

1 The Book of Samuel

A JOURNEY THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT

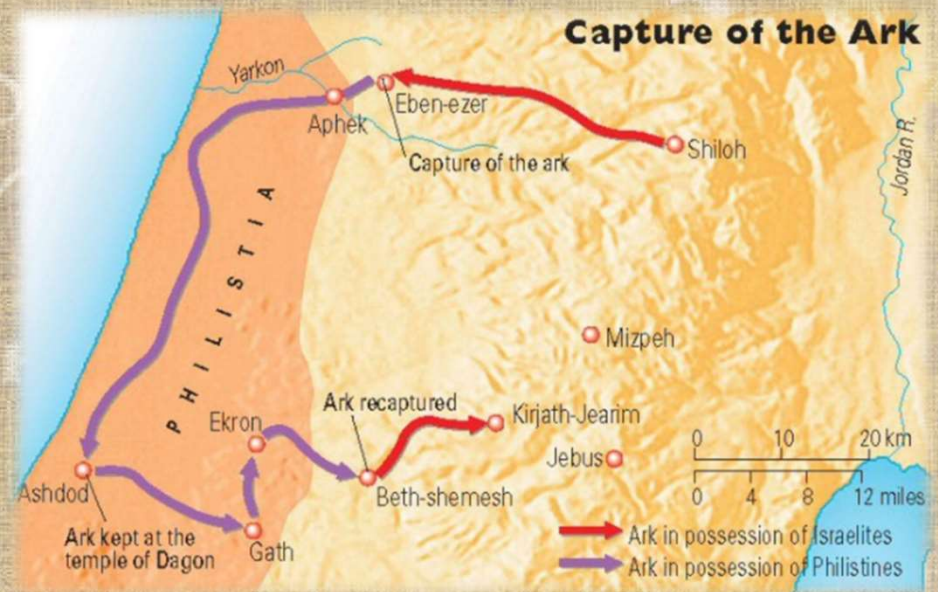
December 4, 2023

In Our Last Lesson

- God told Samuel that He would punish Eli's Family
- The Philistines beat the Israelites in battle, and captured the Ark
- Eli and his sons died
- Samuel is left to lead the people of Israel

The journey of the Ark

- The ark is captured in Ebenezer by the Philistines
- The Ark is taken to Ashdod, then Gath, and then Ekron
- The Philistines send the Ark back to Israel at Beth-Shemesh



God brings plagues on the Philistines



[Day 80 Dagon: Can't Stand Up to God ~ Daily Bible Stories for Children & Learners - YouTube](#)

The Ark in Philistine hands 1 Samuel 5:

¹ After the Philistines had captured the ark of God, they took it from Ebenezer to Ashdod. ² Then they carried the ark into Dagon's temple and set it beside Dagon. ³ When the people of Ashdod rose early the next day, there was Dagon, fallen on his face on the ground before the ark of the LORD! They took Dagon and put him back in his place. ⁴ But the following morning when they rose, there was Dagon, fallen on his face on the ground before the ark of the LORD! His head and hands had been broken off and were lying on the threshold; only his body remained.

⁶ The LORD's hand was heavy on the people of Ashdod and its vicinity; he brought devastation on them and afflicted them with tumors.^[a] ⁷ When the people of Ashdod saw what was happening, they said, "The ark of the god of Israel must not stay here with us, because his hand is heavy on us and on Dagon our god."



Offerings to Israel's God

1 Samuel 7:5 Make models of the tumors and of the rats that are destroying the country, and give glory to Israel's god. Perhaps he will lift his hand from you and your gods and your land. **6** Why do you harden your hearts as the Egyptians and Pharaoh did? When Israel's god dealt harshly with them, did they not send the Israelites out so they could go on their way?



QUESTIONS

- What did God do to the Philistines while the Ark was in their possession?
- What did the Philistines say that proves they believed the God of Israel was real?
- Why do you think some people today, believe that Jesus really lived, but refuse to follow Him?