



# 9:00 Live Sunday School at FBCJ

## 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 2-7: A Tale of Two Ebenezers Sealed for Thy Courts Above

### I. 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 2

#### A. vv.12-17

- “wicked” – Sons of Belial - 27 times in OT/10 in Samuel - Hebrew word means “worthless”

### II. 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 3

A. Goes to live with Eli in the tabernacle complex – God specifically calls to Samuel

B. Difference in the “word of the LORD” and YHWH calls to someone - Another nod to Moses and the Torah prophesy of raising up one like Moses

#### C. vv.19-21

### III. 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 4 – Ebenezer Battle 1

A. Philistines line up at Aphek which is about Satartia - There is a “Jericho precedent”

B. v.3 – they bring up the Ark of the Covenant from Shiloh

*And when the people came to 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 here from Shiloh, that it may come among us and save us from the power of our enemies.”*

#### C. Joshua 6:2-5

D. Israel is defeated – 30,000 dead - Messenger comes to Eli with news sons are dead and ark is gone

- Jewish tradition is “a man of Benjamin” in v.12 is Saul

E. v.18 – “as soon as he mentioned the ark of God”...he fell over and broke his neck

### IV. 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 5 - The Ark with the Philistines

A. Philistia is a confederation

Ashod = Vicksburg

Gaza = Pt. Gibson

Ashkelon = Half-way between Pt. Gibson and Vicksburg

Gath = +/- 5 miles west of Utica  
Ekron = 3 miles west of Edwards

B. Twice the Ark is before Dagon and Dagon falls - Then “tumors” break out – old commentaries say it was hemorrhoids but most likely bubonic plague - Fleas to rats and abdomen/glandular swelling

## V. 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 6 – The Ark Comes Home

A. Philistines want the ark away from them

1. vv.1-9 – notice v.8 “the Ark of YHWH”
2. vv.10-17 – they turned neither right nor left
3. vv.18-7:2 – 20 years in Kiriath-Jearim

## VI. 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 7 – Raising our Ebenezer Part 2

A. Samuel is Paul Revere?

B. vv.3-4 – Two actions that must take place for repentance:

1. Internally (hearts changed – twice) - Lamentations 2:19
2. Externally (get rid of your idols) - 1st John 1:5-10

C. vv.5-9 - Just because you repent doesn’t mean the Philistines stop attacking  
- Like “a prophet like Moses”, Samuel intercedes for Israel  
- The “whole Lamb” and His innocent blood was shed

D. vv.10-14 - Why wasn’t Israel scared? They heard the same noise  
- Samuel raised his Ebenezer  
- What’s different from Ebenezer Part 1?

## VII. Returning to YHWH

- A. Samuel intercedes for them with YHWH
- B. v. 9 – Samuel makes an atoning sacrifice for their sins
- C. Innocent blood of a whole lamb
- D. “Returned” means they left
- E. Internal action: hearts right
- F. External action: got rid of idols
- G. Public Action for Repentance: Fasted
- H. “Poured themselves out” – confessed – Poured out like water from a fountain

## VIII. *Come Thou Fount*

Questions? Comments? Thoughts? [nick@nickwalters.org](mailto:nick@nickwalters.org)