

“The Return Of The Lost Ark”

1 Sam. 6-7:2

Philistine Arkeological Dilemma (6:1-12)

1. Confusion about the Ark (1,2)

*Confusion issue: *What do we do? How do we do it?* (5:8, 6:2,3)

2. Advice about the Ark (3-9)

*Sage words of soothsayers, as 6:6 recalls cf. Ex. 7:11, 8:19, 10:7.
Recall Exodus events were over 350 yrs. ago! Idea =

*Golden tumors / mice go as tribute (Ex. 3:21) and expresses guilt
(5b: “give glory to God of Israel . . . to ease his hand”

*Never-yoked nursing cows will be used to allow God to write His
signature on these tragic events.

3. Return of the Ark (10-12 / 16-18)

*Philistines follow the Ark on a cart to the Jewish Beth-shemesh.

Hebrew Arkeological Dilemma (6:13-7:2)

1. Excitement / worship over the Ark (13-15)

*A time of great excitement (wheat harvest) is multiplied by the
return of the Ark. back after seven long months.

*Immediate sacrifice, as it's a Levitical city, Josh. 21:16.

2. Death from the Ark (19)

**great slaughter* of 50,070 occurs (some versions = 70 NIV, NEB)

*Why so harsh? Nu. 4:17-20, Ex. 28:35, 30:20,21, 2 Sam. 6:7

*The cost of curiosity is steep here (presumptuous gazing). The
Israelites lost 34,000 in chapter 5, and now 50,070 more.

3. Confusion about the Ark (20,21)

*Joy over the Ark is gone. Now confusion / questions much as
with the Philistines. Israelites seem less alert than Philistines!

*“To stand before this holy God” = a suitable attendant (Josh.
20:27,28)

4. Movement of the Ark (7:1-2)

*The Ark is moved Kiriath-jearim and stays put till the time when
David will retrieve it (compare to 2 Sam. 6:9-11).