

David

Part 15

2 Samuel 6

1 David again brought together all the able young men of Israel—thirty thousand. **2** He and all his men went to Baalah in Judah to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the Name, the name of the Lord Almighty, who is enthroned between the cherubim on the ark.

About the Ark of the Covenant:

- This is the ark that God commanded Moses to make more than 400 years before David's time. It was a wooden box. It was completely covered with gold with an ornate gold top known as the mercy seat.
- The **ark of God** was 3 feet 9 inches long, 2 feet 3 inches wide and 2 feet 3 inches high. In it were the tablets of the law that Moses brought down from Mount Sinai, a jar of manna as a reminder of God's miraculous provision in the wilderness, and Aaron's rod that budded as a confirmation of his leadership.
- The **ark of God** represented the immediate presence and glory of God. David considered it a high priority to bring the ark out of obscurity and back into prominence. David wanted the presence of God at the place of leadership for the nation, knowing that with the presence of God comes the protection and blessing of God.
- The last mention of the **ark of God** was when it came back from the land of the Philistines in 1 Samuel 7:1. It has been placed at the house of Abinadab for 20 years. Abinadab lived in Baalah of Judah which was only about 7 to 9 miles from Jerusalem.

Vs. 3-8

3 They set the ark of God on a new cart and brought it from the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, sons of Abinadab,

were guiding the new cart **4** with the ark of God on it, and Ahio was walking in front of it. **5** David and all Israel were celebrating with all their might before the Lord, with castanets, harps, lyres, timbrels, sistrums and cymbals.

6 When they came to the threshing floor of Nakon, Uzzah reached out and took hold of the ark of God, because the oxen stumbled. **7** The Lord's anger burned against Uzzah because of his irreverent act; therefore God struck him down, and he died there beside the ark of God.

8 Then David was angry because the Lord's wrath had broken out against Uzzah, and to this day that place is called Perez Uzzah.

Vs 3

They set the ark of God on a new cart and brought it from the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill.

- Doesn't that sound nice. A new cart.
- I'm sure someone worked real hard to make that new cart.
- I bet David paid full price for that brand new Ark cart to have it specially made to carry the Ark of the Covenant.

I like new things... Every hot summer day I say, Lord I think you for A/C... Imagine what summers where like in the late 1800's.

I like new cars... They start easy and drive so easy... They can take you across the country no problem...

I like new technology... There was a day when we didn't even have flip phones and if you needed to make a phone call you had to go home and call from the house phone.

There are so many wonderful things in the world that are new. But when it comes to the Sacred things of God. They are timeless; God

still requires that we handle what is sacred different from the ways of this world.

- David brought a new cart to carry the Ark... I'm sure it made total sense in their minds and would have been so much more convenient...
- The only problem is the Ark of the Covenant was never meant to be carried on a Cart...
- The Ark of the Covenant had to be carried the old fashioned way, on the shoulders of the priests...

There is an old Philips, Craig and Dean song on my prayer playlist called **"Where it's always been"**

The Chorus goes like this:

The power is still where it's always been

His Word is alive

Jesus still lives

The power of his Blood hasn't lessened or dimmed

It's where it's always been. It's where it's always been

Much like the Ark had to be handled in the way God originally intended, the power of God and what it means to follow Jesus hasn't changed either...

As we continue to see the world progress around us, it's easy to see how people might be tempted to modify what it means to follow Jesus. They forget that Jesus said if any man would to come after me, he must take up his cross, deny himself and follow me.

- Christianity without the Cross is not Christianity at all...

- Christianity without Sacrifice is a not Christianity at all...
- Christianity without Holiness is not Christianity at all...
- Christianity without the Word of God is not Christianity at all...
- Christianity without Lordship and Surrender to Jesus is not Christianity at all...

Beware of any new form of Christianity that removes the Words of Jesus from our Christian Faith. We live in a day where people want the blessing, without the cost of following Jesus. Not everyone understands what it means to follow Him.

If we remove these basic things from our Christian faith it becomes false, misguided, powerless, and in error...

The power comes when we go back to God's way.

Vs. 6,7

6 When they came to the threshing floor of Nakhon, Uzzah reached out and took hold of the ark of God, because the oxen stumbled. **7** The Lord's anger burned against Uzzah because of his irreverent act; therefore God struck him down, and he died there beside the ark of God.

- What Uzzah did was strictly forbidden. Regarding the transporting of the ark **Numbers 4:15** says, "they shall not touch any holy thing, lest they die."

Uzzah made a decision in a moment to disregard God's command and to do what seemed right to him. Even decisions made in a moment matter before God. (Guzik)

- When the Oxen stumbled there is no doubt Uzzah had good intentions...

- This is a good reminder that when it comes to what is sacred, good intentions are not enough, we must have understanding.

What are some things we can quickly say are still Sacred?

1. **Communion** (1 Cor. 11)
2. **Marriage** (Sanctity of Marriage)
3. **The Holy Spirit** (Acts 5 - Ananias and Sapphira)
4. **God's House and His Church** 1 Cor 3:16,17 - Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst? 17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.
5. **The Word of God**

Vs. 9-15

9 David was afraid of the Lord that day and said, "How can the ark of the Lord ever come to me?" **10** He was not willing to take the ark of the Lord to be with him in the City of David. Instead, he took it to the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite. **11** The ark of the Lord remained in the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite for three months, and the Lord blessed him and his entire household.

12 Now King David was told, "The Lord has blessed the household of Obed-Edom and everything he has, because of the ark of God."

