



## Part 6 - "When God Is Still King" | Scripture: 1 Samuel 5 | December 14, 2025

**MAIN IDEA:** The biggest danger God's people face is losing sight of God's Kingdom. When we lose Kingdom perspective, we shift our allegiance. But even when God's people lose sight of His Kingdom, ***God never stops being King.***

### ➡ PART 1: KINGDOM MINDSET — Israel Today

#### 1. Why Kingdom Perspective Matters

- Jesus said: "seek first His kingdom" (Matthew 6:33)
- 👉 *How does a Kingdom mindset help us understand the world today?*

#### 2. Question from Congregation: Is the modern nation of Israel the same as Biblical Israel? Short answer — *not in the same way*

- Ancient Israel - a covenant people ruled by Yahweh as King
- Modern Israel - a political nation-state, not the same covenant community
  - Note: This distinction is not antisemitic. God loves the Jewish people, and salvation comes through Jesus for everyone

#### 3. MAIN TAKEAWAYS:

- 👉 *God's "chosen" people have always been defined by the **heart**.* (Ex: Deuteronomy 10:16; 1 Samuel 16:7; Jeremiah 31; Romans 2)
- 👉 Through Jesus, God's family today is a multi-ethnic Kingdom community (Ex: Isaiah 49:6; Matthew 28:19; Ephesians 2:14-18; Galatians 3:26-29; Revelation 5:9-10)

#### 4. Question: *How does God work in the world today?*

- God primarily works through **His Church**
- The real battle is spiritual, not against flesh and blood (Eph. 6:12)

## ➡ PART 2: KINGDOM REALITY — Dagon humiliated (1 Samuel 5:1-5)

1. Idols are just wood or stone statues.  
But the spiritual powers they represent are *very* real.
2. For the Philistines, the capture of the Ark meant Dagon had defeated Yahweh.
3. (v.3) When Dagon's statue fell the first time, it was as if Dagon was bowing in the presence of Yahweh.
4. (v.4) When Dagon's statue fell the second time, the severed head and feet represented Dagon's complete defeat. (like David over Goliath, 1 Sam. 17:50-51)  
It was a public humiliation for Dagon and his followers.
5. (v.5) "threshold" — the space where a deity would meet their people in the temple
6. Both the Philistines & Israel adjusted their worship for their own benefit.  
👉 **Today's Church faces the same danger.**

## ➡ PART 3: KINGDOM ALLEGIANCE — Jesus is Victorious

1. Colossians 2:15 - [Jesus] **disarmed** the powers and authorities, he made a **public spectacle** of them, **triumphing** over them by the cross.
2. 1 Corinthians 15:55 - Death is defeated!
3. To be Kingdom minded means we live every day in allegiance to the King who has already defeated the enemy.
4. Seeking God's Kingdom means **re-aligning our daily allegiance** to the reign of Jesus *instead* of the kingdoms of the world. This is where real joy comes from.
5. Through Jesus, we press on in victory, even as we walk through life's darkest valleys. (Philippians 3:12-14, Psalm 23)