

10/4/09

### The Heart of David

**2Sam. 6:1-23**

Studying and learning from the life of David, we can understand why God refers to him, as a man after His own heart.

Though David's adversary Saul was dead, and all of Israel had anointed him King and he had finally taken the stronghold of Zion, making Jerusalem the city of David, all was meaningless, until the ark of God was brought into the city to become the center of the worship of God and abiding source and power of Israel.

1. "For as a man thinks in his heart, so is he." Prov. 23:7a

2. Jesus said, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matt. 7:21

I pray that God reveal to us some of our buried treasures and the fact, that without God being the center of our life, any treasure will be meaningless.

Three things are revealed concerning David, as he sought the ark of God. 2Sam. 6:1-19

- I. David's concern for God. vs. 1-5
- II. David's carelessness towards God. vs. 6-11
- III. David's contrition to God. vs. 12-23

### **I. David's concern for God. vs. 1-5**

A. The concern of David was to retrieve the ark of God to the capital of the nation, Jerusalem. vs. 1-2

\* 1Chron. 13:1-8, 15:3-24

- 1. The event was an important national event gathered all the choice men of Israel to bring up the ark of God. vs. 1a
  - a. David addressed all of them, that if it seemed good to them and if it was of the Lord their God, that they gather together to bring back the ark. 1Chron. 13:2-3a
  - b. The thing was right in the sight of all the people. 1Chron. 13:4
- 2. The number of men was 30,000. vs. 1b
  - a. The number is doubted by some but there is no reason to doubt it, in view of the importance of the event.
  - b. This was a military, political and religious event of the people of God.
  - c. The individuals were the captains of thousands, hundreds and every leader. 1Chron. 13:1
  - d. The gathering was from Shihor in Egypt to as far as the entrance of Hamath. 1Chron. 13:5a-b
    - \* The farthest north border, to Egypt.

3. The reason for seeking the ark, was that it had not been sought by the people since the days of Saul, therefore David was concerned. 1Chron. 13:3b
- \* The ark was at Bethel, Shechem and Shiloh, during the time of judges.
- a. The ark remember was taken by the Philistines in battle. 1Sam. 4
  - b. The ark, then was returned to Bethshemesh and God smote them for looking in it and they called on the inhabitants of Kirjath Jearim to fetch it. 1Sam. 6
  - c. The ark then, abode in Kirjath Jearim, in the house of Abinadab, under his son Eleazar, for 20 years. 1Sam. 7:2
  - d. David went to Nob where he was given the shewbread to eat, as he fled from Saul, probably the ark rested there but it is never stated. 1Sam. 21
  - e. Now it is at Kirjath Jearim, Baalah of Judah, the house of Abinadab, 7 miles northwest of Jerusalem. 1Chron. 13:6
- \* Taking the 20 years at Abinadab's, plus 40 years for Saul's reign, it has been at least 60 year, since the ark had been sought out. 1Sam. 7:2
4. The ark was identified with God. vs. 2
- a. The ark was called by His name. vs. 2b-c

- 1) God, Elohim, the Creator and triune God.
  - 2) Lord of Host, the captain of the armies of heaven.
- b. The ark where He dwelt between the Cherubim. vs. 2d
- 1) The warrior title of God was associated with the Ark, "whose name is called by the Name, the LORD of Hosts, who dwells between the cherubim." vs. 2b-c
  - 2) The LORD of Host, Yahweh, the Captain of the armies of heaven.
  - 3) God met the High Priest, between the two Cherubim on the ark. Ex. 25:22
- c. The ark represented the presence of God in the midst of his people.
- a. The ark was the very source of life and government of the nation, pitched in the center of the encampment of Israel, throughout the wilderness. Num. 1-3
  - b. The name of God was considered so holy, that it was not even mentioned and written only in consonants, therefore we do not know how it is pronounced, this was man's doing, God never commanded it, in fact He wanted them to know it and swear by it.

5. The description and pattern of the entire tabernacle is given to us in detail. Ex. 25-40
- a. All spoke of Christ in shadows and types who would one day inhabit a body and dwell with His people.
  - b. The wood spoke of his humanity, gold his deity, silver prefigured redemption, brass spoke of judgment.
  - c. The two rooms and the veil between each meant that the way had not been made yet for man.
  - d. The entire sacrificial offering service spoke of Christ.
    - 1) The burnt offering spoke of dedication and consecration.
    - 2) The meat offering spoke of service.
    - 3) The peace offering spoke of fellowship.
    - 4) The sin offering spoke offense through weakness.
    - 5) The trespass offering spoke of willful sin.
  - e. The entire location of the ark and the people spoke of God's desire to be the heartbeat of the nation.

