

RESTORING THE GLORY – 2

APRIL 25, 2018

INTRODUCTION:

The story of King David returning the Ark back to Jerusalem is one of failure, judgment and success. The first attempt failed and resulted in a tragic death and embarrassment, but the second attempt resulted in success and blessing.

THE FIRST ATTEMPT – 2 SAMUEL 6:3-9

The Ark was captured as a trophy of war by the Philistines. It was moved to the house of Abinadab where it remained for 20 years. Under Saul's reign, no one inquires of the ark. When David became king, he met with the leaders to discuss returning the Ark to Jerusalem. All agree, and an elaborate celebration is planned. During the parade of over 30,000, Uzzah dies trying to steady the Ark. David's first civic event as king is ruined, he's embarrassed before the crowd, and he got angry and fearful before God.

THE SECOND ATTEMPT – 2 SAMUEL 6:12-17

David realizes his mistakes and decides to transport the Ark God's way. The Ark is successfully brought back and properly placed in the tabernacle. David was a man after God's own heart, but he made some foolish mistakes in handling the Glory of God. This second attempt reveals important principles for having God's power, blessing and glory manifested in our lives.

1. Submit to God's Word.

- A. 1 SAMUEL 6:12a, 1 CHRONICLES 15:1-2, 13** – The First principle to experiencing God's blessings, presence, power and glory is to obey the Word. The first attempt was David doing things his way. David, like Naaman, got full of pride. When he submitted to God's instructions, he succeeded.
- B.** The Levites literally carried the glory on their shoulders, but today we are a Royal Priesthood and we carry the glory within. We are to worship in spirit and truth. **1 PETER 2:9** – Is worship today according to God's Word? **REVELATION 4:8-11**

2. Be sensitive to what is sacred.

- A.** The first attempt was a carnival, a parade filled with fanfare. David was dressed as King, to acknowledge his military exploits.
- B.** The second was a reverent yet joyful experience filled with blood. **2 SAMUEL 6:13, 1 CHRONICLES 15:26** – Seven times a bull was sacrificed. The road to glory is paved with blood. **HEBREWS 10:19**
- C.** The entire second journey to Jerusalem was a blood-stained road of worship exalting the living God who delivered Israel from their enemies.
- D.** David this time is dressed in the same linen ephod as the priests. Many scholars believe this inspired **PSALMS 24** – He draws attention to God and away from himself. **PSALMS 68:1**

3. Sanctify ourselves. 1 CHRONICLES 15:12-15

- A.** This speaks of special sanctification which was required on all special occasions. It consisted in the strictest abstinence as well as cleanliness in person and dress.
- B. 2 CORINTHIANS 7:1, 2 TIMOTHY 2:19-21** – As a Royal Priesthood, we separate from the world to perfect holiness in the fear of God.

CONCLUSION:

The Ark was at Abinadab's house for 20 years without any manifestation of power, blessing or glory. We must do what is necessary in order to experience God's presence, power, blessing, and glory.