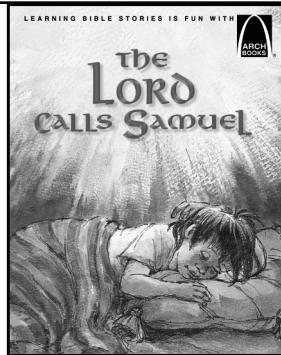


**the book of
1st Samuel**
**Thursday Morning
Bible Class**

**1 Samuel
5:1 – 7:17**



1

God Judges the Philistines – 5:1-12

- † The scene: The “Lord of Glory” has been taken into exile. What will happen to Yahweh and His Ark in Philistia?
- † God cannot be captured and treated like a prisoner of war.
- † The Philistines destroyed Shiloh – Jeremiah 7:12-14

2

God Judges the Philistines – 5:1-12

- † C. 1069-68 BC
- † 1. The Philistine triumph over Israel was not a triumph over Yahweh. Shown in 2 ways:
- † 2 – The first way is the encounter with Dagon in Ashdod.
- † 3 – On the first morning, Dagon is face down before the Ark.

3

God Judges the Philistines – 5:1-12

- † 4 – On the second morning Dagon has fallen again and his hands and head have been cut off.
- † 5 – Side note: This is why the Philistines don't step on the threshold of Dagon's temple.
- † 6 – The second way: Plague

4

God Judges the Philistines – 5:1-12

- † 7-8 – The Ark is moved to Gath.
- † 9 – But then the tumors broke out there.
- † 10 – They sent the Ark to Ekron, but the people panicked there.
- † What was afflicting them was the bubonic plague, carried by rats. Those who didn't die developed tumors.

5

God Judges the Philistines – 5:1-12

- † 11 – They decided that the only solution was to send the ark back to Israel.
- † 12 – The cry "went up to heaven," but not really a cry to Yahweh, just a cry of desperation.

6

Ark is Returned to Israel – 6:1 – 7:1

- † 1 – The Ark was in Philistia for 7 months.
- † 2 – The Philistine leaders consulted with their priests and wisemen.
- † 3 – The priests advise them to send the ark back to Israel with a guilt offering.
- † 4 The guilt offering: five gold balls in the shape of the tumors, and five gold mice.

7

Ark is Returned to Israel – 6:1 – 7:1

- † 5 – The glory of God is returned.
- † 6 – The priests remind them not to be stubborn like the Egyptians.
- † 7 – The test was so rigged that the Ark would probably never go back to Israel. They were to take two cows with young calves, take the calves away and yoke them to a cart.

8

Ark is Returned to Israel – 6:1 – 7:1

- † 8 – Put the Ark on the cart with the guilt offering.
- † 9 – If it goes to Beth-Shemesh (an Israelite town in Judah) then it was obvious that God is behind their suffering.
- † Beth-Shemesh was a city of priests, given to the descendants of Aaron.

9

Ark is Returned to Israel – 6:1 – 7:1

- † 10 – They yoked the cows, shut up their calves and sent them off.
- † 12 – The cows went straight to Beth-shemesh. The Philistine leaders followed.
- † 13 – The people of Beth-shemesh were in the midst of the wheat harvest.
- † 14 – The cart stopped at the field of Joshua.

10

Ark is Returned to Israel – 6:1 – 7:1

- † 15 – The people used the wood from the cart and sacrificed the two cows.
- † 16 – The Philistine leaders knew they had done the right thing.
- † 19 – Some men were curious and looked into the ark and were struck down. They were dealing with God himself!

11

Ark is Returned to Israel – 6:1 – 7:1

- † 20 – The people reacted the same way as the Philistines – “Who can deal with the presence of Yahweh?”
- † 21 – Kiriath-jearim was a city of Caleb and Ephrath. Thus the Ark was sent to the Ephrathites, who were related to David.
- † 7:1 – The ark is placed in the house of Abinadab.

12

Samuel Judges Israel – 7:2-17

- † 2 – The Ark stayed there 20 years while the people “lamented” after Yahweh.
- † 3 – Samuel takes the role of “judge” – a military and religious leader. He leads the people to repentance and intercedes for them.
- † He calls upon them to rid themselves of their foreign gods. The “Ashtaroth” was a female goddess of fertility.

13

Samuel Judges Israel – 7:2-17

- † 4 – The people responded.
- † 5 – Samuel calls for an assembly at Mizpah.
- † 6 – The people draw water and pour it out, perhaps to symbolize pouring out one’s heart in repentance.
- † Samuel “judged the people”: pronouncing God’s judgment on them.

14

Samuel Judges Israel – 7:2-17

- † 7 – The Philistines showed up to attack.
- † 8 – The people call on Samuel to pray for them.
- † 9-10 – Samuel offered a sacrifice and prayed and God answered by sending thunder which caused the Philistines to panic.
- † 12 – Samuel marks the victory by erecting a stone called “Ebenezer”
- † 13-17 – Peace is secured and Samuel served as “Judge” all his life.

15