**B.** The concern of David was that it would be the expression of his worship. vs. 3-5

1. They put the ark on a new cart. vs. 3

- a. This was after the manner of the Philistines, not God's way.
    - 1) The time had been so long they became indifferent.
    - 2) They did not think to inquire of the priest, at the beginning.
  - b. They brought it out of the house of Abinadab.
    - 1) In it was the two table of stone, written with the finger of God, to govern man's life and practice.
    - 2) In it was the rod of Aaron, the authority to approach God and mediate between God and man.
    - 3) In it was the pot of manna, the provisions of God to feed His people, miraculously.
  - c. The two men driving the cart, Uzzah and Ahio, were the sons of Abinadab.
    - 1) There is no evidence they were Levites, they had no business to be involved.
    - 2) Their sincerity and goodness, did not justify their disobedience to the word of God.
    - 3) The intrusion into the priestly order would have consequences.
2. They accompanied the ark in a procession. vs. 4
    - a. They all accompanied the ark from the house of Abinadab on the hill.

- b. Ahio went before the ark.
- 3. They celebrated the event with all manner of instruments before the Lord, David and the house of Israel. vs. 5
  - a. Instruments of fir wood, on harps, stringed instruments, tambourines, instruments and cymbals.
  - b. Many of the Psalms have inscriptions for instruments. Ps. 150
    - 1) David desired to worship before the Lord.
    - 2) David desired to bringing back worship and rejoicing to the united kingdom, as God's fulfillment of the monarchy.
      - \* Oh, that God would place a burning desire and concern to worship, not just singing.

### **Illustration**

When Queen Victoria had just ascended her throne she went, as is the custom of Royalty, to hear "The Messiah" rendered. She had been instructed as to her conduct by those who knew, and was told that she must not rise when the others stood at the singing of the Hallelujah Chorus. When that magnificent chorus was being sung and the singers were shouting "Hallelujah! for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth." she sat with great difficulty.

It seemed as if she would rise up in spite of the custom of kings and queens, but finally when they came to that part of the chorus where with a shout they proclaim Him King of Kings suddenly the young queen rose and stood with bowed head, as if she would take her own crown from off her head and cast it at His feet. #7587

### **Application**

1. The Old Testament gives witness that the believer is to worship God.
  - a. "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord". Ps. 150:6
  - b. The word "Halal", means to acclaim, to boast, to glory in and there are a group of Psalms called Hallel Psalms, to express a deep satisfaction in exaltation of the acts and qualities of one being praised. Ps. 113-118
  - c. Solomon worshipped in the temple and the glory filled it and all ran out. 2Chron. 5:11-14
2. The New Testament also give the witness of the believer's worship of God.
  - a. "Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Eph. 5:19-20
  - b. "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing

one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” Col. 3:16

- c. “You are worthy, O Lord to receive glory and honor and power: for you created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created.” Rev. 4:11

*David’s concern for God was out of a sincere heart of worship!*

## **II. David’s carelessness towards God. vs. 6-11**

- A. The Lord became angry. vs. 6-7  
\* 1Chron. 13:9-14
1. The cart came to Nachon’s threshing floor and Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and held it for the oxen stumbled. vs. 6
    - a. The ark of God was holy.
    - b. The ark represented the testimony and at times the presence of God.
  2. The anger of the Lord was aroused against Uzzah and God struck him there for his error and he died there by the ark vs. 7
    - a. The record is clear Uzzah was at fault, for the word error means irreverence, he ignored good common-sense godly fear about touching the ark.

- b. The priest were the only ones to touch the Ark in their service and the other division of the Levites prior to transporting all the furnishings..

- B. The man David became angry. vs. 8
1. He became angry against the Lord because of Uzzah's death. vs. 8a
    - a. David carelessly thought God should honor his heart, ignoring Scripture.
    - b. David was in a greater sin, being angry with God.
  2. He called the place, Perez Uzzah, “breach of Uzza”, to this day, the outburst against Uzzah. vs. 8b
    - a. A type of memorial to him.
    - b. A reminder to all at the event.
- C. The man David became afraid of the Lord that day. vs. 9-11
1. David was afraid of the LORD that day. vs. 9a
    - a. Notice David first became angry, for the LORD striking Uzzah, because he was doing what he thought was good and right. vs. 8
    - b. Then David was afraid of the LORD, probably as he reflected on his presumptuous to ignore the proper way a transporting the ark.

