

Davis Dances Before the Ark

September 12th 2021

Precepts

Opening Question

Even among Christians, selfishness can lead to conflict and disunity. When we focus on God instead of self we can worship in peace. How do you focus on God?

2 SAMUEL 6:1-2 (NLT)

1 Then David again gathered all the elite troops in Israel, 30,000 in all.

2 He led them to Baalah of Judah to bring back the Ark of God, which bears the name of the LORD of Heaven's Armies, who is enthroned between the cherubim.

2 SAMUEL 6:3-5 (NLT)

3 They placed the Ark of God on a new cart and brought it from Abinadab's house, which was on a hill. Uzzah and Ahio, Abinadab's sons, were guiding the cart

4 that carried the Ark of God. Ahio walked in front of the Ark.

5 David and all the people of Israel were celebrating before the LORD, singing songs and playing all kinds of musical instruments—lyres, harps, tambourines, castanets, and cymbals.

2 SAMUEL
6:14-16 (NLT)

14 And David danced before the LORD with all his might, wearing a priestly garment.

15 So David and all the people of Israel brought up the Ark of the LORD with shouts of joy and the blowing of rams' horns.

16 But as the Ark of the LORD entered the City of David, Michal, the daughter of Saul, looked down from her window. When she saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD, she was filled with contempt for him.

2 SAMUEL 6:17-19
(NLT)

17 They brought the Ark of the LORD and set it in its place inside the special tent David had prepared for it. And David sacrificed burnt offerings and peace offerings to the LORD.

18 When he had finished his sacrifices, David blessed the people in the name of the LORD of Heaven's Armies.

19 Then he gave to every Israelite man and woman in the crowd a loaf of bread, a cake of dates, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people returned to their homes.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. David made both attempts to move the Ark with great praise and celebration. Israel's acts of worship showed great reverence for the ark, which was among the holiest things in the Tabernacle. In a culture that does not value God, how can we maintain reverence and awe for the Lord?
2. Michal had contempt for David based on his demonstrative worship. The church can be a setting in which people from different generations, cultural backgrounds, and socioeconomic status are worshiping together. How can we respect everyone's freedom to worship?

APPLICATION FOR ACTIVATION

- David was intentional about bringing the symbol of God's presence to Jerusalem. Likewise, we must be intentional about cultivating God's presence in our own lives. Do you have a plan for your spiritual growth? Do you have times devoted to prayer, study, and personal worship each week? Are there certain times of the year when you fast or spend an extended period of time alone with God?
- When moving the ark, David had the support of Israel. In addition to 30,000 warriors, a large company of Israelites went with him to retrieve the ark. They sang, danced, and offered sacrifices. The church exists as a community to encourage and equip. As a body, let us support one another as we pursue the things of God and create an atmosphere of sincere worship.