

“And the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out to battle against the Philistines, and encamped beside Ebenezer; and the Philistines encamped in Aphek. Then the Philistines put themselves in battle array against Israel. And when they joined battle, Israel was defeated by the Philistines, who killed about four thousand men of the army in the field. And when the people had come into the camp, the elders of Israel said, ‘Why has the LORD defeated us today before the Philistines? Let us bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD from Shiloh to us, that when it comes among us it may save us from the hand of our enemies.’” **1 Samuel 4:1-3**

“So the people sent to Shiloh, that they might bring from there the ark of the covenant of the LORD of hosts, who dwells *between* the cherubim. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God. And when the ark of the covenant of the LORD came into the camp, all Israel shouted so loudly that the earth shook. Now when the Philistines heard the noise of the shout, they said, ‘What *does* the sound of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews *mean*?’ Then they understood that the ark of the LORD had come into the camp”

1 Samuel 4:4-6

“So the Philistines were afraid, for they said, ‘God has come into the camp!’ And they said, ‘Woe to us! For such a thing has never happened before. Woe to us! Who will deliver us from the hand of these mighty gods? These are the gods who struck the Egyptians with all the plagues in the wilderness. Be strong and conduct yourselves like men, you Philistines, that you do not become servants of the Hebrews, as they have been to you. Conduct yourselves like men, and fight!’”

1 Samuel 4:7-9

“So the Philistines fought, and Israel was defeated, and every man fled to his tent. There was a very great slaughter, and there fell of Israel thirty thousand foot soldiers. Also the ark of God was captured; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, died.”

1 Samuel 4:10-11

**Worship's Purpose Was Lost,
And So Were All Battles With Enemies!**

“Worship’s Purpose Lost” 1 Samuel 4:1-11

1. Ark OF The Covenant Exodus 25:10-22

1) Unseen & Untouched Numbers 4:5, 15, 20

2) Contents Hebrews 9:4

2. Ark NO Covenant 1 Samuel 4:1-11

**1) Israelites Trusted Symbol V. 3 Faith Lost By:
God Represented, God Dwelt, God WAS**

2) Philistines Won V. 2, 10

3) Ark Lost V. 11 The Very Center Of Worship

3. Amulet OR Covenant V. 9 Lost Purpose?

1) Crucifix OR 1 Peter 3:21; 1 Cor. 11:26-28

2) For Men OR God Matthew 6:1, 5, 7

Come Before His Presence Psalm 100:2