2. David then we are told, questioned himself, How the ark might come to him? vs. 9  
\* David knew something was wrong!
  3. David would not move the Ark to the city of David but put the Ark aside in the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite. vs. 10  
\* Obed-Edom was a Levite. 1Chron. 15:18, 21, 24, 16:38, 26:4-8, 15
  4. The house of Obed-Edom was blessed for three months, as the Ark remained. vs. 11
- D.** The reason for the outbreak against Uzzah.
1. There was a manner by which God had prescribed for the ark to be transported and it was not on a new cart after the manner of the Philistines. 1Sam. 6.
    - a After Aaron's sons covered all the furnishings then the Kohathites were to bear the ark on their shoulders. Ex. 25:14-15, Num. 4:15
    - b. Kohathites were the only ones that did not receive wagons or oxen for this reason. Num. 7:9, 1Chron. 20:4
    - c The Ark had rings on the ends and poles were to be inserted. Ex. 25:14-15  
\* David told Zadok and Abiathar, "For because you did it the first time, the Lord our God broke out against us, because we did not

- consult Him about the proper order." 1Chron. 15:13
2. There were clear warning to anyone who touched the ark at the penalty of death.
    - a. God had struck the Philistines with plagues. 1Sam. 5-6
    - b. God had struck the men of Beth Shemesh for looking into the Ark. 1Sam. 6:19
    - c. God had struck Uzzah.  
\* This was David's mistake in being careless about the things of God, though sincere but wrong!

### **Illustration**

The good old country sheriff who pulled over the young man for running a stop sign. Then the young man said, "Slow down, stop, what is the difference?", the sheriff asked him to get out of the car and proceeded to beat the young man on the head with his baton repeatedly, and asked, "Do you want me to slow down or stop?"

\* Martin Luther claimed that, "To know God is to worship Him and that worship is not an optional extra for the godly person but an essential symptom or expression of that knowledge"

### **Application**

1. How quick it is that the ways of the world cleaves to us, though the duration of time may be long, they will quickly revive when yielded to but

how quick the things of God are forgotten. Rom. 12:1-2

\* Example songs in the world

**2.** I must make every endeavor to seek God for my life to worship and serve Him properly. Acts 17:11

**a.** All that we do for God must not only be from the heart but guided by His Word, for He has honored His word above His name. Ps. 138:2

**1)** You may say, well that is not right of God, he was only trying to keep the ark from falling out!

**2)** Uzzah was an Israelite he should have known the law.

**b.** Our worship is to be in Spirit and in truth, according to Jesus. Jn. 4:24

**1)** The Holy Spirit is the illuminator of the word, that we might understand and be wise.

**2)** The word, is the standard of God for man.

**3.** God is not interested in service that is not in full obedience to God.

**a.** Samuel told Saul, “Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to harken than the fat of rams”. 1Sam. 15:22

**b.** Nadab and Abiu were killed by God for offering strange fire at the first sacrifice, having drank some wine. Lev. 10:1-2

**c.** Ananias and Saphira were struck dead because they pretended to give all, offending God in their worship. Acts 5

**d.** Our worship should never be built on experience and emotions alone, for God is a God of decency or order, not confusion but peace. 1Cor. 14:33

\* No matter how legitimate your experience is, if it is not based on Scripture, it is invalid!

*David’s carelessness towards God was costly, being done in a wrong manner!*

### III. David’s contrition to God. vs. 12-23

**A.** The contrition of David brought gladness to his heart. vs. 12

\* 1Chron. 15:25-16:3

**1.** David first sought to restore his fellowship with God by implication.

**a.** The offense of the ark, needed to be confessed.

**b.** The acknowledgment and forgiveness restored fellowship with God.

**c.** The second procession would honor the LORD and bless the people.

**2.** David then, sought the manner of transporting the Ark. 1Chron. 15:3-24

**a.** The Kohathites, Merarites, and Gershonites. 1Chron. 15:3-10

**b.** The Prest Zadok and Abiathar. 1Chron. 15:11-15

- c. He sought the leaders of the Levites, the sons of Asaph, appointing singers, instruments of music, string instruments, harps, and cymbals by raising voice and resounding joy. 1Chron. 15:16-24
- 3. David knew God had promised to appoint a place for the ark.
  - a. “But when you cross over the Jordan and dwell in the land which the LORD your God is giving you to inherit, and He gives you rest from all your enemies round about, so that you dwell in safety, then there will be the place where the LORD your God chooses to make His name abide. There you shall bring all that I command you: your burnt offerings, your sacrifices, your tithes, the heave offerings of your hand, and all your choice offerings which you vow to the LORD.” Deut. 12:10-11
  - b. David has just made Jerusalem the capital of the nation. 2Sam. 5:6-9
  - c. God will promise David that his son Solomon would sit on the throne and that through his line, the Messiah would come, it would be an eternal kingdom. 2Sam. 7:12-17
  - d. Solomon at the dedication of the temple, confirmed God choosing

