

17 May 2015: Preached by Preacher Clement Chew

Topic: **God is not Mocked!**

Scripture Text: 1 Samuel 6

1. The people of the world have no fear of God and will mock God as they are spiritually blind. But when the community of Christians or Churches mock God by denying His Word or live contrary to God's Word in defiance, then it is indeed shocking and grievous.
2. The Philistines suffered the judgment of plagues from God for mocking the Ark of God for 7 months. They wanted to send the Ark of God away. Even the unbelieving Philistines priests advised that they must send the Ark with trespass offering. They acknowledged their sin against God of Israel.
3. The Philistines remembered how Pharaoh hardened his heart about 350 years ago and was judged by God. They learnt the lesson not to harden against God. The Ark of God was sent away. God directed the path of Ark to the city at Bethshemesh in Israel.
4. Bethshemesh is a Levitical city. The teachers of God's Word were there and they should know better how to obey God's laws with regards to the Ark of God. Yet, the people of Israel at Bethshemesh mocked God by first offering the female cows to God at the field. The law in Lev 1:3 clearly states the offering has to be male cows and to be made at the door of the Tabernacle. Then they committed another sin by looking into the Ark of God.
5. God smote the city of Bethshemesh with 50,070 people dead. It was a severe judgment because judgment must first begin at the House of God. We must learn this lesson that God is not to be mocked and we must rather fear and reverence Him.