

## 1 SAMUEL CHAPTER 5

<sup>1</sup> And the Philistines took the ark of God, and brought it from Ebenezer to Ashdod. <sup>2</sup> And the Philistines took the ark of the Lord, and brought it into the house of Dagon, and set it by Dagon. <sup>3</sup> And the people of Ashdod rose early, and entered into the house of Dagon; and looked, and behold, Dagon had fallen on his face before the ark of the Lord. So they lifted up Dagon, and set him in his place. And the hand of the Lord was heavy upon the Ashdodians, and He plagued them, and He struck them in their secret parts, *both in Ashdod and her coasts.* <sup>4</sup> And it came to pass when they rose early in the morning, behold, Dagon had fallen on his face before the ark of the covenant of the Lord; and the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands were cut off each before the threshold, and both the wrists of his hands had fallen on the floor of the porch; only the stump of Dagon was left. <sup>5</sup> Therefore the priests of Dagon, and everyone that enters into the house of Dagon, do not tread upon the threshold of the house of Dagon in Ashdod to this day, for they step over *it*.

<sup>6</sup> And the hand of the Lord was heavy upon Ashdod, and He brought evil upon them, and it burst out upon them into the ships, and rats sprang up in the midst of their country, and there was a great tumult of death in the city. <sup>7</sup> And the men of Ashdod saw that it was so, and they said, "The ark of the God of Israel shall not abide with us, for His hand is heavy upon us, and upon Dagon our god." <sup>8</sup> Therefore they sent and gathered the lords of the Philistines to them, and said, "What shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel?" And they said, "Let the ark of God come over to us." And the ark of the God of Israel came to Gath. <sup>9</sup> And it came to pass after it went about to Gath, that the hand of the Lord came upon the city, and *there was* very great confusion. And He struck the men of the city, *both* small and great, and struck them in their buttocks. And the Gittites made for themselves images of tumors.

<sup>10</sup> And they send away the ark of God to Ekron. And it came to pass when the ark of God went into Ekron, that the men of Ekron cried out, saying, "Why have you brought back the ark of the God of Israel to us, to kill us and our people?" <sup>11</sup> So they sent and gathered the lords of the Philistines, and they said, "Send away the ark of the God of Israel, and let it lodge in its place; and let it not slay us and our people." <sup>12</sup> (For there was a very great confusion in all the city, when the ark of the God of Israel entered there; and those who lived and died not were struck with tumors; and the cry of the city went up to heaven).