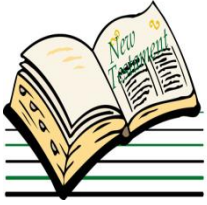


Sermon Notes



Text: 1 Samuel 4:1-22

Title: "Ark -e- ology 101"

Themes: Christ and our shame, God's faithfulness to His promise, Grace and justice

1. Defeat of Israel
2. Death of Eli
3. Delivery of Icabod
4. Departure of the Ark

Study Questions:

1. Can you think of other Biblical examples where God is pressured to act in a similar way to this example from 1 Samuel 4?
2. What is the difference between basing a prayer on God's promises and trying to force His hand?
3. Have you seen God act both in judgment and grace in your life at the same time?
4. Why is it important to keep the Biblical tension between trembling before God and trusting in His gracious acceptance and welcome?
5. Do you agree we have a deep need for control? Do you need to repent of your need for control?
6. Sanctification is about daily putting off idols, our God-substitutes, and putting on Jesus Christ and His love. Why is this a daily process?
7. God wants you to be holy, to love Him completely, to give all glory to Him. Have you gone to Jesus and asked Him to show you your idols? Do you believe He will give you what you need?
8. What does it mean to accept the joy of God's presence?

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