

Lesson 3 – June 19

1 Samuel 4:1 – 7:17

Worthy



LORD Sees the Heart



FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class
Michael G. Maness
see

PreciousHeart.net/SS



1 Samuel

1.	June 5	Answered!	1-2	Hannah Prays, Vows, Samuel Born
2.	June 12	Called	3	Boy Samuel Clearly God Called
3.	<i>June 19</i>	<i>Worthy!</i>	<i>4-7</i>	<i>Philistines Take Ark ... oooops!</i>
4.	June 26	King?	8-11	Israel, "Give us a King!"
5.	July 3	Feared	12	Thunder and Rain ... to Obey?
6.	July 10	Judged	13-15	Samuel Regrets, Rejects King Saul
7.	July 17	Anointed!	16	David Anointed—Lord sees the heart
8.	July 24	Delivered	17	David Whips Goliath
9.	July 31	Faithful	18-20	David and Jonathan's Loyalty
10.	Aug. 7	Blinded	21-23	Saul Pursues David & Followers
11.	Aug. 14	Protected	24-25	Abigail's Wisdom Saves Home
12.	Aug. 21	Respect	26-29	David Spares King Saul's Life II
13.	Aug. 28	Victory	30-31	David Pursues Raiders & Saul Killed

1 Samuel 4:1 – 7:17

Lesson Author's Theme

Only God is worthy of worship and praise

Context 4:1 – 7:17

4:1-22 *Philistines Defeat Israel TWICE – Take Ark!*
Eli's sons die ... Eli dies ... Ichabod born

5:1-5 **The Holy God – Dagon Down!**

5:6 **Judgment Experienced – Lord's Heavy Hand**

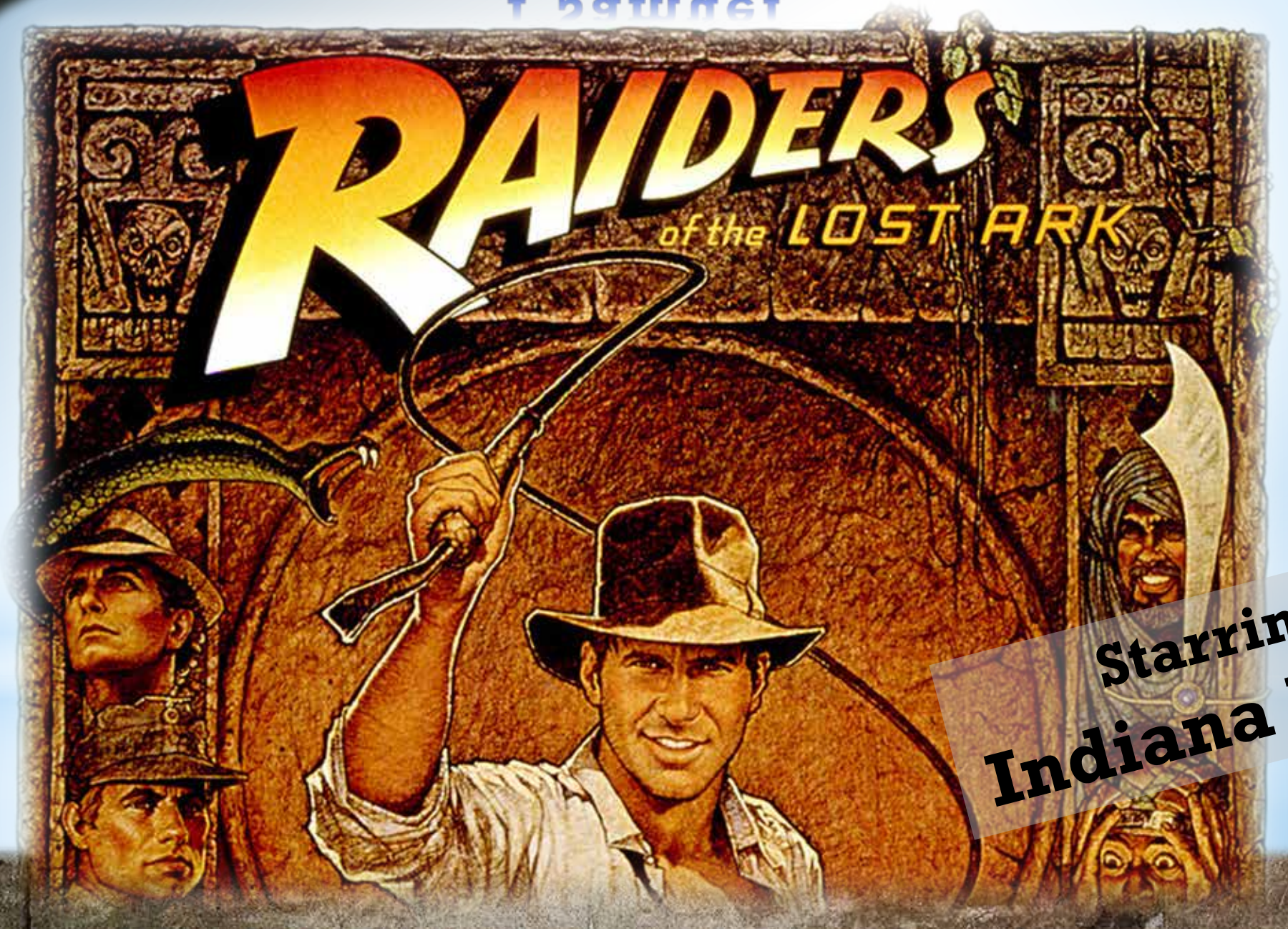
5:7 – 6:10 *Ark Goes on Tour*

6:11-12 **Instructions Followed – Cows Take Over: Mooove Ark**

6:13-16 **Worship Offered – Beth Shemesh Welcome Ark Home**

6:17 – 7:17 *Beth Shemesh, oops – off to Kiriath Jearim*

1 Samuel



**Starring
Indiana Jones**

1 Samuel

alternative alternate title



Starring the **Philistines**
of Ancient Ashdod, Gath and Ekron

1 Samuel

comparing the first real **RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK**
with, perhaps, one of the best movies of all time

hope we see how important the Ark was
to the Philistines and to Israel in 1100 B.C.

