

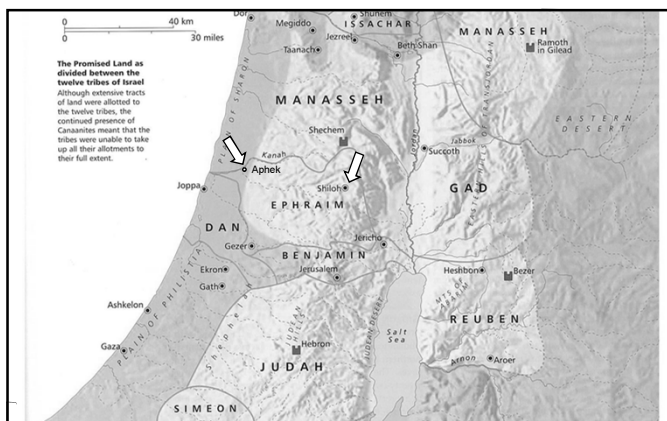
In Search of a King 1-2 SAMUEL



Ark of the Covenant

1 Samuel 4:1-22 Glory Departed

The Philistines and the Ark



The Philistines and the Ark

1. Fallacy of God's People

- a superstitious belief in the power of the sacred object
- a regard for the symbol of the covenant while disregarding the essence of the covenant

The Philistines and the Ark

2. Fulfillment of God's Word

- what appeared as a defeat of Yahweh was actually a fulfillment of His judgment
- His judgment began with the people of His covenant

The Philistines and the Ark

➤ Application

- How are you prone to a superstitious belief in a sacred object or ritual while ignoring the essence of our covenant with God in Christ?

Eli and Ichabod

➤ The Ark of God was Taken!

- it symbolized the removal of the presence (glory) of the Lord from Israel – "*Ichabod*"
- the Lord's presence with His people was contingent on their faithfulness to the covenant

From Ichabod to Emmanuel

➤ Fulfillment in Christ

- Jesus fulfilled what the ark/tabernacle symbolized
- the ultimate end is the unhindered presence of God with His people forever

³And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them,

⁴and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be *any* death; there will no longer be *any* mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."

(Revelation 21:3-4)