

Sermon Outline

Ichabod

1 Samuel 4:1-22

Introduction: Johnny Cash: *A Boy Named Sue*

Context: 1 Samuel 4:1a – from Samuel to the Ark of the Covenant
Chapters 4-7 is a Chiasm “From Ichabod to Ebenezer”

I. 4:1-11: The Philistines Capture the Ark

A Philistines victory (v. 1-2)

Good question, bad answer (v. 3-4)

Bad Ark-eology (v. 4-10)

A tragic slaughter? Or? (v. 11-12)

Cliffhanger: The ark in exile

II. 4:12-22: The death of Eli and birth of Ichabod

Prophecy fulfilled (1 Sa 2:31-36, 3:12-14, 1 Kings 2:27)

Who is the faithful priest? (Heb 7:12-17)

The kavode (weight) has departed, but how about the glory?

Cliffhanger: Israel is without a leader

III. Additional Application

Christian Superstition vs. Living Faith

Is God useful? Or Is He worthy?

Gospel implications