Alternative, Alternative Alternate Lesson Title

Don't Lose the Ark ... Again



1 Samuel

INTERMISSION

Nazarite vs. Nazarene – *two different words*

Nazarite Vow

- ü “nazir” – Hebrew for consecrated or separated
- ü Numbers 6:2-21 – No wine, No cut hair, no contact corpses
- ü By declaration: 1. **Set time**, 2. **Permanent**, 3. **Like Samson**
- ü Three: **Samson**, **Samuel**, **John the Baptist**, and Paul joined others in their vow Acts 21

Incidental – Jesus was consecrated to God from birth as were the two clearly dedicated Nazarites Samson & Samuel

only an incidental connection

Nazarene & Nazareth

- ü “Nazarene” only once in N.T., referring to Jesus in Matt. 2:23
- ü Greek form of Hebrew “netser” for branch or sprout; Isa. 11:1 Messiah is Netse, “Branch”
- ü Acts 24:5 – Christians are followers of sect of Nazarenes
- ü Town “Nazareth” NOT in O.T. & meaning uncertain, but could mean “watch tower” as it could be connected to hill behind it
- ü A “Nazarene” is from Nazareth



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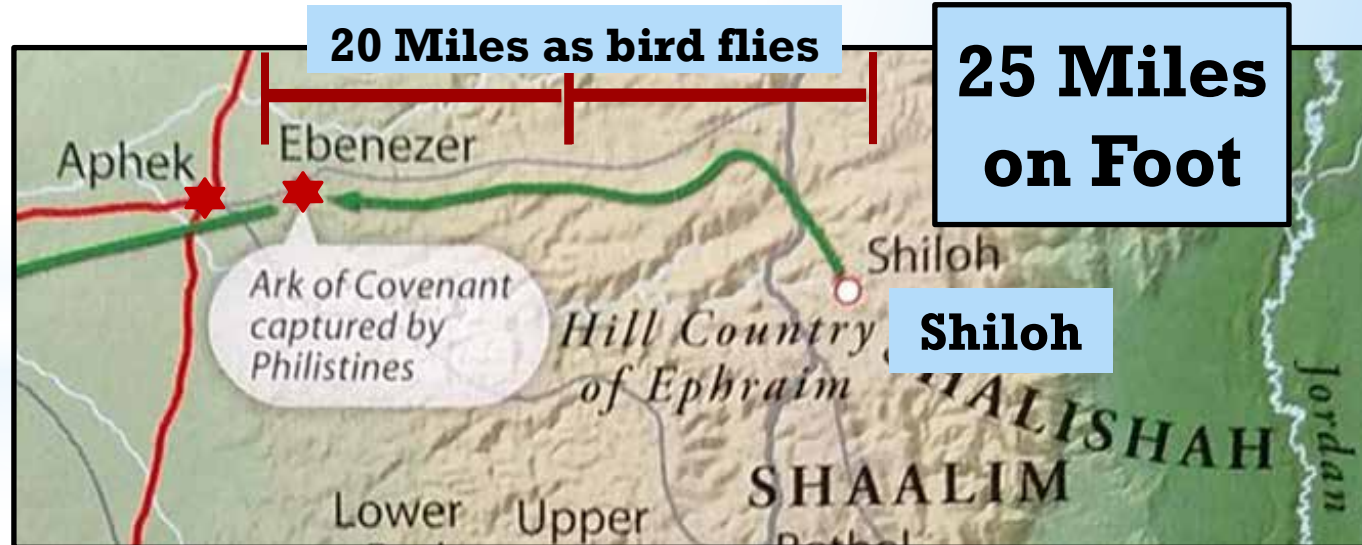
4:1-22 - Philistines Defeat Israel TWICE – Take Ark!
Eli's sons die, Eli dies at new ... Ichabod born

Woe Unto Israel

¹ “Samuel’s word came to all Israel”—**Go Fight!**
until 7:2 – don’t hear from Samuel for 20+ yrs?
i.e., chapters 4-6 = 7 months, then 7:2 = 20 yrs!

4:2-4 – Israelites face Philistines.

- Israelites at Ebenezer
- Philistines at Aphek.
- Philistines kill 4,000!
- Israel wants Ark to come and save them—*help!*
- Ark from Shiloh to Ebenezer



1 Samuel



INTERMISSION

Ark of the Covenant

Who, What, Where

Ex. 25:10-22 & 37:1-9

- ✓ **Moses given specs on Mt. Sinai**
- ✓ **Ark made by Bezalel to specs
4'2" long x 30" high**
- ✓ **Made of acacia overlaid in gold**
- ✓ **Two angels faced each other**
- ✓ **Same from Exodus to Temple**
- ✓ **Temple of Solomon, two huge
angels stand on each side made
of olive wood overlaid in gold**



**Placed inside Tabernacle
in the Holy of Holies**

Carried for 40 Years in Wilderness

Carried during Conquest

Went before Joshua at Jericho

Resided at Shiloh after Conquest

Ark of the Covenant

Contents: Hebrew 9:4, et al,
Ten Commandments, gold jar
of manna, Aaron's staff

Names:

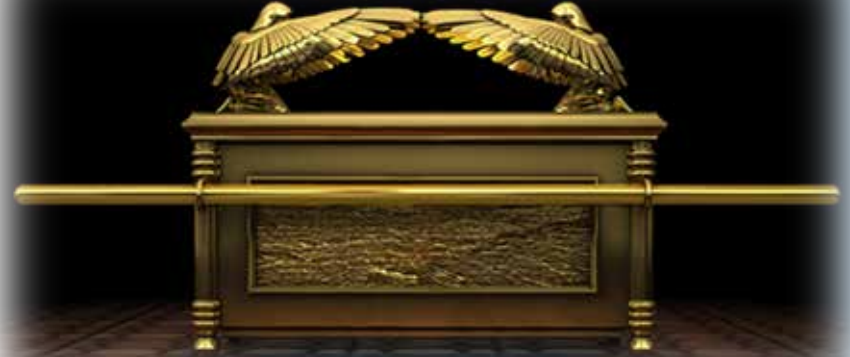
Joshua 3:6, **Ark of the Covenant**

Joshua 3:11, **Ark of the Covenant
of the Lord of all the earth**

Joshua 3:13, **Ark of YHWH,
the Lord of all the earth**

Num. 10:33,
Ark of the Covenant of YHWH

Judges 20:27,
Ark of the Covenant of God



I Sam. 4:4, **Ark of the Covenant of
YHWH of Hosts, who dwelleth between
the cherubim**

I Sam. 6:2, **Ark of God, whereupon is ... the
Name of YHWH of Hosts who dwelleth
between the cherubim**

I Sam. 5:8, **Ark of the God of Israel**

what Philistines called it!

Ark of the Covenant

After Shiloh? ? ?

- ✓ From Ebenezer – Tours Philistia
- ✓ Returned to Beth-Shemesh
- ✓ To Kiriath Jearim
- ✓ David placed with Obed-Edom for three months
- ✓ David put in tent in Jerusalem
- ✓ Then in Solomon's Temple
- ✓ Temple destroyed 586 B.C. & it not mentioned with vessels taken
- ✓ Talmudic tradition says Josiah hid Ark "in its place" beneath woodshed (*Encyclopedia Judaica*)



Legend in II Maccabees 2:1-7

Jeremiah hid Ark on Mt. Nebo

During 2nd Temple – No Ark!