Jerusalem and the temple for His worship. 1Kings 8

- B. The contrition of David resulted in acceptable worship. vs. 13-15
  - 1. David offered sacrifice every six paces. vs. 13
    - a. Animal sacrifices were the way to approach God, though there were other non-blood offerings.
    - b. The life of the flesh was in the blood and God had given it on the altar to make an atonement for their souls. Lev. 17:11
    - c. The offerings were an expression of worship.
  - 2. David danced before the Lord with all his might with a linen ephod. vs. 14
    - a. David also had on the royal robe under the ephod. 1Chron. 15:27
    - b. This was an expression of David’s love and devotion to God.
    - c. Some try to make a case for dancing in the same way today, in the church, but we have no New Testament example nor teaching that would allow it.
    - d. Take note that David “dance before the Lord with all his might”, not in the “Spirit”.



- 1) Now I think that if you felt like dancing before the Lord to express your love and devotion, God would not mind.
  - 2) But it would probably fit best in the privacy of your own personal worship when you are all alone.
  - 3) This way you are not calling attention to yourself and God, alone would know your heart.
  - 4) You see there are many things people want to do in public worship, they would never do in private, wanting to be seen!
3. David caused the people of God to rejoice with shouting and the sound of the trumpet. vs. 15
    - a. This was a national event.
    - b. This involved all the leaders.
    - c. This involved all priests.
    - d. This involved the setting up of the ark, the symbol of the physical dwelling of God, among His people.
  4. The fuller account of the correct way of transporting the ark is recorded in First Chronicles, due to it being the priestly version. 1Chron. 15:3-16:43
    - a. David gathered the sons of Kohath, Merari and Gershon to carry the ark of God. 1Chron. 15:1-10

- b. David then spoke to the priests, Zadok and Abiathar and the Levites to carry the ark Biblical. 1Chron. 15:11-15
  - c. David then spoke to the leader of the Levites to appoint and instruct singers, instrument of music, string instruments, harps, and cymbals, by raising the voice with resounding joy, in bringing out the ark from the house of Obed-Edom. 1Chron. 15:16-24
  - d. They did so with shouts of joy, singing and instruments. 1Chon. 15:25-28
  - e. David and the ark arrived at Jerusalem, celebrating with all the people, imparting a ration of food. 1Chron. 16:1-3
  - f. David then appointed Levites to care for the ark, at the arrival at Jerusalem. 1Chron. 16:4-6
  - g. David gave a Psalm to Asaph on that day, to thank the Lord. 1Chron. 16:7-36
  - h. David appointed Levites to care for the ark continually, after the people's departure. 1Chron. 16:37-43
- C. The contrition of David was despised and a source of blessing. vs. 16-19

1. David's wife despised him as she saw him through a window leaping and whirling before the LORD. vs. 16
  - a. The last time Michal saw David, when he fled from Saul, was as Michal saw David escape out the window. 1Sam. 19:12
    - \* There is nothing to make us think, David attempted to see her again.
      - 1) The death of her father, Saul, and her three brothers, probably did not help their marriage.
      - 2) The husband that loved her, Paltiel, was torn from her, at David's request. Her return united the kingdom. 2Sam. 3:13-17
  - b. Michal despising David in her heart, is confirmed in Chronicles. 1Chron. 15:29
    - 1) The relationship had deteriorated completely.
    - 2) The marriage was a convenience for the kingdom.
2. David set the ark to rest at the place he had made and worshipped in sacrifice. vs. 17
  - a. Burnt offerings were for dedication and consecration to the Lord.
  - b. Peace offerings were for fellowship with the Lord.

