

# The Ark of the Covenant – 1 Samuel 5:1-7:1



Returns

Philistines  
1 Samuel Ch 4

Onward toward  
the coming King

Philistine City

Tumours  
Ashdod  
Rats

Philistine City

Gath  
Tumours



send it to  
Kiriath Jearim

Fear  
send it  
somewhere else

Punishment

Rejoicing

Philistine City

Ekron

Fear  
send it back to  
Israel

Send it  
back to  
Israel  
With  
conditions

Israelite  
Community  
Beth Shamesh

## Dig Deeper

What happened when the Ark was placed in the temple of Dagon? How does this relate to Exodus 20:3? Does the image of God in Deuteronomy 4:24 have any bearing on this event? Is it possible that we may make a similar mistake?

The Philistines had taken the Ark, why were they so determined to keep it? Can you see any parallels in the life of family, friends or even ourselves?

The Philistines began to realise that what was going wrong in the towns may have a connection with the Ark? What was going wrong and what was their initial response?

How confident were they of their ultimate solution? 6:7-9. How did they attempt to control circumstances in their favour? Are there ways we attempt to do the same with God in our relationship with Him? Can you give examples?

What was the problem when the Ark arrived at Beth Shamesh? Why do the 70 die? Can we be complacent in our attitude to God guidance and direction for us?

Activity – Make an Ark find the template at;

<https://visualunit.me/2014/07/12/the-ark-of-the-covenant-model/>