

1 Chronicles 13:12 – King David – Attempts to Move the Ark of God to Jerusalem”

1/5/19 Sat Morn Prayer – P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com

Holy, Holy, Holy- London Orchestra Festival

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity. AMEN!

1 Chronicles 13 – David’s First Attempt to Bring the Ark to Jerusalem! – Right Idea; Wrong Method!

For the past seven and a half years, David has been reigning as the king of Judah. Saul’s son, Ishbosheth has been reigning over the northern tribes of Israel. Now Ishbosheth has died, and the various elements of the armies of the northern tribes “came to Hebron with a loyal heart, to make David king over all Israel; and all the rest of Israel were of one mind to make David king”. David will conquer and move the capital of Israel to Jerusalem. Admirably we see here his desire to have God as the center of the nation. He will attempt to bring the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem. During the period of the judges (1 Samuel 6), the ark had been captured in war by the Philistines. Because it had caused them no end of trouble, they placed it on a new cart and sent it back to Israel. From that time to this, the ark had remained in the house of Abinadab at Kirjath-Jearim. Now David makes an attempt to bring the ark to Jerusalem. God took note of this because it pleased Him that David was putting an emphasis on spiritual matters. However, David starts off improperly seeking man’s wisdom and not God’s, using worldly methods! The right idea! The wrong method!

The Ark Brought from Kirjath-Jearim

1Ch 13:1 Then David consulted with the captains of thousands and hundreds, and with every leader.

1Ch 13:2 And David said to all the assembly of Israel, "If it seems good to you, and if it is of the LORD our God, let us send out to our brethren everywhere who are left in all the land of Israel, and with them to the priests and Levites who are in their cities and their common-lands, that they may gather together to us;

1Ch 13:3 and let us bring the ark of our God back to us, for we have not inquired at it since the days of Saul."

1Ch 13:4 Then all the assembly said that they would do so, for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people.

Uzzah and the Ark

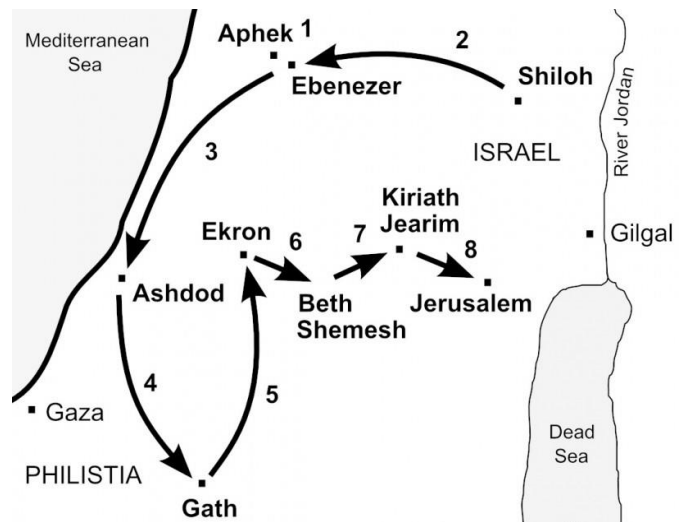
1Ch 13:5 So David gathered all Israel together, from Shihor in Egypt to as far as the entrance of Hamath, to bring the ark of God from Kirjath Jearim.

1Ch 13:6 And David and all Israel went up to Baalah, to Kirjath Jearim, which belonged to Judah, to bring up from there the ark of God the LORD, who dwells between the cherubim, where His name is proclaimed.

1Ch 13:7 So they carried the ark of God on a new cart from the house of Abinadab, and Uzza (Strength) and (Friendly) drove the cart.

1Ch 13:8 Then David and all Israel played music before God with all their might, with singing, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on cymbals, and with trumpets.

1Ch 13:9 And when they came to Chidon's threshing floor, Uzza put out his hand to hold the ark, for the oxen stumbled.



1Ch 13:10 Then the anger of the LORD was aroused against Uzza, and He struck him because he put his hand to the ark; and he died there before God.

1Ch 13:11 And David became angry because of the LORD's outbreak against Uzza; therefore that place is called Perez Uzza to this day.

1Ch 13:12 David was afraid of God that day, saying, "How can I bring the ark of God to me?"

1Ch 13:13 So David would not move the ark with him into the City of David, but took it aside into the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite.

1Ch 13:14 The ark of God remained with the family of Obed-Edom in his house three months. And the LORD blessed the house of Obed-Edom and all that he had.

SUMMARY:

- We have a **great example of desiring to serve and please God, but have not really seeking Him** in the carrying out the vision, but have brought in too much of the world. **Good idea! Wrong method!**
- David consulted with the captains and leaders of Israel. **They were all in agreement** in bringing the Ark of the Covenant up from Kirjath Jearim to Jerusalem. **What did God think?**
- They chose the Philistines method used in returning the Ark, that of a new cart to carry the Ark to Jerusalem, which was totally **ignoring God's procedure given to Moses** for them in His Word, which was **always using two poles to be carried** by Levites – a picture of His using us to carry out His word, empowered by the Holy Spirit!
- A new cart – consisting of big wheels and boards! When a **ministry is centered on big wheels and boards, instead of the Holy Spirit, it will not please God or be greatly used by Him.** Things will move forward only by spiritual methods.
- We are often tempted to **judge a worship experience by how it makes us feel.** Notice here a big musical production was planned! – 30,000 people, *singing, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on cymbals, and with trumpets.* There is **not even a mention of humiliation of heart, or of solemn awe in the presence of God.**
- **God wants to participate!** Any aspect of a worship experience that is **not in accordance with God's word, will cause God to be excluded rather** than included! The **Lord must to be the center of each worship event,** rather than man's focus on experience and **seeing what he can get** out of it.
- **Uzza, a Levite who should have known better, was struck dead by God for his disobedience when he reached out to steady the Ark** when an ox stumbled at Chidon's threshing floor,.
- **End of parade!** David was angry and confused! Then he became afraid of God that day: He did not need to be afraid of God, but afraid of his own sin. There was no problem with God or with the ark itself. The **problem was with the lack of knowledge and obedience on the part of David and those who helped him plan the move of the ark into Jerusalem.**
- **God is interested in the process as well as in the outcome.** It was the wrong attitude, "As long as we get the ark to Jerusalem, it doesn't matter how we do it." *How* they did it really did matter, and how we do things today in serving God also matters.
- It was a **great emotional experience, much more than a spiritual experience.** An emotional event will not provide a moving, close encounter with God, causing Him to bring His judgment on it!
- **What is our primary desire and motive in every worship experience? Pleasing ourselves? Pleasing and including God?**

JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE – Billy Graham Choir

*Refrain: Just a closer walk with Thee, Grant it, Jesus, if You please,
Daily walking close to Thee, Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

*I am weak, but Thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong; I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee. (Refrain) Just a closer walk with Thee.*

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