Today ... Ethiopian Orthodox Church *claims* to possess the Ark under guard in a treasury near the Church of Our Lady Mary of Zion, Axum, Ethiopia

Where Is the Lost Ark of the Covenant?

*Did the Ark REALLY get stored in
a U.S. Government warehouse?*



Where Is the Lost Ark of the Covenant?

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a U.S. Government warehouse?*



Where Is the Lost Ark of the Covenant?

Well ... you know why no one knows.

God has already told us where?

Revelation 11:16-19 – Twenty-four elders ... fell on their faces and worshiped God saying:

“We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign.... ¹⁸The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding ... your people who revere your name... both great and small—and for destroying those who destroy the earth.”

¹⁹ Then God's Temple in heaven was opened, and within his temple was seen the **Ark of His Covenant.**

And there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake and a severe hailstorm.



*4:1-22 Samuel's word & Philistines defeat Israel TWICE
Eli's sons die, Eli dies at new ... Ichabod born*

Woe Unto Israel x TWO

4:6-8 – Ark arrives ... Israel “happy, happy, happy” ... Philistines afraid

Philistines said, “A god has come into the camp, Oh no! Nothing like this has happened before. We’re doomed! Who will deliver us from the hand of these mighty gods? They are the gods who struck the Egyptians with all kinds of plagues in the wilderness.”

Notice the NEWS of the Egyptian Exodus – Even Philistines KNOW

4:9 – Mr. Motivator: “Be strong, Philistines! Be men, or you will be subject to the Hebrews, as they have been to you. Be men, and fight!”

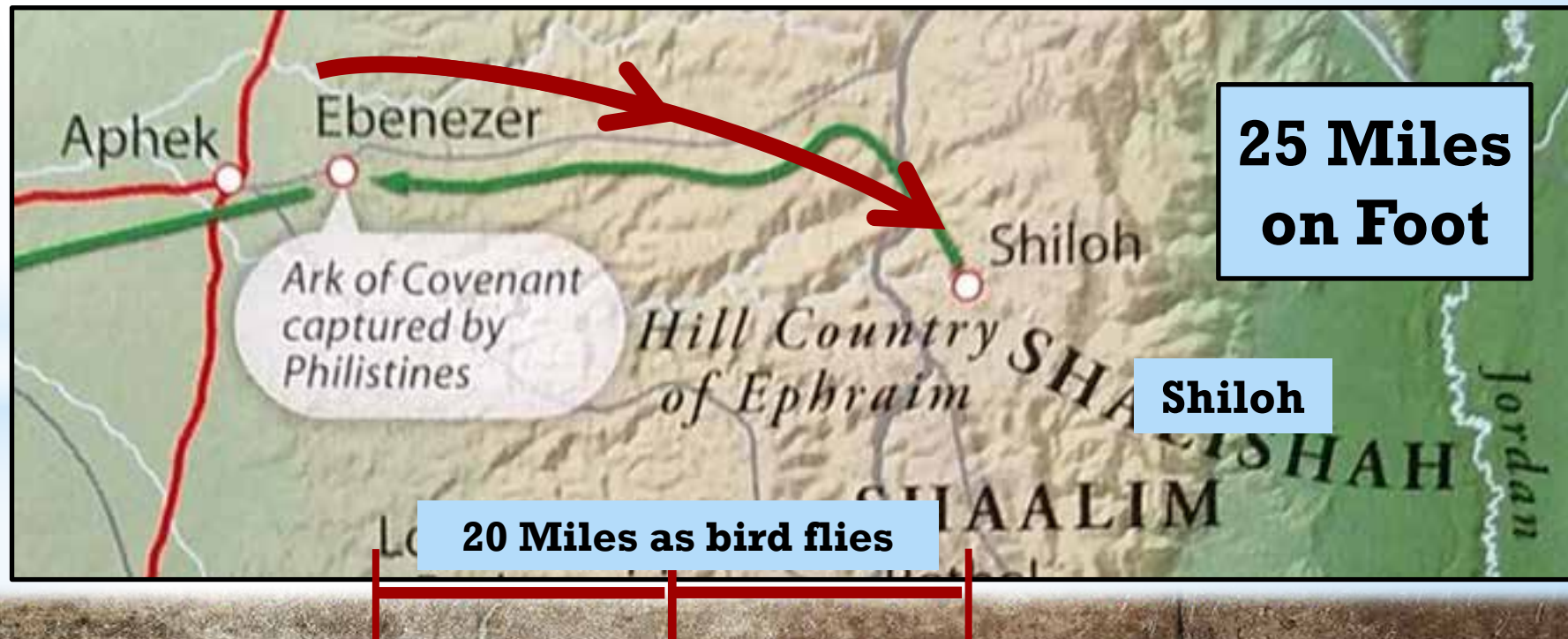
4:10 – Philistines kill 30,000!

4:11 – The Ark of God captured, and Eli's two sons die.

*4:1-22 Samuel's word & Philistines defeat Israel TWICE
Eli's sons die, Eli dies at new ... Ichabod born*

Woe Unto Eli and sons

4:12-13 – Benjamite **RAN** to Shiloh, tells all – “**Whole town sent up a cry.**”
about 25 miles ... first Marathon, only to deliver news of defeat



*4:1-22 Samuel's word & Philistines defeat Israel TWICE
Eli's sons die, Eli dies at new ... Ichabod born*

Woe Unto Eli and sons

4:14-18 Blind Eli, 98 yrs old, "What's the meaning of this uproar?"

Benjamite tells Eli all ... also that his sons are dead.

