

PROTECTING THE GLORY 4

JUNE 24, 2026

In **1 CHRON. 13-15, 1 SAM. 6**, we read about David's attempts to return the Ark (God's presence, power, and glory) to Jerusalem. The first attempt failed and resulted in a tragic death and embarrassment, but the second attempt succeeded and resulted in great blessings.

ICHABOD

The glory departed when the Philistines captured the Ark. They kept it for a short time before returning it to the house of Abinadab, because in every city where it was taken, the people were cursed. King Saul made no attempt to retrieve the Ark. When David became King, his desire was to bring it back to Jerusalem.

First Attempt **2 SAM. 6:3-11**

They voted to carry the Ark on a new ox-driven cart. David planned a parade and invites people from all over Israel. There's music, singing, soldiers, dignitaries, and floats. When Uzzah dies, the parade is canceled. David is fearful and embarrassed, and the Ark is taken to the house Obed-edom. It's there for three months.

- David believes God withdrew His presence and Glory from Israel. He thinks God is displeased with him and the Ark would only bring judgment.
- After three months, David hears how the house of Obed-edom is being blessed because of the Ark.

Second Attempt **2 SAM. 6:12-15**

David tries again because he wants God's Glory. This time he searches the scriptures instead of calling for a vote. The Ark is carried by Levites on poles exactly as the law commands. Every six steps an animal is sacrificed (or two). Eight miles, 30,000 steps, 5-10,000 sacrifices. The procession left in its wake a trail of blood for as far as the eye can see.

The Principles

- The first principle of carrying the Glory is to submit to God's Word. David's first attempt was like a party with fanfare. The second attempt was filled with blood.
- The second principle is reverence for the sacred. At the first parade, David was dressed as a king to acknowledge his military exploits. By the time of his second attempt, he refused to wear his royal garments. He wore the same linen as a common priest. The entire second journey was a blood-stained road of worship exalting the one true God.

- The third principle is sanctification. **2 CHRON. 5:11-14** David told the priests to consecrate themselves to carry the Ark. The Ark resided at the house of Abinadab for 20 years without any manifestations of power or glory. We don't want the Glory to be dormant because of disobedience or not confessing our sins.

Conclusion 1 PET. 2:9

As priests, we are set apart to carry the Glory to our generation. We must present ourselves to God for constant cleansing so the Glory can shine through our lives. **2 TIM. 2:19-21** Our desire should be for us to be vessels of honor, made holy and useful to Jesus. **2 PET. 1:2-3 NKJV.**