

I. Introduction.

II. David finally brings the ark to Jerusalem. v. 12-19

- A. What made David try again? v. 12a Rom. 2:4
- B. This time David carefully follows the LORD's instructions for moving the ark. v. 12b-13 I Chron. 15:11-15 Num. 4:15
- C. David leads God's people in triumphal procession. v. 14-15
 - 1. David dances for joy with all his might. v. 14a,16 Ex. 15:20-21 Ps. 149:3 150:4
 - 2. What is the significance of his wearing the linen ephod? v 14b,20 I Sa. 2:18 22:18
 - 3. The people shout and sing as various musical instruments are played. v. 15 I Chron. 15:27-28
- D. The ark is put in its place of prominence. v. 17-19
 - 1. David offers sacrifices of praise to the LORD. v. 17 I Ki. 8:62-66 3:15 I Sa. 13:9ff
 - 2. David gives thanks to God in a Psalm. I Chron. 16:8-36
 - 3. David blesses the people. v. 18 Num. 6:22ff Zech. 6:12-13
 - 4. David sends them away with food. v 19
 - 5. This is a high point in the Old Testament: The nation is united under a wise king who puts the LORD first.
 - 6. Not everyone, however, is impressed. v. 16,20-23
- E. This glorious scene portrays the coming of the LORD to reign over His people.
 - 1. The Psalms also portray the LORD Himself entering His holy city. Psalm 24
 - 2. Jesus is the King who is worthy to ascend the hill of the LORD. Ps. 24:3-4
 - 3. Jesus leads us in joyful procession into God's holy presence.
 - 4. Jesus offered the sacrifice of Himself so that we could come to God. Heb. 9:28
 - 5. Jesus entered Jerusalem triumphantly as king in His first coming, only to be rejected by the people of Israel.
 - 6. On the last day Jesus will enter the holy city to reign forever. Ps. 24:7-10
 - 7. King Jesus clothed Himself as a servant. v. 14 Phil. 2:5ff Mark 10:45 John 13:1ff
 - 8. Jesus feeds and distributes gifts to His people. v. 19 John 6:23ff Eph. 4:8

III. The LORD still seeks worshipers who desire to draw near to Him. John 4:23-24

- A. What is worship?
 - 1. Worship is the work of acknowledging the greatness of God. Ps. 95:6 96:8-9 2:11
 - 2. All people owe God worship. Ro. 1:20-21 Mt. 4:10
 - 3. We have been saved that we might worship God. I Pe. 2:5,9
 - 4. There is a sense in which all of life is worship because everything we do is devoted to God. Ro. 12:1-2 I Co. 10:31
 - 5. Corporate worship is still central and special in the life of God's people. He. 10:25 I Pe. 2:5,9 Ps. 111:1ff 96:8-9 Eph. 5:19f Phil. 4:18 Acts 2:42 20:7 I Co. 16:1ff
 - 6. Worship also has a horizontal element: we build each other up. I Co. 14:12,26
- B. We must be careful to worship appropriately – according to God's Word. Jo. 4:24
 - 1. God is still holy (and dangerous) and must be approached only in the manner in which He has revealed. Heb. 12:28-29 I Cor. 11:29f Acts 5:1ff
 - 2. Worship under the New Covenant is significantly different from Old Covenant worship. Jo. 4:21-23 Gal. 4:9-11 Co. 2:23 Heb. 9:11-14,28 10:14 I Pe. 2:5,9-10
 - 3. We are not to go back to Old Covenant worship because the types and shadows have been fulfilled in Christ. I Ti. 2:5 Heb. 8:13 13:15-16 Col. 2:23 Eph. 2:18

- C. Our worship is to be Christ-centered. I Pe. 2:5 John 4:20-21,23 5:23
1. We draw near to God through Jesus. Jo. 14:6 I Ti. 2:5 Acts 4:12 He. 10:19-22
 2. Our redemption in Christ is our focal point in worship. I Co. 11:25ff I Pe. 2:5
 3. Worship is about what God has done for us in Christ, not what we do for Him.
 4. Even churches which know and confess that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone can drift into worship which focuses upon what we do.
 5. The church has become distracted from its focus in worship. I Cor. 2:2
- D. The LORD has revealed in the New Testament the elements of worship which please Him – which is why we do what we do! Acts 2:42
1. We read God’s Word and Hear it proclaimed. II Tim. 4:1ff 3:16-17 I Tim. 4:13f Col. 4:16 Neh. 8:5-8 Luke 4:20 I Pe. 4:11 Eph. 2:17
 2. We pray (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication). II Tim. 2:1ff Acts 1:14 13:3 4:24-31 Phil. 4:6f Eph. 6:19 Ro. 15:30ff I Ti. 2:8 Rev. 5:8
 3. We sing God’s praises. v. 5,15 Eph. 5:18-20 Col. 3:15-16 Ps. 98:1 33:3 Rev. 5:9 Mt. 26:30 I Chr. 15:27-28 Luke 7:32 Pr. 25:20 I Ch. 15:22 Ps. 33:3
 4. We participate in the Lord’s Supper. I Cor. 11:23ff Acts 2:42 20:7
 5. We are not free to invent our own ways to worship the LORD.
 6. Not all worship is acceptable to God, no matter how sincere. Isa. 1:14 Jo. 4:20,22
 7. There are also circumstances of worship in which we have freedom.
 8. What is the harm of adding to or subtracting from the elements of worship proscribed in the New Testament. I Co. 4:6 Dt. 12:32 Mt. 15:3
- E. Worship the LORD with great joy. v. 12b,14-15
1. There are two kinds of danger when it comes to emotion – careless enthusiasm and dry orthodoxy. Mt. 15:8-9
 2. Emotion has its proper (and important) place in our worship.
 3. Do you worship the LORD with all of your might? v. 14 Ps. 103:1
 4. David was not concerned about what others thought of him. v. 20-22 Pr. 29:25
 5. Don’t judge others for how expressive or emotional their worship is. v. 16
 6. What emotions should we experience in worship? Ps. 2:11 100:2 98:4

IV. Concluding application: Are you a worshiper or a consumer?

Discussion questions

1. Why did David’s second attempt to bring the ark of the covenant succeed after his first attempt failed?
2. What is the significance of the ark entering Jerusalem?
3. How does the joyous scene in II Samuel 6 point to Christ?
4. What is worship?
5. What is the fundamental difference between Old versus New Covenant worship?
6. In what ways do some professing Christians go back to Old Covenant worship?
7. How is the centrality of Christ to be expressed in our worship?
8. How have many churches today lost their focus in worship?
9. Which elements should be included in our worship?
What is the harm of adding or subtracting from these?
10. What is the place of emotion in our worship?
Does your worship reflect the right degree of emotion?