

Scenes and themes in 1 Samuel 4-7

4.1-10:	The Israelites ignore the prophet Samuel among them, and go to battle hoping the Ark will save them. It doesn't and Eli's sons, Hophni and Phinehas, die.
4.11-22:	The priestly house of Eli comes to a crashing end: "the glory has departed from Israel"
5.1-5:	The ark is taken by the Philistines into the "house of Dagon" and "Dagon" is dismembered
5.6-6.1:	YHWH/the Ark cause tumors in Philistine territory, as it is sent from Ashdod to Gath to Ekron.
6.2-11:	The Philistine priests and diviners devise a plan: to make "images of your tumors and images of your mice that ravage the land" and send the Ark off with two milch cows.
6.12-18:	The cow-led Ark goes to the "house of the sun" (Beth-Shemesh) and stop in a field of Joshua ("Yahweh saves") and the Levites and people offer sacrifices to YHWH.
6.19-7.2:	After one family fails to rejoice at the Ark, YHWH kills 70 of them and the people try to get rid of the Ark, calling on the people of Kiriath-Jearim to take it. It is taken to the house of Abinadab, whose son Eleazar takes charge of it. (anticipating 2 Samuel 6.3)
7.3-11:	Samuel calls the people to put away the "Baals and Astartes" and return to YHWH; a Philistine attack is repulsed.
7.12-17:	There is peace: Samuel "judges" Israel as a circuit rider among Bethel, Gilgal and Mizpah before returning home to Ramah