- \* When Solomon will bring the ark, he will bring it from Gibeon. 1Kings 8:1
3. David blessed the people and distributed food to every person. vs. 18-19
    - a. A loaf of bread.
    - b. A piece of meat.
    - c. A cake of raisin.
      - \* Remember David had also done this at Ziklag with the spoils.
    - d. They all departed to their own house.
      - 1) The First Commandment, Love Your God with all your...
      - 2) The Second Commandment, Love Your neighbor as yourself...
      - \* The second is the result of the first.
- D.** The contrition of David was denigrated by Michal. vs. 20-23
1. David having finished with the Lord and the people went home. vs. 20
    - a. David returned home to bless his house only to be mocked by Michal. vs. 20a-c
      - 1) Michal came out to meet David. vs. 20a
        - \* She is identified as, "the daughter of Saul", not the wife of David, the marriage was just by name.

- 2) Michal said sarcastically, “How glorious was the king of Israel today. vs. 20b-c  
\* The tone was without doubt condescending!
- b. Michal then insulted David for dancing with the linen Ephod. vs. 20d-e
- 1) Michal said his public display was indiscrete, mingling with the common people, “uncovering himself today in the eyes of the maids of his servants.” vs. 20d
- 2) Michal said his public display was indecent exposure and vulgar, “as one of the base fellows shamelessly uncovers himself!” vs. 20e
2. David reprimanded Michal for her hostile words, regarding the celebration of the Lord. vs. 21
- a. He told Michal, “It was before the LORD.” vs. 21a-b
- b. He reminded Michal, “who (God) chose me instead of your father and all his house, to appoint me ruler over the people of the LORD, over Israel.” vs. 21c-e
- c. He concluded by telling Michal, “Therefore I will play music before the LORD.” vs. 21f

3. David rejects Michal for her bitterness towards him. vs. 22-23
- a. David told Michal he was not honoring himself and would be honored by others. vs. 22
- 1) He would abase himself more, for the Lord, “And I will be even more undignified than this, and will be humble in my own sight.” vs. 22a-b
- 2) He was content with the honor of others, “But as for the maidservants of whom you have spoken, by them I will be held in honor.” vs. 22c-d
- b. David had no sexual relations with Michal. vs. 23
- 1) Again she is called “the daughter of Saul, not the wife of David.
- 2) Therefore Michal had no children to the day of her death.
- a) There would be no chance that there would be a descendent of Saul, in line to the throne!
- b) Being childless was thought of having disfavor with God.

### **Illustration**

No greater picture of contrition do we have in Scripture than that of Nineveh as God spared it, despite Jonah’s desire to see them destroyed.

### Application

1. The most important thing to do when we are not right with God, due to sin is to repent.
  - a. The thing to do when God does not honor my service and judgment is evident, we must repent. Ps. 66:18, Is. 59:1
  - b. If you confess your sin...1Jn. 1:9
  - c. My little children, I write...1Jn. 2:1
2. Restored fellowship with God, always results in peace and joy, which is our strength. Neh. 8:10
  - a. Through repentance our fellowship is restored and our worship is the expression of praise to God, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. Heb. 13:15
    - 1) Many Psalms were written for cornet, cymbals, harp, organ, timbrel and trumpet. Ps. 4, 9, 11, 12, 22, 42, 45, 53, 60, 61, 62, 81
    - 2) Remember, before Lucifer's fall, he was the quire director in heaven. Ezk. 28:13
3. The worship of the believer consists of praise, prayer, adoration and thanksgiving to God in acknowledgment of His worth, with lifting hands, prostration of body and song.
  - a. Declaring our devotion to Him.
  - b. Declaring our dependency on Him.
  - c. Declaring our delight in Him.
    - \* The angels, elders and every creature in heaven and earth cry out, "You are worthy Lord to receive glory, honor and power." Rev. 4:11-13

4. The attitude of Michal represents those individuals who would desire to despise you for your devotion to God.
  - a. Your fervent passion towards God.
  - b. Your liberty in God.
  - c. Your joy in God.
  - d. Your marriage relationship is of the greatest importance for God to hear you. Eph. 5:18-33, 1Pet. 1-7
    - 1) Be kind and forgiving to one another, not keep accounts.
    - 2) Be filled with the Spirit, continuously. Eph. 5:18
  - e. Is God your treasure?
    - 1) Do you desire that Jesus be the center of your Life?
    - 2) Do not be careless, seek Jesus daily, through prayer and the word!
    - 3) And if you have left that joy and sense of fellowship of the Spirit, repent!

*David's contrition to God, resulted in joyful fellowship with God!*

### Conclusion

David's act of seeking out the ark of God reveals David's treasure, marked by:

- I. David's concern for God, that was out of a sincere heart!

- II.** David's carelessness towards God, that was costly, being done in a wrong manner!
- III.** David's contrition to God, that resulted in joyful fellowship with God!