**R1047 - Rumination for Feb 23, 2025**

The **T**heme: **The “*Twenty* “Anniversaries in Scripture–** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

[**Note:** 27th February, 2025 is the **Twentieth Anniversary** of this Rumination. **R1** appeared on 27th Feb. 2005]

The **T**ext: *At the end of* ***twenty*** *years, in which Solomon had built the two houses,*

 *the house of the Lord and the king’s house…* II Chr. 8:1 [See #A5]

The **T**hots:

**Intro. T**he number ***Twenty*** appears multiple **T**imes in the Bible Symbolising a period of **T**esting or **T**otality.

**The *Twenty Years* in Biblical History.**

1. For **Twenty** Years Jacob **P**atiently Served **L**aban and waited for **L**eah, the **L**ife-**P**artner of his **L**ove –

*This* ***twenty*** *years have I been with thee; thy ewes and thy she goats have not cast their young,*

*…* *Thus have I been* ***twenty*** *years in thy house…* Gen. 31:38, 41a

Fourteen years for his two wives (**L**eah and Rachel) and six years for his flocks before **L**eaving **L**aban …

*I served thee fourteen years for thy two daughters, and six years for thy cattle:* Gen. 31:41b

* **Ct.** *The Lord did not set His love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number*

*than any people; for ye were ﻿the fewest of all people: But ﻿because the Lord loved you…* Deut. 7:7

* *Know therefore that the Lord thy God, He is God, ﻿the faithful God, ﻿which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love Him and keep His commandments to a thousand generations;* Deut. 7:9
* *And He will ﻿love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee…* Deut. 7:13
1. For **Twenty** Years **D**isobedient Israel was under **P**ersecution waiting for **D**eliverance… Jud. 4:3
2. Until God raised up **D**eborah and Barak to **D**eliver His **P**eople.
3. They were **P**ressed down by King Jabin of Canaan for **twenty** years.

*And the children of Israel ﻿cried unto the Lord: for he had nine hundred ﻿chariots of iron;*

*and* ***twenty*** *years ﻿he mightily oppressed the children of Israel.*

* **Ct.** *Now ﻿therefore, if ye will obey My voice indeed, and keep My covenant,*

*then ye shall be a ﻿peculiar treasure unto Me above all people: for ﻿all the earth is mine:* Exo. 19:5

1. For **Twenty** years, Samson (one of Israel’s judges) **P**resided over (*judged*) Israel – Jud. 15:20; 16:31
2. *He judged Israel ﻿in the days of the* ***P****hilistines* ***twenty*** *years…he judged Israel* ***twenty*** *years.*
3. In Samson’s last hour when he was tortured by the **P**hilistines, he **P**rayed:

*Samson called unto the Lord, and said, O Lord God, ﻿remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me,*

*I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.*

1. God Granted Samson his **P**lea… Jud. 16:30a

*And Samson said, Let ﻿me die with the Philistines. And he bowed himself with all his might;*

*and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that were therein.*

1. The Resulting **P**roduct of his death:

 *So the dead which he slew at his death were more than they which he slew in his life.* Jud. 16:30b

* *When lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, ﻿bringeth forth death.* Jas. 1:15
1. *Then his* ***b****rethren and all the house of his father came down, and took him, and* ***b****rought him up, and* ***b****uried him…in the* ***b****urying place of Manoah his father. ﻿And ﻿he judged Israel* ***twenty*** *years.* Jud. 16:31
2. For **Twenty** years the **A**rk of the Covenant Remained in Kiriath-Jearim –
3. Israel **L**amented for the **A**rk for a **L**ong Twenty Years: I Sam. 7:2

*And it came to pass, while the ark abode in Kirjath-jearim, that the time was* ***L****ong;*

*for it was* ***twenty*** *years: and all the house of Israel* ***L****amented after the* ***L****ord.*

1. **L**ater, it was returned to the house of **A**binadab. I Sam. 7:1

Note: The **A**rk was not Returned to Shiloh after its Capture, but to the house of **A**binadab!

*And the men of Kiriath-jearim came and took up the ark of the Lord and brought it to the house of Abinadab on the hill.*

1. It was **L**ikely that Shiloh had been Captured (last mention in I Sam. 4:12).
2. God had **L**eft Shiloh because of Israel’s idolatry? Hence, taken to **A**binadab. Psalm 78:58–61

*For they provoked Him to anger with their high places; they moved Him to jealousy with their idols.*

*When God heard, He was full of wrath, and He utterly rejected Israel.*

*He forsook His dwelling at Shiloh, the tent where He dwelt among mankind,*

*and delivered His power to captivity, His glory to the hand of the foe.*

1. The **L**aid-down Conditions for Restoration: I Sam. 7:3

*And Samuel said to all the house of Israel, “If you are returning to the Lord with all your heart,*

*then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtaroth from among you and direct your heart to the Lord*

*and serve Him only, and He will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.”*

1. It took **Twenty** years for Solomon to build his house and the Temple –
2. *Solomon was building his own house thirteen years, and he finished his entire house.* I Kgs. 9:10
3. *At the end of* ***twenty*** *years, in which Solomon had built the two houses, the house of the Lord and the king’s house,* II Chr, 8:1
* *Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that ﻿the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?* I Cor. 3:16, 17

**Points to Ponder:** *Be it* ***T****wenty or Forty Years, God Works according to His* ***T****ime-****T****able.*

**For Twenty Years since 20 Feb.** **2005,** 1) the [www.**berita-bethel-ung.com**](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com) and

2) [https://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/**ruminations**/2024/1040rumination29dec2024.docx](https://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/ruminations/2024/1040rumination29dec2024.docx) have been in Existence. 3) See also: [https://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/**beritabethel**/bethel2901.docx](https://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/beritabethel/bethel2901.docx)