

David Dances Before the Lord

2 Samuel 6
1 Chronicles 13
1 Chronicles 15
1 Chronicles 16
Psalms 105 and 96
by Don Falkos
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David said, "We neglected the Ark of God during the reign of Saul. It's time to bring it back."

David and his elite troops placed the Ark of God on a cart drawn by oxen. As it moved toward Jerusalem, there was much celebrating. But then the oxen stumbled, and a man reached out to steady the Ark. The Lord instantly struck him dead.

David was very upset and decided not to move the Ark of the Lord to Jerusalem after all. Instead, he took it to the home of a faithful man where it remained for three months. During that time the Lord blessed the man and his entire household.

David once again decided to move the Ark to Jerusalem. He prepared a place for the Ark, setting up a special tent for it. He summoned the priests and the Levites, telling them, "Last time the Lord was angry with us because we didn't follow Moses' instructions. Only the Levites are allowed to transport the Ark of God."

The Levites purified themselves and carried the Ark with its carrying poles, just as the Lord had instructed Moses. There was a great celebration with people shouting and singing and playing musical instruments. But as the Ark of the Lord entered the city, David's wife Michal, the daughter of Saul, saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord. She was filled with contempt.

The Ark of the Lord was set in its place. David offered sacrifices to the Lord, gave gifts to all the people of Israel, and sang a song of praise. But when he went home, Michal criticized him for his 'shameful behavior'.

David replied, "I was dancing before the Lord, who chose me over your father to be the leader of Israel."

Michal remained childless her entire life.