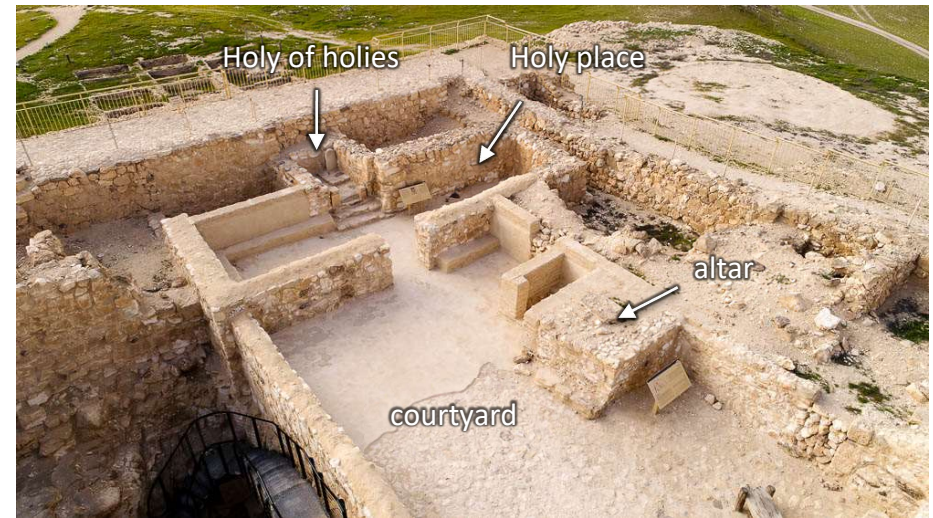


**Joshua 22**  
Civil War: A Near Miss!



▲ The eastern tribes departed from Shiloh in Ephraim to cross the Jordan River. The nearest ford would have been at Adam, almost straight east at a distance of about 17 miles. This map is adapted from map 4-13 of the *ESV Bible Atlas*.



▲ Although this altar at Arad is much later than the time of Joshua, it is a good example of a large outdoor altar that was made of unworked stones. It is 5 x 5 cubits (8 x 8 ft, 2.5 x 2.5 m), one of the largest altars found from ancient Israel. It is located in the courtyard of a temple at Arad. Arad is located in the tribal territory of Judah in southern Israel. Although the rest of the sanctuary was assigned to the Iron Age IIA (late 10th century BC), the altar was constructed during an earlier phase that dated to the late 12th–early 11th centuries BC.



▲ An earlier and even larger altar is this one on Mount Ebal, north of the city of Shechem. The main structure measures 30 by 23 feet (9 by 7 m). Archaeologists have dated the major structure to about 1250 BC, although there also appeared to be earlier remains below the main structure. Some scholars have suggested identifying this altar with the one built by Joshua on Mount Ebal (Josh 8:30).