



Kiriath Jearim served as a boundary marker between the tribe of Judah and the tribe of Benjamin. The Ark of the Covenant was brought to Kiriath Jearim early in the ministry of Samuel (about 1070 BC).

1. Why were the men of Kiriath Jearim summoned to take charge of the Ark of the Covenant?
2. For twenty years, Israel lamented after the Lord. What would have been the reason for their lamentations?
3. Why was Samuel absent from the whole Ark of the Covenant fiasco? (*He was last mentioned right before Israel schemed to use the Ark as a “good luck charm” in battle.*)
4. Where do you think Samuel was during this time?
5. Samuel was calling the nation to repentance; define both the inward and outward repentance Samuel preached:
6. Samuel directed Israel to “serve Him only.” How do **we** bring other ‘gods’ into our lives? What is the danger?
7. The local gods of Baal (financial success) and Ashtoreth (love and sex) were popular idols among the people of Israel – what are our popular idols?
8. How do we respond to God when we experience the conviction of sin? How do we repent?
9. Why weren’t the Philistines afraid of Israel’s repentance, and why were the Israelites so afraid?
10. Why did Samuel take time for a sacrifice at such a critical time? (*John 1:29*)
11. Why did Samuel set a stone between Mizpah and Shen?
12. It was unlawful to build another altar for sacrifice besides that before the tabernacle (*Deuteronomy 12:5, 13*). Why was Samuel able to build an altar to the Lord in Ramah?