

CAN GOD BE TAKEN CAPTIVE?

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There is a lot about God that we don't know and understand.

Rom 11:33-34 O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? Or who hath been his counselor?

Isa 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

There are things about God and His ways that we don't know and will never understand.

God allowing himself to be captured is one of them.

God will never allow satan to win the war but sometimes He allows the enemy to win a battle.

Ps 78:61 tells us that God delivered his strength into captivity, and his glory into the enemy's hand.

In 1 Samuel 4, we read about the ark of God being captured by the Philistines. The ark of the covenant, which represented to Israel the presence of God was taken captive and placed in a heathen temple beside their god Dagon.

Now for the million dollar question. When the Philistines captured the ark of the Lord, did they actually capture God or was what Israel lost just an old box?

I believe that it was much more than just another old box. The ark was God's dwelling place among His people. It was the heart of the sanctuary in which they approached Him to worship. It was His communication center from which He spoke to them. It was His field headquarters and His chariot when He led them into battle.

When the Philistines took the Ark of the Covenant from Israel, they didn't overpower God. They didn't catch Him on a bad day. God allowed the Ark to be captured to prove His power to the Philistines and to teach Israel a lesson.

We all have to learn that same lesson. We can't save ourselves. We can't depend upon our own power and strength. We must recognize our weakness and our dependency upon God for salvation.