

## God is a Box

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### Introduction

1. 1 Samuel 4:1-9
2. There are several arks mentioned in the Bible, Noah, Moses the ark of the covenant
3. The description of this ark is as follows:
  1. 2 1/2 cubits in length 45 inches
  2. 1 1/2 cubits in width 27 inches
  3. 1 1/2 cubits in height 27 inches
  4. Made of wood and overlaid with gold
  5. Four rings of gold with two on each side so that the priest could carry it with the poles that went into the rings
  6. The Mercy Seat was on top made of one piece of gold, signified the presence of God
  7. There were also two cherubim of gold, facing toward the Mercy Seat
4. The ark played a significant role in the history of Israel Joshua 3:13; 6:4
5. The ark became God in a box to the Israelites
6. This ark became mystical, magical, and miraculous which is an incorrect view of this box
7. God's presence will help, but we must have our lives right to have the blessings of God.
8. We too can make things religious an idol, a God in a box if we let them Matthew 15:9

### II Discussion

1. The Bible can become mystical to some
  1. The Bible is the Word of God John 12:48; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 3:15-16
  2. Some think that by reading certain passages that something magical will happen
2. Some think the Lord's Supper is miraculous
  1. The Lord's Supper is important 1 Corinthians 11:23-27
  2. But it is no more important than any other command of God
  3. Some do abuse the Lord's Supper today
3. Some think that prayer of the preacher is magical
  1. The Bible says that the prayer of a righteous man is important James 5:16; 1 Peter 3:12
  2. Let us all strive to be the righteous person so our prayers will be heard.
4. Some think that baptism is miraculous
  1. Some think that it will wash away unrepented sins
  2. It is about conversion to Christ Acts 3:16; 26:27-29
5. Some think there is something mystical in giving
  1. We are to give but some think they can buy their way into heaven
  2. 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

### III Conclusion

1. God is everywhere Psalm 139:8; Proverbs 15:3; Acts 17:27
2. We too can have a form of godliness without power 2 Timothy 3:5
3. Since God can see us all the time it would behoove us to act accordingly

Source; Sermon from 1989; sermon outlines sent out by the preacher in Auburn AL, about the same time