06/20/12 - Ebenezer Stone, Not Scrooge

RG AUDIO 062012 1 Samuel 7:10-17

The only Ebenezer most people know is Scrooge. Because of Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol,* the name has taken on a negative connotation that it did not originally hold. In Hebrew, the name means "stone of help." Samuel named the stone Ebenezer as a monument to the great victory God gave Israel over a seemingly undefeatable enemy, the Philistines. The victory was so complete that the enemy could not immediately recoup and return to invade Israel again?a victory worth remembering.

The Ebenezer stone was a continuing reminder of God's faithful response to his people.

Our Ebenezer may be an altar of prayer, a worn family Bible, or a well-remembered testimony of God's deliverance or care. It can be any place or any thing that reminds us of God's help, and our continuing faith that "He can still do it today."