

# BRINGING UP THE ARK

<sup>3</sup> 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 <sup>4</sup> with the ark of God on it, and Ahio was walking in front of it. <sup>5</sup> David and all Israel were celebrating with all their might before the LORD, with castanets, harps, lyres, timbrels, sistrums and cymbals.

II Samuel 6:3-5

<sup>3</sup> giving orders to the people: “When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the Levitical priests carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it. <sup>4</sup> Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before. But keep a distance of about two thousand cubits between you and the ark; do not go near it.”

Joshua 3:3-4

## I. Bringing up the Ark / A repeat of defeat

- A. The ark, which had been a curse previously, was now to be pursued.
- B. David’s dream (Psalm 132:1-2,6) - David prepares a parade along with the worship of hand played instruments.

<sup>1</sup> A song of ascents. LORD, remember David and all his self-denial. <sup>2</sup> He swore an oath to the LORD, he made a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob: ... <sup>6</sup> We heard it in Ephrathah, we came upon it in the fields of Jaar:
- C. A new cart is constructed of boards and big wheels.

D. Friendly - Ahio leads the way.

E. Strong - Uzzah manages everything.

(There is no evidence that Abinadab was a Levite, or that Uzzah and Ahio were ever qualified to be near the Ark, let alone touch it.)

## II. A bump on the threshing floor

A. At the threshing floor, where wheat and chaff are separated, God interrupts the parade.

B. It seems little things matter

1. It does matter who carries the ark.

2. It does matter how the ark is carried.

3. Overfamiliarity breeds contempt.

4. It seems God can take care of himself.

C. New eras in biblical history are marked by the power of God's judgment.

1. After the tabernacle was erected, Nadab and Abihu were struck dead trying to enter. (Leviticus 10)

2. When entering Canaan, Achan was judged for touching the tithe of Jericho. (Josh 6,7)

3. Ananias and Sapphira were struck down for lying. (Acts 5)

## III. The 225 movement / Sincerity, good intentions, purity of heart, true belief, and death.

A. The ark was never to be looked at except once a year by one man.

B. The ark was never to be touched even by the high priest.

- C. The ark was only to be lifted with poles by four Kohathites. (Numbers 4,7)
- D. The priests were to take down the veil and cover the ark. It was then covered by a protective animal skin, then a cloth of blue. It was never to be put on a cart. Only the furnishings of the tabernacle could ride on a cart not the furniture of the tabernacle.

#### IV. David recalibrates.

- A. David rediscovers the holiness of God.
- B. David learns that he must do all things according to Scripture.
- C. David learns that no matter what he does to bring the glory of God to Jerusalem, he will have opposition.