

10/8/15

**1Sam. 5-7**

God has fulfilled his word, regarding the judgment that would come to the house of Eli.

1. Both his son were killed in battle against the Philistines.
2. Eli, hearing the ark had been taken, fell of his chair and broke his neck.
3. Samuel is the last and final judge of this transitional period and the first of the prophets to accompany the kings of the monarchy.

But first God would deal severely with the Philistines for taking the ark of God.

**5:1-12**      **The possession of the ark by the Philistines.**

**5:1-9**      The ark was taken from Ebonezer to Ashdod.

**5:1-5**      *The defeat of Dagon in his own house.*

- 1) The Philistines took the ark of God from Ebenezer, the place of their victory, to one of their five cities, Ashdod. vs. 1
- 2) They placed the ark of God into the temple of Dagon and set it by Dagon. vs. 2

a) Dagon was the fish god, the son of Baal.

b) The Naiveties worshipped Dagon, the fish god and Jonah came out of the sea.

3) Early in the morning, they arose and found Dagon was face down on the earth before the ark of the LORD, two days in a row. vs. 3-4

a) They probably thought it was coincidence, they set Dagon back up again the first day. vs. 3

b) The second morning, there was Dagon, fallen on its face to the ground before the ark of the LORD, but this time Dagon's head and both the palms of his hands were broken off on the threshold; only Dagon's torso was left. vs. 4

a) Yahweh clearly revealing Dagon had not given the victory to the Philistines, over Israel but God had allowed it, in judgment.

b) Yahweh was no god was no now judging Dagon, who was powerless.

\* They have eye but the can not see...Ps. 115:1-8

4) Therefore neither the priests of Dagon nor any who come into Dagon's house tread

on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod to this day. vs. 5

**5:6-9** *The chastening of God over the Philistines in their own cities.*

- 1) The Philistines were being judged by God. vs. 6
  - a) The hand of the LORD was heavy on the people of Ashdod, a euphemism for God's activities.
  - b) God ravaged "shamen" devastated them.
  - c) He struck "nakah" smote and chastened them with tumors "t@chor" hemorrhoids.
  - d) He did to both Ashdod and its territory.
- 2) The Philistines made the connection between the ark and their physical condition. vs. 7
  - a) Their observation, "And when the men of Ashdod saw how it was." vs. 7a
  - b) They realized the ark had to go, "They said, "The ark of the God of Israel must not remain with us." vs. 7b-c
  - c) They concluded it was Yahweh's judgment, "knew for His hand is harsh toward us and Dagon our god." vs. 7d
- 3) The Philistines had a national council. vs. 8

- a) They sent and gathered to themselves all the lords of the Philistines. vs. 8a
- b) They said, "What shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel?" vs. 8b-c
- c) They answered, "Let the ark of the God of Israel be carried away to Gath." vs. 8d-e
- d) They carried the ark of the God of Israel away. vs. 8f
- 4) God stuck the inhabitation of Gath with hemorrhoids on all, both small and great, referring the social, political or economic levels. vs. 9

**5:10-12** *The ark brought the fear of God over the Philistines.*

- 1) The Philistines sent the ark of God to Ekron next. vs. 10
  - a) The Ekronites shouted in fear, "They have brought the ark of the God of Israel to us." vs. 10a-f
  - b) They gave the intent, "to kill us and our people!" vs. 10g
- 2) The men of Ekron sent and gathered the rulers for council. vs. 11
  - a) All of them. vs. 11a
  - b) They request the ark of God be sent back to Israel. vs. 11a-c
  - c) The reason was that the ark not kill all of them. vs. 11d

- d) The matter was urgent, “For there was a deadly destruction throughout all the city; the hand of God was very heavy there.’ vs. 11e-f
- 3) The summary statement. vs. 12
  - a) The men who did not die were stricken with the tumors. vs. 12a
  - b) The cry of the city went up to heaven. vs. 12b

**6:1-7:2     The Sending back of the ark by the Philistines.**

**6:1-9**     The council and plan regarding the ark.

**6:1-6**     *The council imparted to the Philistines.*

- 1) This took place after the ark of the LORD was in the country of the Philistines seven months. vs. 1
- 2) The Philistines inquired of their soothsayers. vs. 2
  - a) They called for the priests and the diviners. vs. 2a
  - b) They asked, “What shall we do with the ark of the LORD? Tell us how we should send it to its place.” vs. 2b-c
- 3) The Shamen told them to send the ark back with a trespass offering, not empty, resulting in being healed and knowing

why Yahweh’s hand was not removed from them. vs. 3

\* Acknowledging their sin against Yahweh!

- 4) They asked what the trespass offering should be? vs. 4
  - a) They answered, “Five golden tumors and five golden rats, according to the number of the lords of the Philistines. vs. 4a-e
  - b) The reason given was that the same plague was on all of you and on your lords, one for each of the Philistine cities. vs. 4f
- 5) The intent and goal for such an offering was two-fold. vs. 5
  - a) To give glory to the God of Israel.
  - b) Hoping Yahweh would perhaps lighten His hand from them, their god and land.
- 6) The diviners rebuked the rulers of the Philistines. vs. 6
  - a) They recalled Pharaoh, “Why then do you harden your hearts as the Egyptians and Pharaoh hardened their hearts? vs. 6a
  - b) The recalled the reluctance to free the people, “When He did mighty things among them, did they not let the people go, that they might depart? vs. 6b-d

