

# SERMON OUTLINE 1 Samuel 5:1-12

The Heavy and Glorious Hand of the LORD

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## **Context of Samuel**

1. *The House of Eli*
2. *The Philistines*
3. *Ichabod*

## **The Heavy Hand against rival gods (1-5)**

## **The Heavy Hand against rival nations (6-12)**

## **From Dagon to Goliath to Christ**

# SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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## MAIN POINT

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Our living and active LORD works differently than us. He is capable of judging, rescuing and warning all at the same time.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. What is an idol you are tempted to trust in?
3. What sins of the House of Eli do we see in our current culture (the larger church or beyond)?
4. What is an area that we are tempted to trust in our own devices or only see a bleak outlook?
5. What other stories do you find in scripture that fit the theme of God defeating his rivals?
6. Compare the Exodus account (Ex. 6-12) to 1 Samuel 5. What similarities and differences are there?
7. In what way do you most clearly see the greatness of God in this passage?

## AREAS OF APPLICATION

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8. With the help of others, identify an idol in your life. Recognize the futility and impotence of your idol. Then with the help of others and the Holy Spirit, smash it.
9. Ensure your family is worshiping the true God. If you don't do family worship, make a plan and begin regularly reading the Bible as a family.
10. Ask God to show us where we might have idols as a church.
11. Imagine what a world without God's enemies will be like. Long for this world.
12. Read, pray and sing Psalms that remind us of God's mighty hand (Ps 2, Ps 21, Ps 78, Ps 96).

## PRAYER POINTS

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13. Pray through Hannah's Song (1 Sam. 2) this week.
14. Confess any idols you have worshiped and chased after for satisfaction.
15. Pray for other churches to reform and be faithful to scripture.
16. Pray for our leaders and our nation to repent.
17. Ask God to replace your fear and hopelessness with confidence and hope.