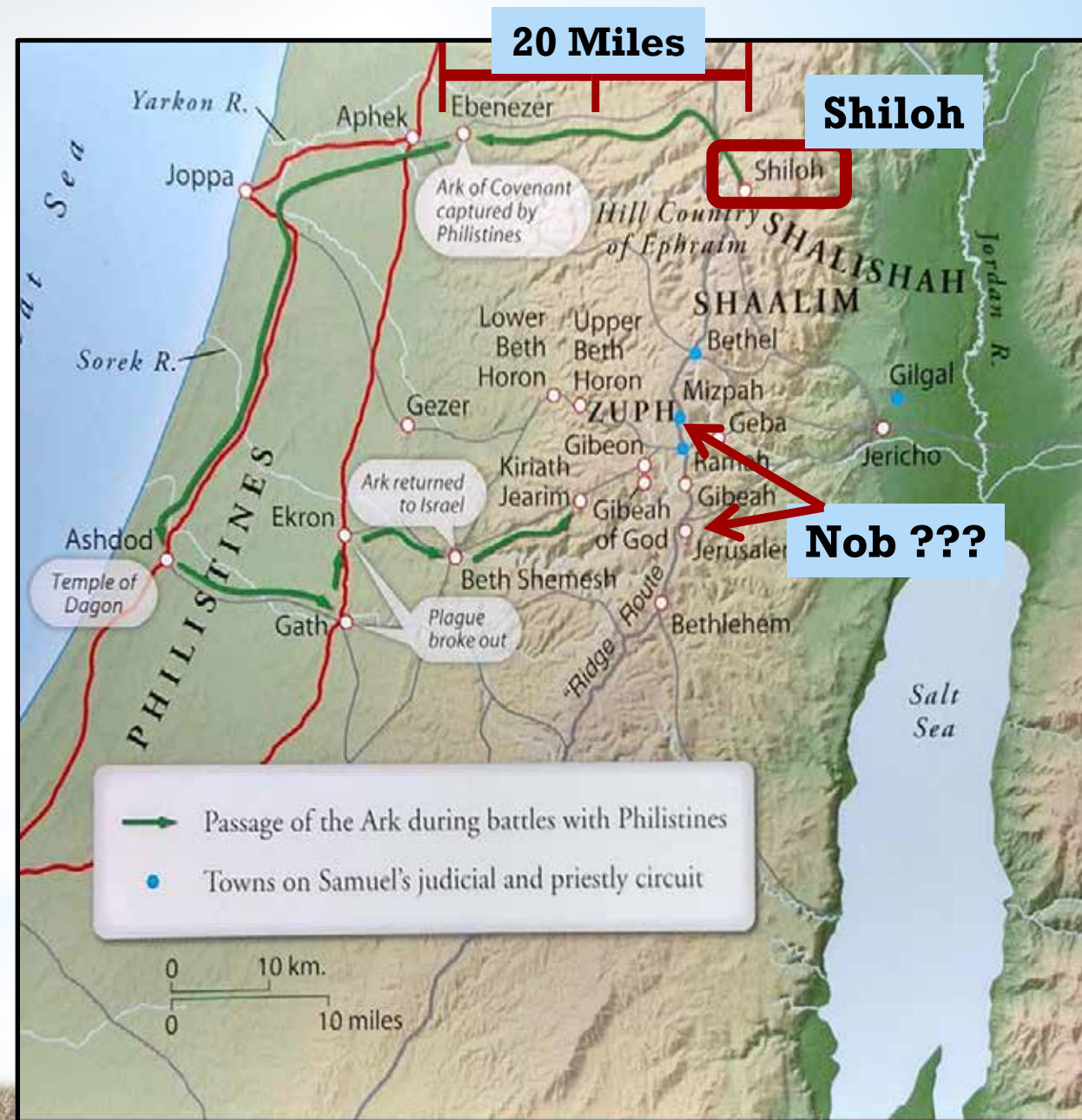
**Eli fell backward off his chair, broke his neck and died –
40 years he judged Israel**

**4:19-22 – Eli's daughter-in-law, wife of Phinehas, dies giving
birth, but is able to name baby boy Ichabod, saying,**

"The Glory has departed from Israel."

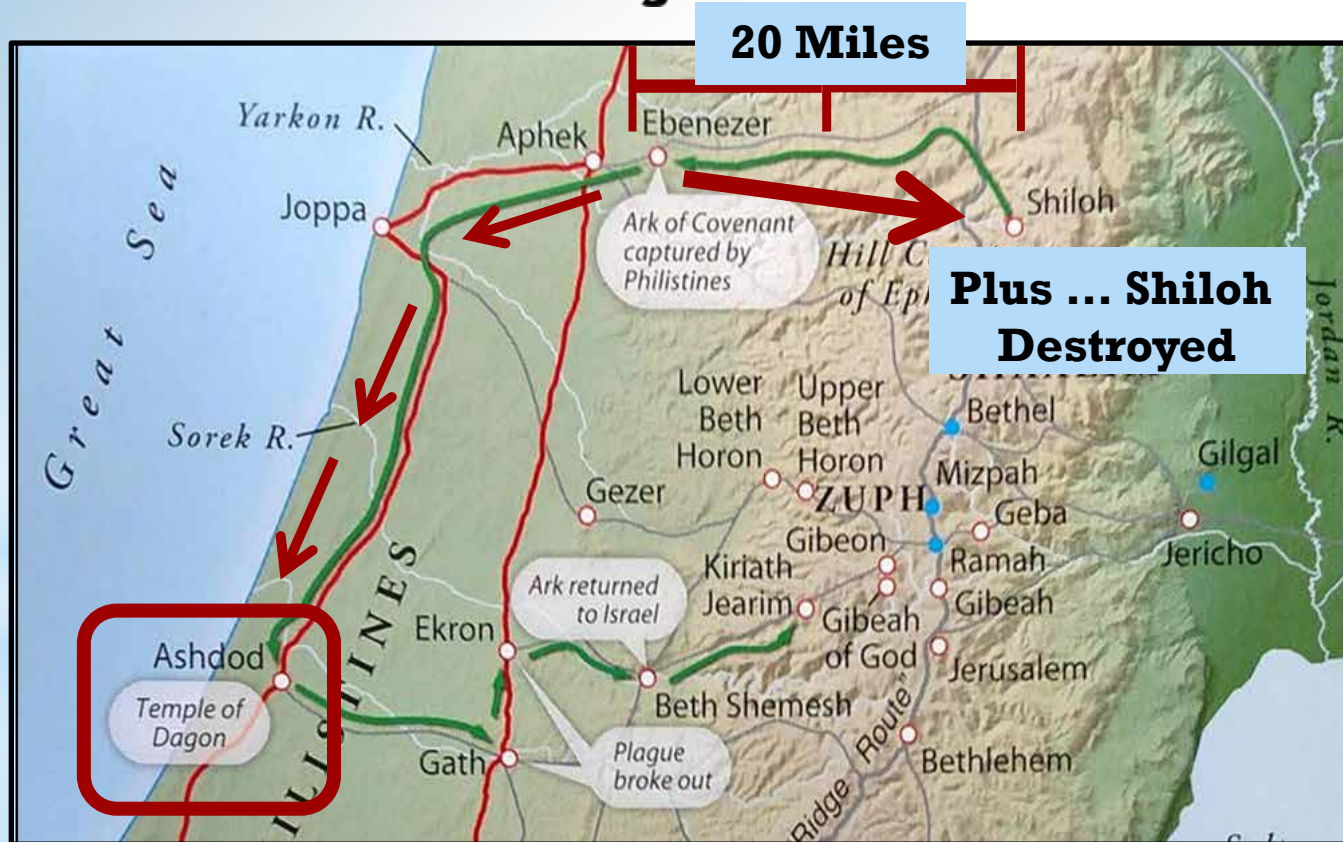
NOT evident, but certain

- ✓ **Philistines attack, level Shiloh**
- ✓ **No more from Shiloh as priests flee with Tabernacle stuff**
- ✓ **Not mentioned again as a religious center**
- ✓ **Religious center at Nob perhaps near Jebus, or near (or at) Mizpah**
- ✓ **Then to Gibeah ...**



5:1-5 – The Holy God – Dagon Down!

