

# NOON BIBLE STUDY: 1 SAMUEL 4-7

## 1 SAMUEL 4:1-4 - ISRAEL AT WAR WITH PHILISTINE'S

- ISRAELITES BRING OUT ARK OF THE COVENANT. THE WICKED PRIESTS LOOK AT IT AS A GOOD LUCK CHARM RATHER THAN KNOWING GOD'S PRESENCE WAS WHAT WAS NEEDED.
- ARK OF THE COVENANT WAS THE PHYSICAL REPRESENTATION OF THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD. IT WAS THE MOST SACRED OBJECT IN ISRAEL AND WAS TO BE LEFT IN THE MOST SACRED PLACE (THE "HOLY OF HOLIES" IN THE TABERNACLE). IT WAS A BOX WHICH WAS COVERED IN PURE GOLD. INSIDE THE BOX WERE 3 SACRED AND SYMBOLIC ITEMS: THE TABLETS WITH THE COMMANDMENTS, A JAR WITH MANNA AND AARON'S ROD THAT BUDDED. THE BOX WAS TOPPED WITH TWO GOLDEN ANGELIC BEINGS (CHERUBIM).

## 1 SAMUEL 4:5-9 - PHILISTINE'S FEAR THE ARK

- GOOD REASONS TO FEAR THE ARK'S PRESENCE

## 1 SAMUEL 4:10-11 - ARK TAKEN. HOPNI & PHINEHAS DIE

- THIS FULFILLED THE WORD OF THE MAN OF GOD FROM 1 SAMUEL 2:34

## 1 SAMUEL 4:12-18 - ELI HEARS THE NEWS

## 1 SAMUEL 4:19-22 - ELI'S DAUGHTER IN LAW GIVES BIRTH

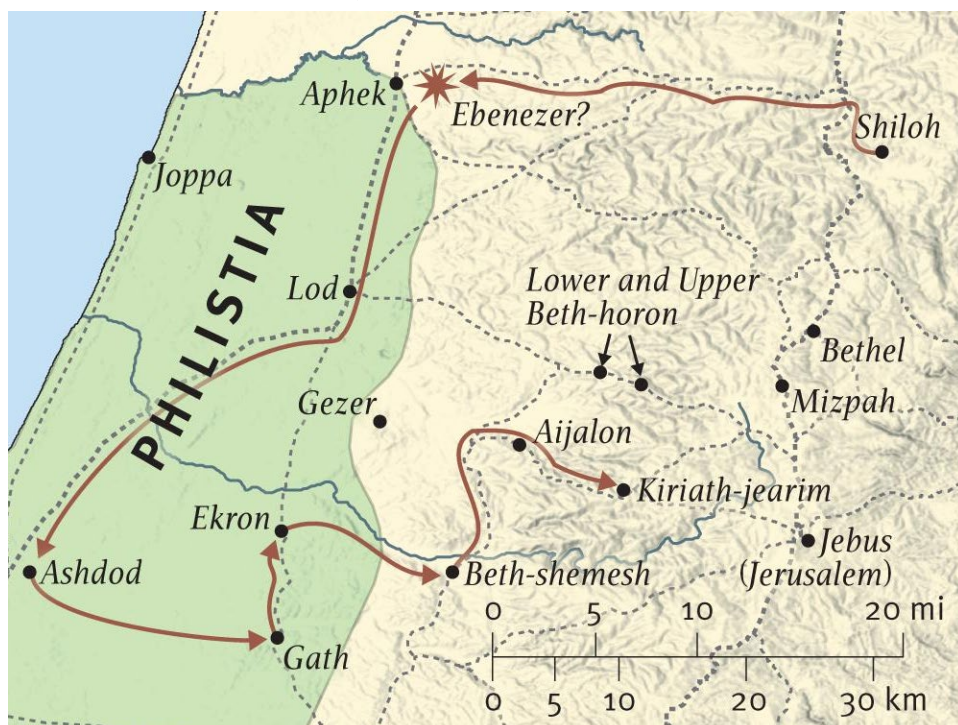
- THE WOMAN DIED AFTER GIVING BIRTH: NLT 1 SAMUEL 4:20 SHE DIED IN CHILDBIRTH, BUT BEFORE SHE PASSED AWAY THE MIDWIVES TRIED TO ENCOURAGE HER. "DON'T BE AFRAID," THEY SAID. "YOU HAVE A BABY BOY!" BUT SHE DID NOT ANSWER OR PAY ATTENTION TO THEM.

