

**BOOK OF 2 SAMUEL**  
**THE DANGER IN NOT DOING THINGS GOD'S WAY**  
**2 SAMUEL 6:1-11**

**Introduction**

In our text this evening we see that the next great step that took place when David became king was **the establishing of Jerusalem as the center for Israel's worship.**

When the Israelites were at Mt. Sinai after having fled Egypt, the LORD gave them instructions through Moses to build the Tabernacle whose central piece of furniture was the Ark of the Covenant.

This was an oblong box made of acacia wood with the top of it covered with gold and known as the mercy seat. It was shadowed by two golden cherubim. Inside of the Ark were placed the tables of the law from God as well as Aaron's rod that budded.

The ark itself signified the very presence of the LORD who had said, *Exodus 25:22 "And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat,"*

In **Exodus 25** we find the LORD's instructions to Moses of how to build and care for the Ark of God. It was the first piece to be designed and it was the only piece of furniture from the tabernacle that would be used in the Holy of Holies!

That earthly mercy seat was the symbol of the heavenly mercy seat! It represented and exhibited, the very essence of the presence of the LORD!

But remember how the Israelites had treated the Ark as a good luck charm? That was back in the days of Eli the priest and early in Samuel's ministry as the prophet of God. **1 Samuel 4:3**

Well, it wasn't a good luck charm for them. They lost the battle and in the process the Philistines captured the Ark of God and slew the two wicked sons of Eli? (Hophni and Phinehas)

**BOOK OF 2 SAMUEL**  
**THE DANGER IN NOT DOING THINGS GOD'S WAY**  
**2 SAMUEL 6:1-11**

The Philistines were plagued during the seven months that they had possession of the Ark of God. So it wasn't a good luck charm for them either. They devised a plan to get rid of the Ark. Pay attention here. **(1 Samuel 6:7ff)**

The ark left the Philistines and went into the presence of the inhabitants of Bethshemesh for a period of time until somebody got the bright idea to lift the lid and look inside. Not their brightest moment! **(1 Samuel 6:19)**

So the Bethsemeshites sent for the men of Kirjathjearim to come fetch the ark. **(1 Samuel 7:1-2)**

When we get to our text in 2 Samuel 6, the Ark had been in the house of Abinadab for almost 20 years.

**THEY NEGLECTED GOD'S PROVISION AND PRESENCE!**

Due to the neglect of Saul, **the Ark had been largely ignored and the people had become careless and ignorant about God's provision for their sin and their worship.**

They apparently had contented themselves with offering sacrifices at Gibeon, without any thought of the ark. **They had a worship that did not include the earthly manifestation of the presence of God.**

**They did not see the need of the Ark!** They ignored the purpose of the Ark, especially the "*mercy seat.*" Much like how today, many embrace an "*any way will work*" salvation.

They claimed to know God yet they ignored that which was precious to Him and what was required for their worship to be accepted!

They became ignorant of what God had said about the Ark. We see that even David was ignorant of how to deal with the Ark.

**BOOK OF 2 SAMUEL**  
**THE DANGER IN NOT DOING THINGS GOD'S WAY**  
**2 SAMUEL 6:1-11**

They had disregarded God's Truth!

In many modern churches, the disregard of the Genuine Christ is producing religious exercises without the power of Christ.

But in our text we see that **David had a desire for the Ark to be in Jerusalem, where it belonged.** David had a desire for REVIVAL in the Land. And he wanted these that followed him to know the provision and presence of the true God. So he organized:

**vs. 1-2 They sought to see the presence of God returned.**

**They Had A Unified Deployment** - 30,000 of the best of the best were coming to Abinadab's house! Some delegation! All came with one purpose. UNITY is GOOD!

**They Had An Undisputable Desire** - Bring up the Ark - their intentions were GOOD. Oh how we need to seek the presence of God in our own lives!

**vs. 3-5 They went about it in the wrong way!**

They used the same method the Philistines used! (A new cart!)  
They went with the world's way rather than God's way!

The Levites were the only ones who were supposed to move the ark, and they used the staves and did not touch the ark.

**Why is it that folks think they can improve on God's method?!**

1. David should have known better, but did not act accordingly
2. The ones with the ark were ignorant of its History.
3. They were involved without having a right understanding.

They were in religious practice, without adhering to Biblical truth!

**BOOK OF 2 SAMUEL**  
**THE DANGER IN NOT DOING THINGS GOD'S WAY**  
**2 SAMUEL 6:1-11**

They were having a GREAT TIME "worshipping"!

Truth with emotion is great! But this was emotion without truth! It was about them!

Just because someone goes through the motions of worship does not make it proper worship!

**vs.6-7 Uzzah made a fatal mistake**

1. A Casual Thinking - Uzzah had seen this ark for 20 years at the house of his father - It had become common! The HOLINESS and REVERENCE was gone. He was not conscious of God's Presence and Character!

2. A Costly Touch - Uzzah tried to help God!

Uzzah did not curse, or blaspheme or even damage the ark - In his thoughts he was trying to help - but he approached God in his own thinking.

His Error - Uzzah was a good man who thought he could do things his way. But it got him in trouble! He died by the Ark

**Vs 8-11 Because of their failure, one died, and the rest were discouraged.**

So would the ark be back in its rightful place? Would revival ever come now? Yes it would.

**Vs 12-15 (Cf 1 Chronicles 15:12-15)**