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.



Dagon – base relief at Louvre

5:1-5 – The Holy God – Dagon Down!

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!

shocking ...

They took Dagon and
put him back in his place.

What irony – they what?

They put their GOD back in his place!

aaah ... you NEVER hear that about YHWH!



Dagon – bas-relief at Louvre

5:1-5 – The Holy God – Dagon Down!

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.

⁵ That is why to this day neither the priests of Dagon nor any others who enter Dagon's temple at Ashdod step on the threshold.

That is ... the head and hands were **CUT OFF** and **PLACED** on the Threshold of Temple!!

Hebrew:
CUT Off!!



Fall of Dagon by Philip James de Loutherbourg, 1793.

5:1-5 – The Holy God – Dagon Down!

Also, some see vestiges of
Dagon in coffee shops >>

Aaah ... I know ...

little too fishy for me too

then again, price of their coffee?

*Coffee MIGHT have come
from a **Temple**? ... might?*



Dagon relief at Louvre

5:6 – Judgment Experienced – Lord’s Heavy Hand

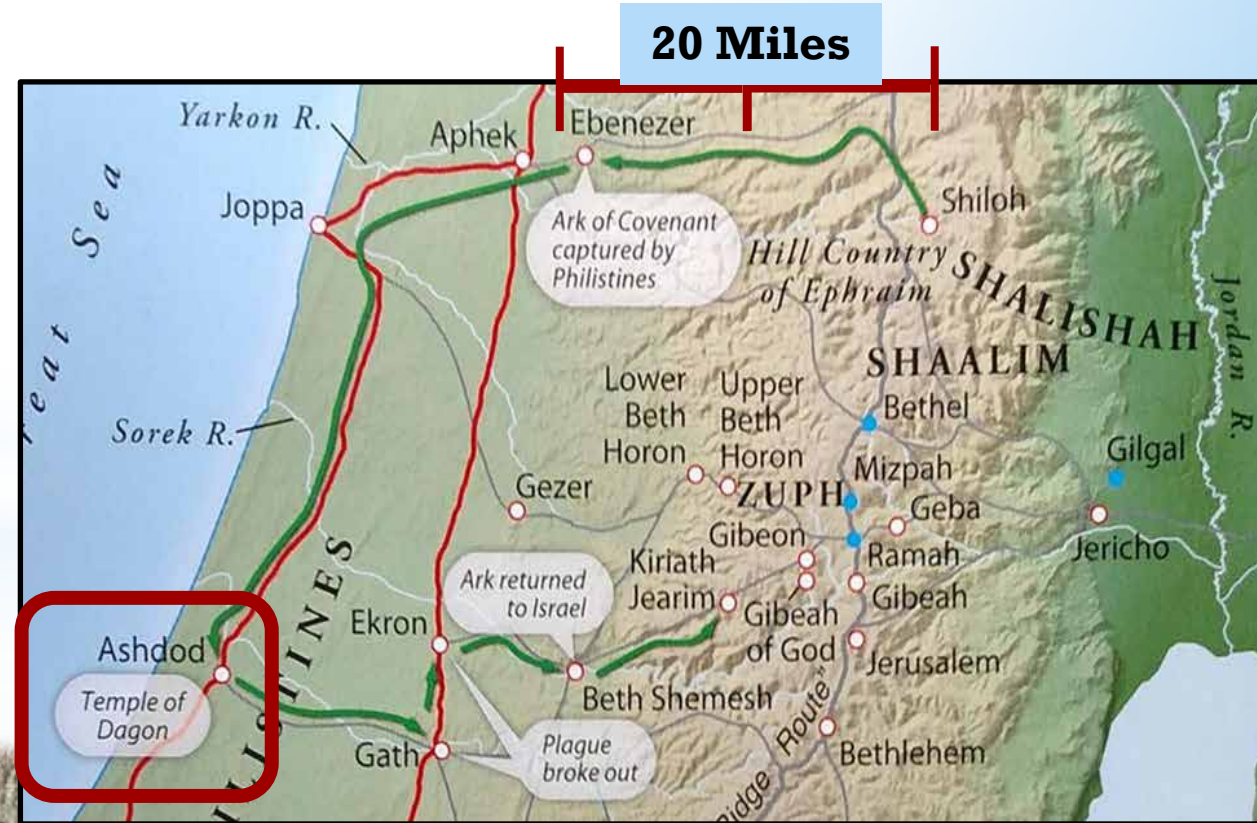
Ark on Tour ... or ... **Tour de Tumorville**

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.

Language is Posterior Tumors!

No ... we do **NOT** want to see illustrations of Tumorville

Yet, before the Tour ... let’s look at the “**State of Affairs**” much more closely ...



Dagon Down

- ✓ **Dagon – Fish God, body of fish with torso of a man**
- ✓ **Assyrio-Babylonian deity, come to Caanan, adopted by Philistines as they – Sea Peoples – assimilated into Caanan**
- ✓ **Main Temples at Ashdod and Gath**
- ✓ **Beth-Dagon = House of Dagon, other names in O.T.**
- ✓ **Fertility God of sorts, fish multiply, idea of giver of all good**
- ✓ **Going to see others, like Baals and Astartes, i.e., gods and goddesses**



Painting by R. Russell in Ernst Wallis' *Illustrerad verldshistoria utgifven* (1875)

5:6 – Judgment Experienced – Lord's Heavy Hand

Dagon Down

- ✓ In Austen Henry Layard's 1850 book, *Nineveh and Its Remains*:
- ✓ got to love the subtitles of the old books:
with an Account of a Visit to the Chaldean Christians of Kurdistan, and the Yezidies, or Devil-Worshippers; and an Inquiry into the Manners and Arts of the Ancient Assyrians – vol. 2, pg 466-7
- ✓ Bas-relief from Khorsabab (modern Dur-Sharrukin)
- ✓ Assyrian capital built by Sargon II in 721 B.C. abandoned in 705.
- ✓ Bearded man with conical tiara of royalty



Dagon relief at Louvre

5:6 – Judgment Experienced – Lord's Heavy Hand

Dragon Down

- ✓ **Khorsabab razed by ISIS in 2015**
- ✓ **ISIS destroys ancient Assyrian statues in Mosul Museum**



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5:6 – Judgment Experienced – Lord's Heavy Hand

Dragon Down

- ✓ **Khorsabab razed by ISIS in 2015**
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Khorsabab

ISIS destroy artefacts with sledgehammers at Mosul museum



Dragon Down

Local Gods important in Ancient Middle East

What do **YOU** think?

Important ... because we are **SOOO** removed

They actually **BELIEVED** ...

but we, what do **WE** think? ... *funny*?

