregation gathered against Moses and Aaron they looked toward the tabernacle of the congregation and behold the cloud covered it and the glory of the Lord appeared*

*1 Kings 8:11; 2 Chron 5:14 The priests couldn't stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord filled the house*

*Ezek 1:28 There was the likeness of the appearance of the glory of the Lord*

## The Glory of God and the Moses tabernacle and Solomon's temple

1 The glory of God covered Mount Sinai (Ex 24:16-18)

2 The glory of God covered the tabernacle (Ex 40:33-38)

3 The glory of God filled Solomon's temple (1 Kings 8:1-11) (v11)

- The glory of God filled the tabernacle and the temple Solomon built but not post-exilic tabernacle
- Better yet is the glory of God came down in the person of Christ (John 1:14-18)

4 Zerubbabel's temple (Ezra 6:15). Herod did repair work for 46 years to Zerubbabel's temple in John 2.

5 The millennial temple (Ezek 43: 1-6) Ezek 40 – 48 is Ezekiel's prophetic vision regarding the millennial temple ((Ezek 43:4)) Ezekiel sees the glory of God come into the Millennial temple

6 The glory of the Lord departed from Solomon's temple and didn't return to fill the temple that Zerubbabel built. The glory of the Lord will not return to fill another temple until the Millennial temple in Ezek 43:4

7 Jesus came was the visible manifestation of the glory of God (Jn 1:14) *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

## **4 God's glory in our lives**

~ So when they asked, "why has the Lord defeated us" in 1 Sam 4:3 in they were on the right track but their answer was wrong. They thought the answer was to bring the ark. But the answer wasn't the to bring the ark the answer was to return to fellowship with God

~ Israel as a whole thought the Ark of the Covenant was a good luck charm to bring them victory but the problem is they stopped fellowshiping with the God the ark represented

~ Israel thought the ark was a "good luck" charm (1 Sam 4:3)

~ Eli seemed concerned for the safety of the ark (1 Sam 4:13)

~ Phineas' wife was on the right track when she said the glory is departed

### Our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit

~ 1 Cor 3:16,17 *Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? 17 If any man defile (deprave or corrupt) the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.*

~ Robertson "a sanctuary (naos, not hieron, the sacred enclosure, but the holy place and the most holy place) of God."

~ Robertson "The outward temple is merely the symbol of God's presence, the Shechinah (the Glory). God makes his home in the hearts of his people or the church in any given place like Corinth. It is a terrible thing to tear down ruthlessly a church or temple of God like an earthquake that shatters a building in ruins."

~ Point being = Don't corrupt your temple

~ 1 Cor 6:19,20 *What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*

~ Glorify God in our temple because you're not your own

~ Point being = We are God's temple and we want to keep our temple clean

## **Conclusion**

~ As we relate this back to Phineas' wife - May it not be said the glory of God is dimmed in our lives from shining

~ While the ark of God was taken and the presence of God departed long before the ark was captured by the Philistines we know the HS won't abandon us

~ The HS won't put up a for sale sign and vacate the premise

~ We're the temple of the HS and he indwells us permanently

~ However we don't want to veil the glory and presence of the HS in our lives

~ Wednesday night we discussed from 3 passages (Is 6, Ezek 1, Rev 4,5) these throne scenes. These passages all mention the glory God, the throne in heaven and the worship that takes place in heaven. Each passages describes the men of God looking upward to heaven

~ In the case of Isaiah when he looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God it changed him

~ Isaiah saw God's glory → Conviction → Consecration → Calling → Commission

~ If we're stagnant let us look to heaven and see the glory of God and bathe in God's power, presence and promises