

## Chapter 4

*The Ifraelites are beaten in batle by the Philifthijms. 3. VVho for their better protection and comfort, fetch the Arke of God into the campe: 10. but are beaten againe, the Arke taken, and with manie others the two fonnes of Heli are flaine. 13. Al which Heli vnderftanding falleth from his feate, and breaketh his neck: 19. alfo his daughter in law prefently traueling of childe is deliuered of a fonne.*

**A**nd it came to paffe in thofe daies, the Philifthijms affembled together to fight: and Ifrael went forth to meete the Philifthims into batle, & camped befide the Stone of helpe. Moreouer the Philifthijms came into Aphec, <sup>2</sup> and put their armie in aray againft Ifrael. And after they had ioyned batle, Ifrael turned their backes to the Philifthims: and there were flaine in the fight here and there through the fieldes, as it were foure thoufand men. <sup>3</sup> And the people returned to the campe: and the ancientes of Ifrael faid: Why hath our Lord ftricken vs to day before the Philifthijms? <sup>a</sup>)Let vs fetch vnto vs the arke of the couenant of our Lord from Silo, and let it come into the middes of vs, that it may faue vs from the hand of our enemies. <sup>4</sup> The people therfore fent into Silo, and they tooke from thence the arke of the couenant of the Lord of hoftes fitting vpon the Cherubims: and the two fonnes of Heli were with the arke of the couenant of God, Ophni and Phinees. <sup>5</sup> And when the arke of the couenant of our Lord was come into the campe, al Ifrael made a fhoute with a great crie, and the earth founded. <sup>6</sup> And the Philifthims heard the voice of the crie, and faid: What is this voice of a great crie in the campe of the Hebrewes? And they knewe that the arke of our Lord was come into the campe. <sup>7</sup> And the Philifthijms were afrayd, faing: God is come into the campe. And they

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<sup>a</sup> Their confidence of helpe from God, by prefence of the arke was good and commendable, but their finnes deferued to be punifhed.

mourned, faing: <sup>8</sup> Woe to vs: for there was not fo great reioyng yefterday and the day before: woe to vs. Who fhall keepe vs from the hand of thefe high Goddes? thefe be the Goddes, that ftricke Ægypt with al plague, in the defert. <sup>9</sup> Take courage, and be men, ye Philifthijms: left you be feruantes to the Hebrewes, as they alfo haue ferued you: take courage and fight. <sup>10</sup> The Philifthijms therfore fought, and Ifrael was flaine, and euerie man fled into his tabernacle: and there was made an exceeding great plague: and there fel of Ifrael thirtie thoufand footemen. <sup>11</sup> And the arke of God was taken: the two fonnes alfo of Heli died, Ophni and Phinees. <sup>12</sup> And a man of Benjamin running out of the battle aray, came into Silo that day; his garment rent, and fprinkled on his head with duft. <sup>13</sup> And when he was come, Heli fate vpon a ftoole ouer againft the way looking. For his hart was fearful for the arke of God. And that man after he was entred in, told it to the citie: and al the citie howled. <sup>14</sup> And Heli heard the found of the crie, and faid: What is this found of this fame tumult? But he haftened, and came, and told Heli. <sup>15</sup> And Heli was nintie and eight yeares old, and his eyes were dimme, and he could not fee. <sup>16</sup> And he faid to Heli: I am he that came from the battle, and I he that fled out of the field this day. To whom he faid: What is done my fonne? <sup>17</sup> And he brought the newes anfwering: Ifrael, quoth he, is fled before the Philifthijms, and a great ruine is made in the people: moreouer alfo thy two fonnes are dead, Ophni and Phinees: and the arke of God is taken. <sup>18</sup> And when he had <sup>a</sup>named the arke of God, he fel from his ftoole backward befide the doore, & his necke being broken he died. For he was an old man, and of a great age: and he iudged Ifrael fourtie yeares. <sup>19</sup> And his daughter in law, the wife of Phinees was great with childe, and nigh to be deliuered: and hearing the reporte that the arke of God was taken, and her father in law was dead, and

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<sup>a</sup> This zeale of religion in Heli towards the arke, is a great figne that he died in good ftate though he was temporally punifhed for not correcting his fonnes.

her husband, she bowed her self and was deliuered: for fudden paynes were fallen vpon her. <sup>20</sup> And in the very moment of her death, they said to her that stood about her: Feare not because thou hast borne a sonne. Who answered them not, nor gave heed to it. <sup>21</sup> And she called the childe Ichabod, saying: The glorie is translated from Israel, because the arke of God is taken, and for her father in law, and for her husband; <sup>22</sup> and she said: The glorie is translated from Israel, for that the arke of God was taken.