Funny? ... sure. But not very funny. To us—**STUPID!**

We do **KNOW** better. We are scientific people!

$$E=mc^2$$



Painting by R. Russell in Ernst Wallis'
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(1875)

Dagon Down

Important ... because we are so removed

Though we believe in religious freedom,

- we hold to truths about God that **EXCLUDE** all others
- without Christ, no one, **NONE**, get to heaven

Idols are not merely funny. To us—they're **STUPID!**

We are absolutely certain—no **FISH** god, no Neptune
*anyone who believes that is both **Ignorant** AND **Stupid!***

Please ... let this sink in for a moment.

We have come a long way ... was 3,000 years ago

Not merely **DO NOT** believe – we **CANNOT** believe



Painting by R. Russell in Ernst Wallis' *Illustrerad verldshistoria utgifven* (1875)

Dagon Down

Important ... because we are so removed

Can you grasp that? ... we **CANNOT** believe in Idols

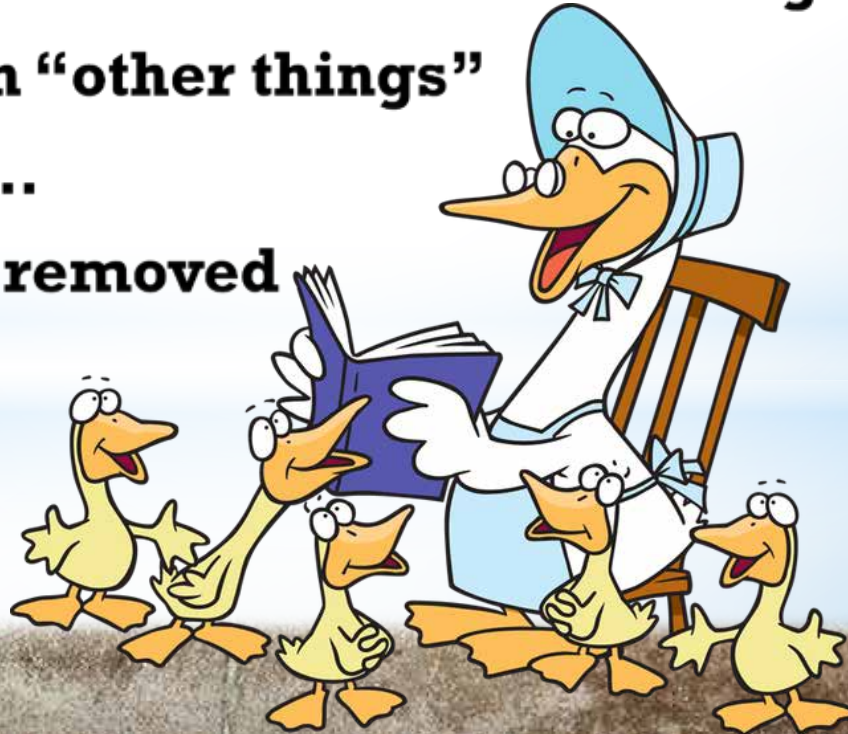
Moreover, we have replaced “idols” with other things

We could spend an hour on “other things”

That said, let this sink in ...

Dagon & Baal are as **FAR** removed
from our “reality” as

Mother Goose



Painting by R. Russell in Ernst Wallis' *Illustrerad verldshistoria utgifven* (1875)

5:6 – Judgment Experienced – Lord's Heavy Hand

Dragon Down

They truly believed ... and so did Israel

Remember, Abraham offering Isaac—NOT uncommon

Israel had a hard time with Idols since they left Egypt

For most of their time in Israel—they struggled

So much of the Old Testament deals with Idols



Painting by R. Russell in Ernst Wallis' *Illustrerad verldshistoria utgifven* (1875)

5:6 – Judgment Experienced – Lord's Heavy Hand

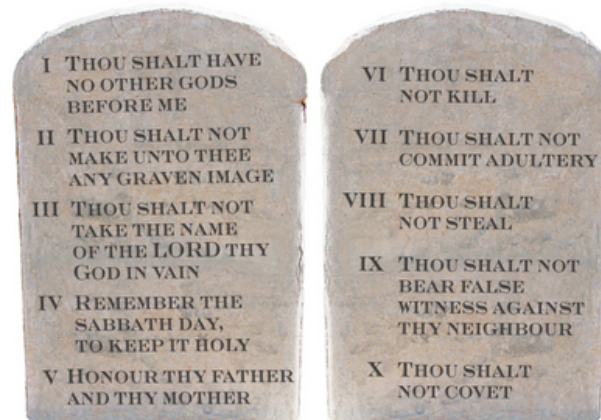
Dragon Down

1st **THREE** of Ten Commandments ...

1st No Other Gods

2nd Not Make Image

3rd Not Take His Name
of God in Vain



Samuel, King David & other good Kings *so much better*

To grapple with Israel in 1000 B.C., we **MUST**
grapple and *feel* for their superstitions

Or we'll never **FULLY** appreciate their faithfulness



Painting by R. Russell in Ernst Wallis' *Illustrerad verldshistoria utgifven* (1875)

5:6 – Judgment Experienced – Lord's Heavy Hand



Austin

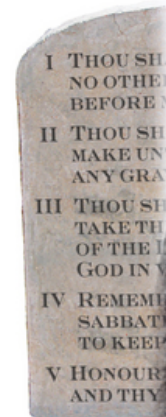
Dragon

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5:7 – 6:10 – Ark on Tour – Tour de Tumorville

Philistines Take Ark – ooooooops!

5:7 – Ashdod – get the Ark of God out of town – GET OUT OF TOWN!

5:8 – to Gath it goes ... they will take it ... more tumors

5:10 – to Ekron, but people had read the newspapers – NO, NO, NO

Twitter Tweets ... Instagram Shots ... Facebook Videos – NO, Not HERE

5:11 – Tumorville Convention – aaahh – send the thing BACK!

5:12 – “Outcry went up to heaven.”

6:1 – Ark in Philistia 7 months – their priests said: send it back with offering of 5 gold rats and 5 gold tumors

6:6 – Why do you harden your hearts as the Egyptians and Pharaoh did?

NOTICE: news of Egyptian deliverance FELT in Philistia!

5:7 – 6:10 – Ark on Tour – Tour de Tumerville

Philistines Want the Ark OUT of Town!

