

Gibeah (Gibeon) of God (High Place)

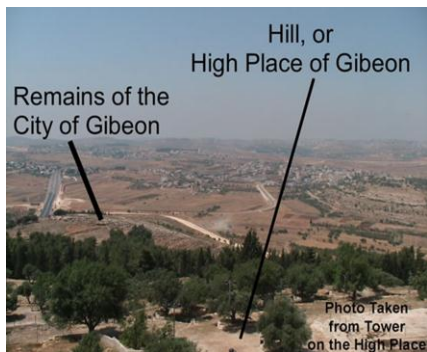
Also called Nabi Samwil which means “prophet Samuel” since tradition says that Samuel’s tomb is here inside a mosque. The Bible records that Samuel was buried in his hometown of Ramah. It is a high mountain 2,919 feet above sea level (half a mile) 2.5 miles north of Jerusalem. Byzantines built a monastery here to serve pilgrims visiting the Holy Land.



This was the site that the Crusaders first viewed Jerusalem in 1099 AD, so they called this ancient high place the “Mountain of Joy.”

In the Bible: **1 Kings 3:4**, **2Ch.1:2-6**, Solomon goes to Gibeon to offer sacrifices at this most important high place and the Lord appeared to him in a dream. Solomon asks for wisdom; **1Chr.21:29**, The tabernacle and the bronze altar were here after they were salvaged from the Philistines destruction at Shiloh for is says,

- “*The tabernacle of the Lord, which Moses had made in the desert, and the altar of burnt offering were at that time on the **high place at Gibeon**. David could not go before it to inquire of God, because he was afraid of the sword of the angel of the Lord.*” (**1Ch.21:29**)
- “*After David had constructed buildings for himself in the City of David, he prepared a place for the ark of God and pitched a tent for it (1 Chr.15:1) ...”David left Asaph and his associates before the ark of the covenant of the Lord (in Jerusalem) to minister there regularly, according to each day’s requirements.*” (**1Chr.16:37**)
- “*David left Zadok the priest and his fellow priests before the tabernacle of the Lord at **the high place in Gibeon** to present burnt offerings to the Lord on the altar of burnt offering regularly, morning and evening, in accordance with everything written in the Law.*” (**1 Chr.16:39-40**)



A view looking north at Gibeon from the High Place of Gibeon. Canaanites from here traveled a few miles east to make a treaty with Joshua.



A view looking south from the High Place of Gibeon. Jerusalem, the Temple Mount, Mt. of Olives are visible.