**1 Samuel 5-6: God is not boxed in**

**Main Idea: Many of the problems we face can be simply traced back to a lack of knowledge of God**

**Know God, know peace; no God, no peace**

**1. God has the ability to remind people of His power, regardless of their**

 **perceptions- 6:1-5**

 **2. The victory of the true King of Israel, the Lord, only underscores that any**

 **defeat Israel suffered wasn’t due to His inability, but to their sin.**

**3.** **Interestingly, the Philistines recognize their need to acknowledge their wrong**

 **to the God of Israel by sending the Ark away with a “trespass offering” - 6:3**

**God’s work in people’s lives can allow them to see**

**their need to repent, even when unsaved.**

**Acts 17:30**

**4. In acknowledging their sin with an offering the Philistines also acknowledged**

 **God’s superiority over them and their gods – 6:4-5**

**5. The Philistines knew of both Yahweh’s defeat of the Egyptians, apart from any**

 **army, and the danger of provoking Him to anger again - 6:6**

**6. The Philistines knew the responsibility for what happened in Egypt lay with the**

 **Egyptians - 6:6.**

**When disaster strikes as a result of sin, the responsibility lies**

**with man, not God**

**7. When a person is looking for a sign or a miracle, it should be just that, not**

 **something that would or could occur in the normal course of life 6:7-9**

 **8. We never need to fear the Lord when we do what is right – 6:20**

 **9. First, they thought too highly of the Ark; later, they didn’t respect it highly**

 **enough… - 6:20-21**

**God is only honored by proper worship.**

**10.** **Improper thoughts about God not only hurt our day-to-day lives, but also**

 **distance us from Him (6:20-21).**

**God is spirit and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth**

**John 4:24**

**11. It’s significant that, while the people of Israel will soon ask for another king**

 **other than Yahweh, He shows He can take care of Himself.**

**Israel’s King single-handedly defeats the entire nation so that wherever the Ark travels it is followed by death and affliction.**

**There is never a more capable Leader for our lives!**

**Are there things about God you don’t believe**

**and it negatively impacts your life?**