6:8-10 – What to do?

told to load the Ark ... send it to Beth Shemesh ... follow it



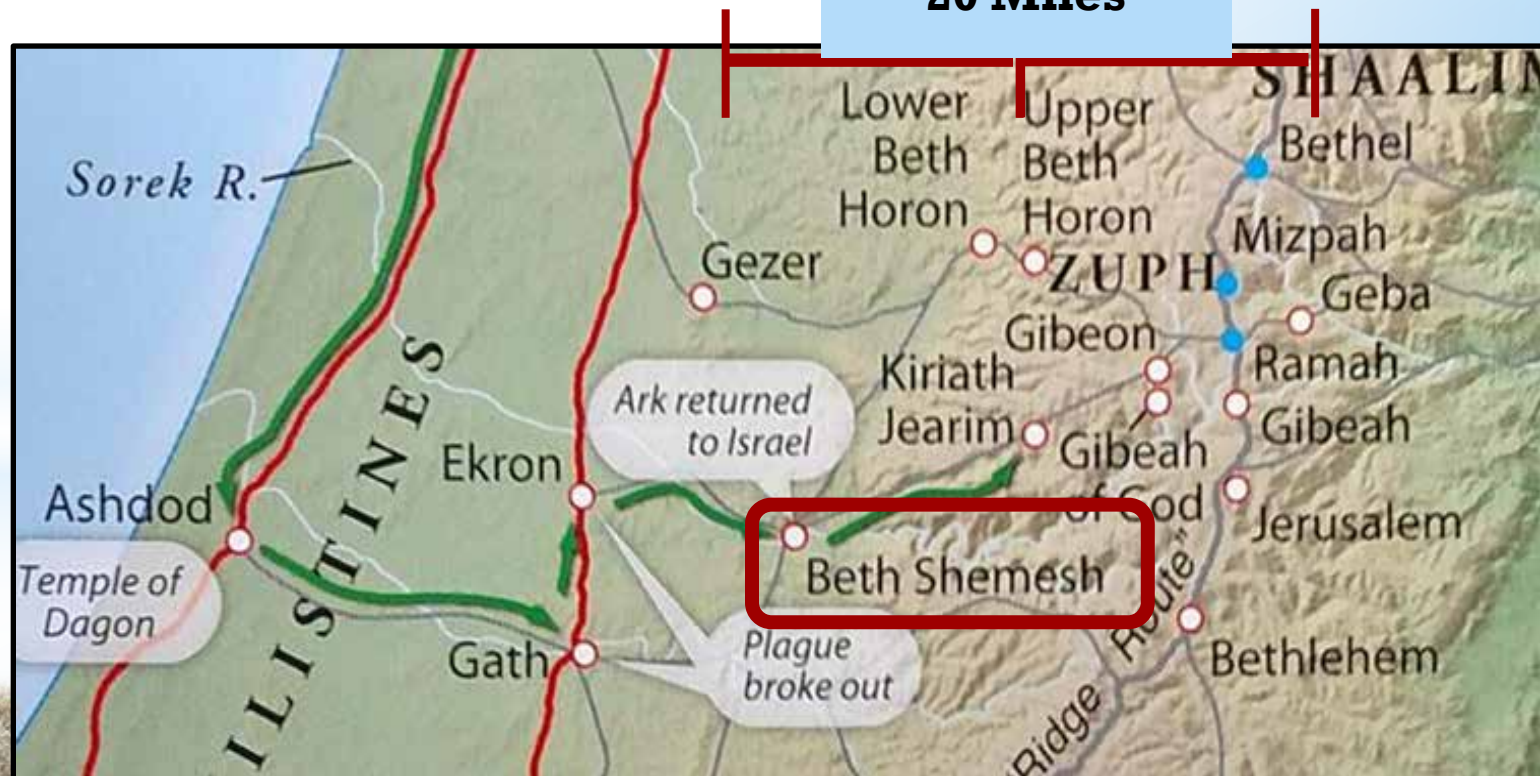
6:11-12 Instructions Followed – Cows Take Over: *Mooove Ark*

Cows to Beth Shemesh – Mooove Ark ... Whew!

6:11-12 – Philistines load all and cows went toward Beth Shemesh

Cows Mooo-ooving the Ark along

Philistines Rulers follow to border of Beth Shemesh.



6:11-12 Instructions Followed – Cows Take Over: *Mooove Ark*

Cows to Beth Shemesh – Mooove Ark ... Whew!

6:11-12 – Philistines load all and cows went toward Beth Shemesh

Cows Mooomooving the Ark along

Philistines Rulers follow to border of Beth Shemesh.

20 Miles



6:13-16 – Worship Offered – Beth Shemesh Welcome Ark Home

Cows to Beth Shemesh – Moooo ... Whew!

¹³ People of Beth Shemesh were harvesting their wheat
looked up and saw the ark ... they rejoiced at the sight.

Cart came to the field of Joshua of Beth Shemesh ...
stopped beside a large rock....

¹⁵ The Levites took down the ark of the LORD ...
placed them on the **Large Rock**.

people of Beth Shemesh offered burnt offerings
and made sacrifices to the LORD.

¹⁶ **FIVE Rulers** of the Philistines saw all this
and then returned that same day to Ekron.



6:17 – 7:17 – Beth Shemesh, oops – off to Kiriath Jearim

Rest of the Story . . . Beth Shemesh **NOT Ready**

6:17-18 – Recap of Five Fortified cities of Philistia

Ashdod, Ashkelon, Gaza, Gath and Ekron

The large rock on which the Levites set the Ark of the LORD is a witness to this day in the field of Joshua of Beth Shemesh.

¹⁹ God struck down some of the inhabitants of Beth Shemesh, putting 70 to death because they looked into the Ark of the LORD....

²⁰ People of Beth Shemesh asked, “Who can stand in the presence of the LORD, this holy God? To whom will the ark go up from here?”

²¹ They sent messengers to Kiriath Jearim, saying, “The Philistines have returned the Ark of the LORD. **Come down and take it up to your town.”**

6:17 – 7:17 – Beth Shemesh, oops – off to Kiriath Jearim

Kiriath Jearim Comes and Helps

7:1-17 – Men of Kiriath Jearim came, took the Ark of the LORD. Brought it to Abinadab's house and consecrated Eleazar his son to guard the ark of the LORD.

² Ark remained at Kiriath Jearim a long time—20 years in all.

Then all the people of Israel turned back to the LORD.

³ Samuel said to Israelites, “If you are returning to the LORD with all your hearts, then rid yourselves of the foreign gods and the Ashtoreths and commit yourselves to the LORD and serve him only, and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.”

⁴⁻⁶ Israelites did and Samuel blessed them.

Now Samuel was serving as leader of Israel at Mizpah.

6:17 – 7:17 – Beth Shemesh, oops – off to Kiriath Jearim

Philistines Attack ... God Saved

7:7-11 – Philistines attack – Israel had assembled at Mizpah

Israelites afraid ... but Samuel said, “Do not stop crying out to the LORD ... that he may rescue us from the hand of the Philistines.”

⁹ Samuel sacrifices a lamb and cries out to the LORD

and the LORD answered him.

¹⁰ While sacrificing ... Philistines drew near ... the LORD thundered against the Philistines and threw them into a panic....

¹¹ Men of Israel rushed out of Mizpah and pursued the Philistines, slaughtering them along the way to a point below Beth Kar.

