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It's a Lose-Lose.
1 Samuel
4 & 5

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The Score:

Philistines Israelites

1 **0**

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Who were the Philistines?

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▽ 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.”

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The Score:

Philistines Israelites

2 0

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The Legacy of Eli

§ Descendants wouldn't see old age, would die by the sword (2:31-33)

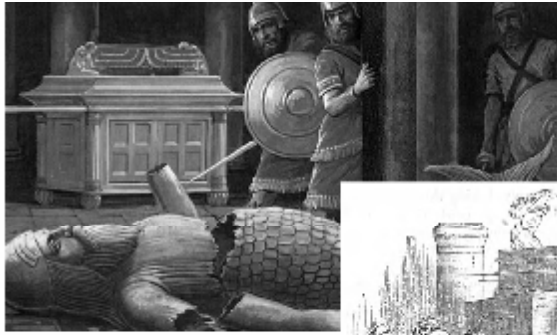
§ His line would lose the priesthood (3:13)

§ Sons were killed in battle (4:11)

§ Blind, old and fat (4:13-18)

▽ Who was Dagon?





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The Score:

Philistines

GOD wins.
4 0

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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

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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."

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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.

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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)