

May 2019 Fasting

“RAMAH”

(“Maintaining / Sustaining a Spiritual Atmosphere”)

(05/01/2019 to 05/03/2019)

1 Samuel 1:19 NIV

Early the next morning they arose and worshiped before the LORD and then went back to their home at Ramah. Elkanah made love to his wife Hannah, and the LORD remembered her.

- Ramah in Hebrew means “Height”. **Ramah** was a city in ancient Israel in the land allocated to the tribe of Benjamin, whose name means "height". It was located near Gibeon and Mizpah to the West, Gibeah to the South, and Geba to the East. It has been identified with modern Er-Ram, about 8 km north of Jerusalem.
- Some synonyms of height include elevation, peak, pinnacle, prominence, apex, crown, hill, mountain, rise, tip, etc.
- Scriptural indications of Ramah;

-**Joshua 18:25 NIV** - Gibeon, Ramah, Beeroth...

-**Judges 19:11-13 NIV** - When they were near Jebus and the day was almost gone, the servant said to his master, “Come, let’s stop at this city of the Jebusites and spend the night.” His master replied, “No. We won’t go into any city whose people are not Israelites. We will go on to Gibeah.” He added, “Come, let’s try to reach Gibeah or Ramah and spend the night in one of those places.”

-Ramah is the town that was home to Samuel's mother Hannah and his father Elkanah, from which they journeyed to the sanctuary at Shiloh, where Hannah prayed to God to end her barrenness and give her a child. **1 Samuel 1-2.**

- Other Old Testament references of Ramah include: **1 Samuel 8:4; 1 Kings 15:17; 2 Chronicles 16:1, 6; 1 Kings 15:21-22; Jeremiah 31:15; 40:1.**

-In the New Testament **Matthew 2:18**.

“A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.”

Symbolically, Ramah is a place of elevation in status, significance and productivity, a place of recognition, etc.

Spiritually, we are elevated in a place of worship. When we spend quality time with our Lord, we experience new heights. The question is, after such an encounter, where do we return to?

Most certainly a home, however, what is the condition (spiritual atmosphere) of the home?

We have moved into a season where we need to strategically relocate ourselves spiritually and physically. What is heightened in your environment, in your atmosphere? What takes precedence?

➤ **What precedes your elevation in the kingdom?**

- Worship (...and **worshiped** before the LORD... 1 Samuel 1:19 NKJV).
- Unity (The **entire family** got up... 1 Samuel 1:19 NLT); (When **Elkanah slept with Hannah**, the Lord remembered her plea, 1 Samuel 1:19 NLT).
- Right priorities (...the next **morning**... 1 Samuel 1:19 NLT)
- Sacrifice (...**early** the next morning... 1 Samuel 1:19 NLT)
- Consistency (...and went to worship the LORD **once more**... 1 Samuel 1:19 NLT)
- An understanding of continuity (...Then they **returned** home to Ramah...1 Samuel 1:19 NLT)
- An understanding to co-operate with the LORD in order to manifest (When **Elkanah slept with Hannah**, the Lord remembered her plea, 1 Samuel 1:19 NLT).

➤ **Your productivity is dependent on your worship.**

- Their daily activities proceeded their worship

1 Samuel 1:19 NLT - The entire family got up early the next morning and went to worship the LORD once more. Then they returned home to Ramah. When Elkanah slept with Hannah, the LORD remembered her plea,

➤ **When you wake up early and worship the Lord, where do you return to?**

- **Ramah (in Hebrew “Height”) – The Heights, where your worship is sustained?**

1 Samuel 1:19 NLT - The entire family got up early the next morning and went to worship the LORD once more. Then they returned home to **Ramah**. When Elkanah slept with Hannah, the LORD remembered her plea,

- **Lo debar (in Hebrew “No Pasture”) – A place of no pasture such that you are not nourished?**

2 Samuel 9:4 NLT- “Where is he?” the king asked. “In **Lo-debar**,” Ziba told him, “at the home of Makir son of Ammiel.”

2 Samuel 17:27 NLT - When David arrived at Mahanaim, he was warmly greeted by Shobi son of Nahash, who came from Rabbah of the Ammonites, and by Makir son of Ammiel from **Lo-debar**, and by Barzillai of Gilead from Rogelim.

Amos 6:13 NLT - And you brag about your conquest of **Lo-debar**. You boast, “Didn’t we take Karnaim by our own strength?”

- **Zoar (in Hebrew “Small/Little Place”) – A small place, not welcoming to accommodate you?**

Genesis 19:22 NLT - But hurry! Escape to it, for I can do nothing until you arrive there.” (This explains why that village was known as **Zoar**, which means “little place.”)

➤ **Results**

The results from Ramah was Samuel the King/Prophet.

The results from Lo debar was Mephibosheth

The results form Zoar are Moab and Arnon.

Compiled by TOMS – 04/2019