¹² Samuel set up a stone between Mizpah and Shen, named it

Ebenezer, saying, “Thus far the LORD has helped us.”

6:17 – 7:17 – Beth Shemesh, ooops – off to Kiriath Jearim

Philistines Subdued

**7:13-17 – Philistines were subdued and
stopped invading Israel's territory.**

**Throughout Samuel's lifetime,
hand of the LORD against Philistines.**

¹⁴ Towns from Ekron to Gath were restored to Israel ...

Israel delivered the neighboring territory ...

Peace between Israel and the Amorites.

6:17 – 7:17 – Beth Shemesh, oops – off to Kiriath Jearim

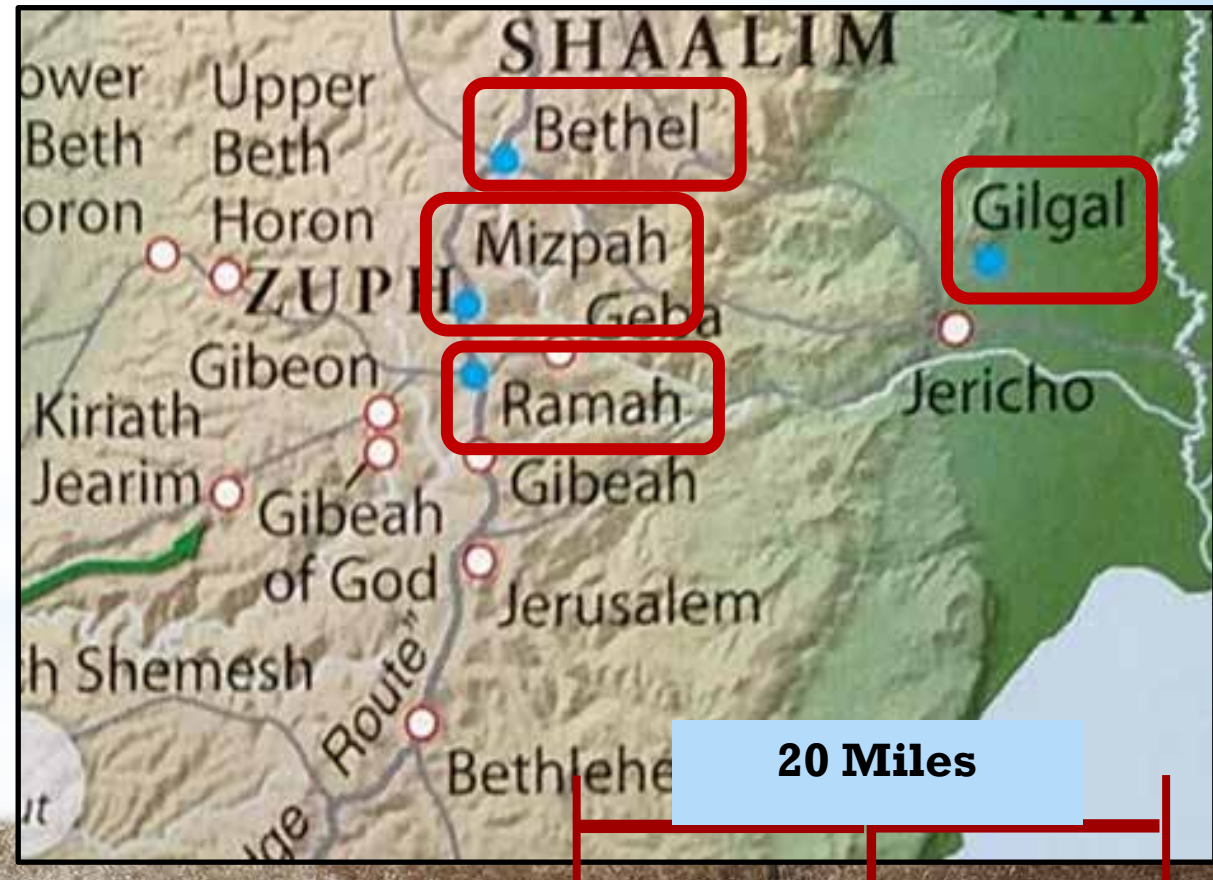
Philistines Subdued

¹⁵ Samuel continued as Israel's leader all the days of his life.

¹⁶ From year to year he went on a circuit from **Bethel** to **Gilgal** to **Mizpah**, judging Israel in all those places.

¹⁷ But he always went back to **Ramah**, where his home was, and there he also held court for Israel.

He built an altar there to the LORD.





ENTER MISSION

Don't Lose the Ark ... Again

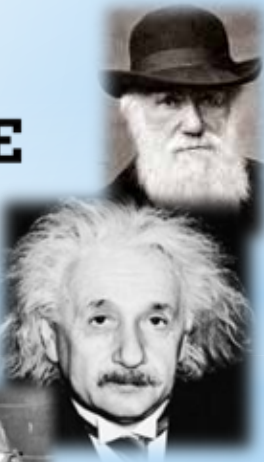
Ark Represented the Divine Presence of God
despite the large Christian Church

- ✓ **MANY today see religion as useless, or, at best, tradition**
- ✓ **Vladimir Lenin – Religion retards human development,
led to Bolshevik Revolution 1917 – led to Stalinism**
- ✓ **Russian Communism spreads to China ...
utterly atheistic, anti-God ... no small influence today**
- ✓ **To many “socialists” RELIGION & Christianity are foolishness**

Don't Lose the Ark ... Again

Ark Represented the Divine Presence of God
despite the large Christian Church

- ✓ Tooo MANY today see religion useless, or, at best, tradition
- ✓ Charles Darwin's *Voyage of the Beagle* 1832 and his *Origin of the Species* 1859 = **EVOLUTION** today's SCIENCE
- ✓ Albert Einstein's Special/General Theories of Relativity 1909 discovered (?) "time" to be **RELATIVE** to speed (??) ... sooo ... TIME can be manipulated, changed!
- ✓ Stephen Hawking's Quantum Mechanics 1975-present approaches a unified belief that WE can create life



Don't Lose the Ark ... Again

Ark Represented the Divine Presence of God
despite the large Christian Church

Many today see Christianity as little more
than ... wait for it ... Tales of Mother Goose

Much like we see Dagon ...

Some see Christianity as Unreal

Secularists see Christianity NO different
than Buddhism, Taoism ... Islam ... Goosey



**Ark Represented the Divine Presence
of God in Israel 1000+ yrs before Christ**



The Ark Pointed to Christ

**Christians have God in Their Hearts
through Faith in Christ in an often Dark World
Everything Today Seems to Conspire to Steal the Ark
to Steal away the Presence of God**

Don't Lose the Ark ... Again

**Your Mission . . . should you
choose to accept it . . .**

Don't Lose the Ark ... Today

FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class
Michael G. Maness
see
PreciousHeart.net/SS

