

# WORSHIP NOTES

## Journey through the Bible

### THE LAST JUDGE

#### 1 Samuel 5:1-8

*After the Philistines captured the Ark of God, they took it from the battleground at Ebenezer to the town of Ashdod. They carried the Ark of God into the temple of Dagon and placed it beside an idol of Dagon. But when the citizens of Ashdod went to see it the next morning, Dagon had fallen with his face to the ground in front of the Ark of the Lord! So, they took Dagon and put him in his place again. But the next morning the same thing happened—Dagon had fallen face down before the Ark of the Lord again. This time his head and hands had broken off and were lying in the doorway. Only the trunk of his body was left intact. That is why to this day neither the priests of Dagon nor anyone who enters the temple of Dagon in Ashdod will step on its threshold.*

*Then the Lord's heavy hand struck the people of Ashdod and the nearby villages with a plague of tumors. When the people realized what was happening, they cried out, "We can't keep the Ark of the God of Israel here any longer! He is against us! We will all be destroyed along with Dagon, our god." So they called together the rulers of the Philistine towns and asked, "What should we do with the Ark of the God of Israel?" The rulers discussed it and replied, "Move it to the town of Gath." So they moved the Ark of the God of Israel to Gath.*

#### I. THE BOOK OF SAMUEL

##### A. ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

##### B. WHERE WE LEFT OFF

#### II. WAR AGAINST THE PHILISTINES (Chapter 4)

##### A. THE BATTLE

##### B. GOD'S WARNING COMES TO PASS

#### III. GOD CAN DEFEND HIMSELF

##### A. CAPTURE OF THE ARK (Chapter 5)

##### B. RETURN OF THE ARK (Chapter 6)

#### IV. LAST JUDGE STANDING (Chapter 7)

##### A. VICTORY OVER THE PHILISTINES

##### B. SUMMARY OF THE JUDGE SAMUEL

#### III. WHY DOES THIS MATTER? WHAT DO WE LEARN ABOUT:

##### A. God

##### B. Ourselves

##### C. Jesus