Interesting Fact: David taking the Ark to the home of Obed-Edom was in fulfillment of God's word. *"Obed-Edom was a Levite of the family of Kohath (1 Chronicles 26:4). This was the family within the tribe of Levi that God commanded to carry and take care of the ark (Numbers 4:15).*

When God's word was obeyed, and His holiness was respected, blessing followed. God wanted the ark to be a blessing for Israel, not a

curse. We might say that the curse didn't come from God's heart but from man's disobedience." **(Guzik)**

Vs. 11 The ark of the Lord remained in the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite for three months, and the Lord blessed him and his entire household.

- Surely this is the report David needed to hear...
- David must have wondered and this was the confirmation he needed...
- God is good and he blesses those who welcome his presence...
- This must have caused David to search the scriptures to find out what he did something wrong to provoke the Lord's anger...
- The book of 1 Chronicles tells us David found God's prescribed way to handle the Ark

1 Chronicles 15

11 Then David summoned Zadok and Abiathar the priests... **12** He said to them, "You are the heads of the Levitical families; you and your fellow Levites are to consecrate yourselves and bring up the ark of the Lord, the God of Israel, to the place I have prepared for it. **13** It was because you, the Levites, did not bring it up the first time that the Lord our God broke out in anger against us. We did not inquire of him about how to do it in the prescribed way."

Vs. 12b-

12b So David went to bring up the ark of God from the house of Obed-Edom to the City of David with rejoicing. **13** When those who were carrying the ark of the Lord had taken six steps, he sacrificed a bull and a fattened calf. **14** Wearing a linen ephod, David was dancing before the Lord with all his might, **15** while he and all Israel were bringing up the ark of the Lord with shouts and the sound of trumpets.

- This was progress and progress feels so good... Perhaps the reason David danced before the Lord was because this heavy burden was finally lifted off his heart... David follows God's prescription and he finds out that it works... Now they are not just beholding but moving in the presence of God like never before...
- Maybe that is what is needed today... When we begin walking in God's Presence, our worship goes to the next level and our hearts are filled with enthusiasm and excitement...
- David so desires the presence of God and the Ark of God over the nation that out of pure reverence and passion he offers sacrifices every six steps.
- You won't find this anywhere else in the Bible when the Ark is moved. But it shows that for these priests and for King David the path for the Glory and Presence of God was paved with blood.
- I believe in many ways this is true for us. If it weren't for the blood of Jesus every step of the way, the Presence and Glory of God wouldn't be possible for us either.

Vs. 16-23

16 As the ark of the Lord was entering the City of David, Michal daughter of Saul watched from a window. And when she saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord, she despised him in her heart.

17 They brought the ark of the Lord and set it in its place inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and David sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings before the Lord. **18** After he had finished sacrificing the burnt offerings and fellowship offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord Almighty. **19** Then he gave a loaf of

bread, a cake of dates and a cake of raisins to each person in the whole crowd of Israelites, both men and women. And all the people went to their homes.

20 When David returned home to bless his household, Michal daughter of Saul came out to meet him and said, “How the king of Israel has distinguished himself today, going around half-naked in full view of the slave girls of his servants as any vulgar fellow would!”

21 David said to Michal, “It was before the Lord, who chose me rather than your father or anyone from his house when he appointed me ruler over the Lord’s people Israel—I will celebrate before the Lord. **22** I will become even more undignified than this, and I will be humiliated in my own eyes. But by these slave girls you spoke of, I will be held in honor.”

23 And Michal daughter of Saul had no children to the day of her death.

In **Vs. 16** it says: And when Michal saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord, she despised him in her heart.

- Here’s a good question for anyone looking to get married: How well do you worship God together?
- One of the things I’m so thankful for with Audra is that we met in a place of us both going after God.
- Before we walked down the Isle, we worshiped God together in the Altar...
- Maybe that should be on every young person’s check list in considering a Husband or Wife.

Couples who Worship God together stay together...

It says in

Vs. 14 NKJV “David danced before the Lord with all his might”

- David didn’t hold back anything in his own expression of worship. He didn’t dance out of obligation but out of heartfelt worship.

When ridiculed and belittled by Michal;

Vs. 21 David said to Michal, “It was before the Lord, who chose me rather than your father or anyone from his house when he appointed me ruler over the Lord’s people Israel—I will celebrate before the Lord.”

- David makes his intentions clear, It was before the Lord and him only that he worshiped the way he did. It wasn’t with any intention of being a spectacle for anyone else. While still slipping in a reminder that He was chosen over Saul and his household.
- This is a reminder to every Christian; your Worship to God should always be with the same heart. It’s not about being seen, it’s not about being heard by others. It’s certainly not to be a distraction to other people worshipping. It should always be with a pure heart to God alone.

Vs 23 And Michal daughter of Saul had no children to the day of her death.

- Perhaps the womb of Michal was closed because of her critical spirit towards David’s worship.
- It may be that David never had marital relations with her again.
- This could also be a result of God’s hand against Saul that his family line has come to an end.

- Nevertheless, the principle stands: there is often barrenness in the life and ministry of the overly critical.

Closing:

- Lord teach us, as you did David, to honor your word and to walk in the Fear of the Lord when it comes to what is Sacred and Holy.
- As the Ark was in the home of Obed-Edom; God your presence brings the blessing on every part of our life...
- Even as the priests carried the Ark of the Covenant. Lord Help us to learn what it means to walk in your presence.
- Even as David experienced a personal spiritual victory and Worshipped God with all his heart. May Revival break out in our church and in our hearts because of Spiritual Victories won. Lord put a fire in us even if those around us don't understand...