

It's a Lose-Lose.

1 Samuel
4 & 5

▶ The Score:

Philistines


Israelites

1 0



▼ Who were the
Philistines?





▼ What is the Ark of the Covenant?



Exodus 25: 10 - 22

“ . . . There I will
meet with you . . . ”

Exodus 25:22

1 Samuel 4: 1

“And Samuel’s words
came to all Israel.”



The Score:

Philistines

Israelites

2 0

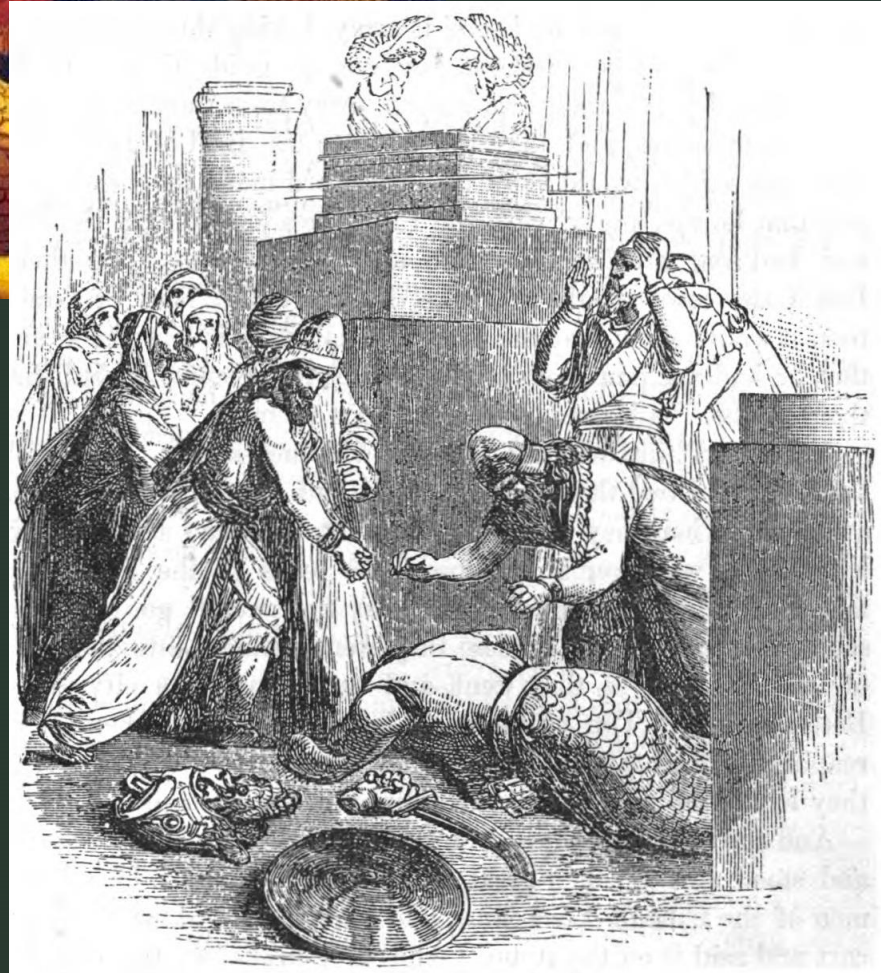
The Legacy of Eli

- Descendants wouldn't see old age, would die by the sword (2:31-33)
- His line would lose the priesthood (3:13)
- Sons were killed in battle (4:11)
- Blind, old and fat (4:13-18)



▼ Who was Dagon?





▶ The Score:

Philistines

GOD wins.

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Israel's Mistakes

- Trusted their own wisdom
- Used ark as lucky charm
- Disregarded commands about the ark
- Wanted the blessings of God without repentance
- Misidentified source of God's glory and power

Philistines' Mistakes

- Trusted their own strength
- Viewed ark as lucky charm
- Disregarded what they knew about God
- Refused to acknowledge true God

- C.S. Lewis

“Aslan is a lion- the Lion, the great Lion.” “Ooh” said Susan. “I’d thought he was a man. Is he- quite safe? I shall feel rather nervous about meeting a lion” ...”Safe?” said Mr. Beaver ...”Who said anything about safe? ‘Course he isn’t safe. But he’s good. He’s the King, I tell you.”

Lessons:

- Raise your children to love and honor God.
- Finish well.
- Listen to the voice of God.
- Worship the true God – not idols, or tradition or ritual.

Lessons:

- Do I have true faith?
 - Anchored in scripture (I John 5:13)
 - God-centered (John 14:6)
 - Relationship over ritual (I Peter 3: 18)
 - Peace in spite of adversity (Phil. 4:7)