**6:7-9** *The plan imparted to the Philistines.*

- 1) They would do something completely contrary to nature and common sense. vs. 7
  - a) They were to make a new cart. vs. 7a
  - b) They were to take two milk cows which have never been yoked, and hitch the cows to the cart. vs. 7a-b
  - c) They were to take their calves home, away from them. vs. 7c
- 2) They would take the ark of the LORD, with the offering and sent it back. vs. 8
- 3) The test would provide their answer. vs. 9
  - a) They were to watch, if the cow headed straight back to Beth Shemesh, God had not done the great evil. vs. 9a-d  
\* For the natural thing was for the cow to remain or attempt to be reunited with their calves.
  - b) If not, they would know that all was a coincidence. vs. 9e-g

**6:10-7:2** The plan executed to send back the ark to Israel.**6:10-12** The confirmation of God's judgment against the Philistines

- 1) The cows were sought and the calves shut-up. vs. 10

- 2) The ark of the LORD was set on the cart, and the chest with the gold rats and the images of their tumors. vs. 11
- 3) The cows headed straight for the road to Beth Shemesh, and the lords of the Philistines went after them to the border of Beth Shemesh. vs. 12

**6:13-7:1** The arrival of the ark at Beth Shemesh.

- 1) The people of Beth Shemesh were reaping their wheat harvest in the valley and seeing it, they rejoiced. vs. 13
- 2) The cart rested in the field of Joshua of Beth Shemesh, and offered on a large stone the tow cows, as a burnt offering to the LORD, using the wood of the cart. vs. 14
- 3) The Levites took down the ark of the LORD and the trespass offering and put them on the large stone, the men of Beth Shemesh offering burnt offerings to the LORD. vs. 15
- 4) The five lords of the Philistines seeing all this, knew it was God's judgment on them and returned to Ekron the same day. vs. 16

**6:17-7:2** The judgment of God over the Israelites.

- 1) The five golden tumors or hemorrhoids as a trespass offering were related to the five Philistine cities, one for Ashdod, one for Gaza, one for Ashkelon, one for Gath, one for Ekron. vs. 17
- 2) The five rats were for the were the same according to the number of all the cities of the Philistines belonging to the five lords. vs. 18
  - a) The mention that at this particular time the stone the se the ark on was still there, in the field of Joshua of Beth Shemesh.
  - b) The ark was sent from Beth-shemesh to Kirath-jearim. 1Sam. 6:21-7:2
- 3) God then punished the men of Beth Shemesh for looking into the ark of the LORD. vs. 19
  - \* The number is believer to be that God struck 50 out of fifty thousand occupants.
- 4) The men of Beth Shemesh recognized their trespass of a holy God, not knowing who the ark would be entrusted to. vs. 20
- 5) Messengers were sent to the inhabitants of Kirjath Jearim, to come a recover the ark. vs. 21
- 6) The men of Kirjath Jearim took the ark to the house of Abinadab on the hill, and consecrating His son Eleazar, to keep the ark of the LORD. vs. 22

- 7) The ark remained in Kirjath Jearim remained there for twenty years, during which time all the house of Israel lamented after the LORD. vs. 23
  - \* Indicating their return to God and seeking Him.

**7:3-17      The call to repentance to be revived and victorious.**

- 7:3-8**      The call to the people of God to repent to God.  
The victory over the Philistines by God.  
1Sam. 7:3-17
1. The call of Israel to return to the Lord at Mizpah. 1Sam. 7:3-6
  2. The Philistines attack and are defeat by Israel. 1Sam. 7:7-12
  3. The spoils of war and leadership of Samuel for Israel. 1Sam. 7:13-17
    - 1) Samuel called the people of God to repent from their idolatry and be revived in God. vs. 3
      - a) Samuel spoke to all the house of Israel. vs. 3a
      - b) They were to return to the LORD with all your hearts. vs. 3b-c
      - c) They were to put away the foreign gods and the Ashtoreths among them. vs. 3d

- d) They were to prepare your hearts for the LORD, and serve Him only. vs. 3e-f
  - e) They would see God deliver them from the hand of the Philistines. vs. 3g
- 2) Samuel witnessed the heart repentance of the people. vs. 4-6
- a) Israel put away the Baals and the Ashtoreths, and served the LORD only. vs. 4
  - b) He told the Samuel to gather all Israel to Mizpah that he might pray to the LORD for them. vs. 5  
\* Mizpah “Mitspeh” means watchtower.
  - c) They demonstrated their grief and sorrow figuratively, as they drew water, and poured it out before the LORD, fasting and saying, “We have sinned against the LORD.” Samuel judged the children of Israel at Mizpah. vs. 6
- 3) The Philistines attacked them. vs. 7-8
- a) They attempted to attack them by surprise during their repentance and became very afraid of the Philistines. vs. 7  
\* Without doubt, due to their past defeats by them but now they had God on their side!

- b) Israel petitioned Samuel to pray for them and not to cease, that God may save them. vs. 8

**7:9-14** The fruit of repentance for the people of God.

- 1) Samuel offered a whole burnt offering to the LORD and crying out to the LORD for Israel, the LORD answered him. vs. 9
- 2) The Philistines drew near but the LORD thundered with a loud thunder upon the Philistines, confused them and they were overcome before Israel. vs. 10
- 3) Israel went out of Mizpah, pursued and drove the Philistines back as far as below Beth Car. vs. 11
- 4) Samuel set up a memorial, taking a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen, and called its name Ebenezer, saying, “Thus far the LORD has helped us.” vs. 12  
\* Ebenezer means stone of help.
- 5) The Philistines did not come anymore into the territory of Israel, for the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. vs. 13
- 6) The cities and land the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel and gave them peace with the Amorites. vs. 14

**7:15-17** The stability to remain under repentance.

- 1) Samuel was a faithful judge for God his entire life. vs. 15
- 2) Samuel administered justice by a yearly circuit to Bethel, Gilgal, and Mizpah. vs. 16
- 3) Samuel always returned to Ramah, for his home was there and judged Israel. vs. 17a-b
- 4) Samuel also built an altar to the LORD there. vs. 17c