

LET US FETCH IT

1 SAMUEL 4

Text: 1 Samuel 4:3

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And when the people were come into the camp, the elders of Israel said, Wherefore hath the Lord smitten us to day before the Philistines? Let us fetch the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of Shiloh unto us, that, when it cometh among us, it may save us out of the hand of our enemies.

Introduction:

We find the condition of the land was a condition that was lacking spiritual direction and discernment.

1 Samuel 1:14

And Eli said unto her, How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy wine from thee.

They were a lack of holy living.

1 Samuel 2:12-17

Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial; they knew not the Lord. 13And the priest's custom with the people was, that, when any man offered sacrifice, the priest's servant came, while the flesh was in seething, with a

fleshhook of three teeth in his hand; 14And he struck it into the pan, or kettle, or caldron, or pot; all that the fleshhook brought up the priest took for himself. So they did in Shiloh unto all the Israelites that came thither. 15Also before they burnt the fat, the priest's servant came, and said to the man that sacrificed, Give flesh to roast for the priest; for he will not have sodden flesh of thee, but raw. 16And if any man said unto him, Let them not fail to burn the fat presently, and then take as much as thy soul desireth; then he would answer him, Nay; but thou shalt give it me now: and if not, I will take it by force. 17Wherefore the sin of the young men was very great before the Lord: for men abhorred the offering of the Lord.

Give the story:

The children of Israel had gone to war with the Philistines, and because of several things Israel lost 4000 soldiers.

So they decided that they needed to go fetch the ark. So the Bible tells us after the ark arrived they began to shout. The shout alarmed the Philistines but after the second battle, Israel again lost 30,000 men.

Why?

God had become an object to them.

1. THEY MISTOOK THE VISIBLE FOR THE INVISIBLE.

**2. THEY PREFERRED OFFICE TO CHARACTER.
(HOPHNI AND PHININAS)**

3. THEY CONFUSED ENTHUSIASM FOR FAITH.

4. THEY VALUED THE NEW METHOD OVER THE PROVEN WAY.

2 Tim. 3:5

Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

Close:

May we not have a form of godliness, but may we seek Him with our whole heart.

Deut. 4:29

But if from thence thou shalt seek the Lord thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

Psalm 24:6

This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah.

Psalm 119:2

Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.