- ICHABOD MAY MEAN, "WHERE IS THE GLORY?" (NET BIBLE)

## 1 SAMUEL 5:1-5 - THE ARK OF GOD IN THE HOUSE OF DAGON

- "DAGON WAS THE CHIEF DEITY OF THE PHILISTINES. ACCORDING TO ANCIENT LITERATURE DAGON WAS THE FATHER OF BAAL" (NISB STUDY BIBLE, PG. 455)

## 1 SAMUEL 5:6-12 - THE ARK MOVED AROUND PHILISTIA



V. 6, 9 & 11 - "THE HAND OF GOD WAS HEAVY THERE" - IT WAS CLEAR TO THE PHILISTINE'S THAT THE LORD WAS DISPLEASED WITH THE POSSESSION OF THE ARK. EVEN WHEN GOD'S PEOPLE DIDN'T HONOR HIM, HE ENSURES HIS NAME/REPUTATION IS FEARED.

1 SAMUEL 6:1-9 - THE PHILISTINES PLAN TO RETURN ARK.

V. 3 - THE PHILISTINE'S OFFER SACRIFICE TO THE LORD AND PLAN TO RETURN THE ARK. THIS WAS THE ADVICE OF THE FALSE GOD'S PRIESTS!

V. 9 - THEY WILL WATCH & SEE WHICH WAY THE COWS WANDER AS CONFIRMATION OF WHETHER THE LORD'S HAND CAUSED THESE JUDGMENTS.

1 SAMUEL 6:10-12 - THE COWS RETURN TO THE LAND OF ISRAEL (SEE MAP)

1 SAMUEL 6:13-16 - THE ARK RETURNED TO THE LEVITES (SEE MAP)

V. 13 - IMAGINE THE SCENE OF THESE STRAY COWS MEANDERING BACK INTO ISRAEL WITH THE ARK OF THE COVENANT ON THEIR CART!

1 SAMUEL 6:17-18 - THE GUILT OFFERING OF THE PHILISTINE'S

1 SAMUEL 6:19-21 - THE ARK'S TIME IN BETH-SHEMESH

- AS A RESULT OF ALL OF THESE CIRCUMSTANCES ("SOME OF THE MEN" = 50,070), THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL BEGIN TO TAKE SERIOUSLY THE HOLINESS OF THE GOD THEY WERE TO BE SERVING. CP. VERSE 20.

V. 21 - THE RESIDENTS OF BETH-SHEMESH WANT THE ARK GONE!

1 SAMUEL 7:1-2 - THE ARK IS TAKEN TO KIRIATH-JEARIM (SEE MAP)

1 SAMUEL 7:3-6 - SAMUEL CALLS FOR REPENTANCE, ISRAEL RESPONDS

- REMEMBER THAT THIS IS ALL COMING OFF THE HEELS OF ELI'S PRIESTLY REIGN, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF HIS CORRUPT SONS. SAMUEL IS NOW LOOKED AT AS GOD'S REPRESENTATIVE, RATHER THAN THE PRIESTS. BECAUSE OF THE MILITARY DEFEATS, PLAGUES, & JUDGEMENT, THE PEOPLE ARE IN A PLACE WHERE THEY ARE READY TO RETURN TO THE LORD. SAMUEL CALLS FOR THEM TO DO JUST THAT.

1 SAMUEL 7:7-11 - PHILISTINES THREATEN AGAIN. THE LORD SHOWS HIS POWER

#### ELEMENTS OF REVIVAL:

- HUMILITY & BROKENNESS, OFTEN AS A RESULT OF CIRCUMSTANCES (7:2 - "ALL THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL LAMENTED AFTER THE LORD)
- REPENTANCE IN HEART AND DEED (7:3-4, NOTICE THEY REMOVED THE FALSE GODS)
- FASTING & PRAYER, CONFESSION OF SIN (7:5-6)
- THE LORD'S VICTORIOUS PRESENCE AND POWER EVIDENT (7:10)

1 SAMUEL 7:12-17 - SAMUEL BEGINS TO JUDGE ISRAEL

V. 12 - EBENEZER: STONE OF HELP. OFTEN A STONE WAS RAISED UP AS A MEMORIAL AND TESTIMONY OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS, VICTORY OR HELP. IT IS A MARKER OF REMEMBRANCE.