

**IMPACT BIBLE STUDY  
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

**I SAMUEL 4:1b – 7:2**

Day 1 – Read I Samuel 4:1b – 7:2

1. What part of the lecture on I Samuel 2:11 – 4:1a was most significant to you?
  
2. The ark of the covenant is the subject of this week's section of Scripture. See Exodus 25:1-22 for a description of the ark.
  - a. Where was it to be kept?
  
  - b. What were its dimensions? (a cubit is approximately 18")
  
  - c. What promise did God make concerning His presence?
  
3. What different titles are given to the ark? (7) Give the verse where each is first mentioned.
  
4. Give the movements of the ark from town to town.
  
5. How much time is noted to elapse? Give verses.
  
6. Was Samuel consulted concerning these decisions?

Day 2 – Review I Samuel 4:1b – 22

7. Who decided to bring the ark from the tabernacle at Shiloh?
8. Who else was involved?
9. By the ark not being in its place, how do you think the life of the tabernacle was affected?
10. How did the Philistines respond when the ark came into camp?
11. From previous lessons and from Psalm 78:56-61 and Deuteronomy 28:15, 25, what was the basic cause of Israel's defeat?
12.
  - a. What verse from a previous lesson was fulfilled in verse 11?
  - b. What attribute of God does this show? (See II Peter 3:9)
13.
  - a. What was the message the man of Benjamin brought to Eli?
  - b. What significance do you see, if any, in the order in which the report was made?
  - c. Are you striving to put God's presence first in your life? (Mt. 6:33) What things have you found interfere with this goal?
14.
  - a. Why did the wife of Phinehas call the child Ichabod?

b. The Israelites felt they had lost their glory. What is our hope of glory? See Colossians 1:27.

### Day 3 – Review I Samuel 5:1-12

15. What was Dagon? See Judges 16:23.
16. What convinced the Philistines of God's superior power? (Verses 1-5)
17. What was God's judgment against the Philistines? (Verse 6-12)
18. What was one sin of the Philistines noted in this chapter? See Exodus 20:3-6.

### Day 4 – Review I Samuel 6:1-21

19. After 7 months of terror, what did the Philistines plan to do with the ark?
20. What type of offering was to accompany it?
21. a. What did the Philistines use for a sign of God's leading?  
b. What signs of God's leading do you look for in your life?

### Review I Samuel 7:1, 2

22. Who was the designated keeper of the ark?

23. Where was it to dwell for the next 20 years?

Day 5 – I Samuel 4:1 – 7:2 Overview

24. What attitudes toward God are shown by these different groups that are also seen in people today?

- a. Vs. 4:3 – Elders of Israel (See Matthew 15:8, Hebrews 11:6)
- b. Vs. 4:8 – Philistines (See Romans 1:18-23)
- c. Vs. 6:20 – Men of Beth-shemesh (See Matthew 16:24-28)
- d. Vs. 3:19-21 – Samuel (See John 14:15, I John 4:15-17)

25. As we have seen in our study, God's presence among men will bring either a blessing or judgment. For our day, this is dependent on our acceptance of Christ as our Savior and King. Using the following Scripture, note some of the possible blessings or judgments we have through Christ.

- a. John 12:48
- b. John 15:1, 2
- c. I Corinthians 2:9
- d. I Corinthians 3:14
- e. Philippians 4:19
- f. II Peter 1:2

26. Do you have the assurance of a right relationship through Jesus Christ? Read I John 5:11-13 prayerfully.