
1 Chronicles 15:12 He said to them, You are the heads of the Levitical families; you and your fellow Levites are to consecrate yourselves and bring up the ark of the LORD, the God of Israel, to the place I have prepared for it. ¹³ It was because you, the Levites, did not bring it up the first time that the LORD our God broke out in anger against us. We did not inquire of him about how to do it in the prescribed way. ¹⁴ So the priests and Levites consecrated themselves in order to bring up the ark of the LORD, the God of Israel.

2 Samuel 6:12 ... David went down and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-Edom to the City of David with rejoicing.

David's prayer for what he would not build

2 Samuel 7:5 Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? ⁶ I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. ⁷ Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' ⁸ Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture and from following the flock to be ruler over my people Israel. ⁹ I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men of the earth. ¹⁰ And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning ¹¹ and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies. 'The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you:

2 Samuel 7:12 When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will

Holiness and the Ark of the Covenant

Life of David—part 7

March 10, 2019

2 Samuel 6-7

Israel's downward spiral away from God, into misery

Judges 2:10 After that whole generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation grew up, who knew neither the LORD nor what he had done for Israel.

Judges 2:11 Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD and served the Baals.

Judges 2:12 They forsook the LORD, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of Egypt. They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. They provoked the LORD to anger ¹³ because they forsook him and served Baal and the Ashtoreths.

Judges 2:14 In his anger against Israel the LORD handed them over to raiders who plundered them. He sold them to their enemies all around, whom they were no longer able to resist. ¹⁵ Whenever Israel went out to fight, the hand of the LORD was against them to defeat them, just as he had sworn to them. They were in great distress.

Judges 21:25 (RSV) In those days there was no king in Israel; every man did what was right in his own eyes.

The imperative of holiness

Proverbs 14:34 Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.

What is holiness?

“We take the moral law as our rule and God’s incarnate Son as our model.” –J.I. Packer

*1 Peter 1:15 (RSV) ... but as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct;
¹⁶ since it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy.”*
Heb. 12:14 Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.

The rebuilding of holiness begins in shocking ways...

2 Samuel 6:2 He (David) and all his men set out from Baalah of Judah to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the Name, the name of the LORD

Almighty, who is enthroned between the cherubim that are on the ark.

2 Samuel 6:3 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 ⁴ with the ark of God on it, and Ahio was walking in front of it. ⁵ David and the whole house of Israel were celebrating with all their might before the LORD, with songs and with harps, lyres, tambourines, sistrums and cymbals. ⁶ When they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah reached out and took hold of the ark of God, because the oxen stumbled. ⁷ The LORD’s anger burned against Uzzah because of his irreverent act; therefore God struck him down and he died there beside the ark of God.

2 Samuel 6:8 Then David was angry because the LORD’s wrath had broken out against Uzzah, and to this day that place is called Perez Uzzah.

2 Samuel 6:9 David was afraid of the LORD that day and said, How can the ark of the LORD ever come to me?”

2 Samuel 6:10 He was not willing to take the ark of the LORD to be with him in the City of David. Instead, he took it aside to the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite.

David repents, the ark comes to Jerusalem; the holiness of God is reestablished

*1 Chron. 15:2 David said, No one but the Levites may carry the ark of God, because the LORD chose them to carry the ark of the LORD and to minister before him forever.”^b David assembled all Israel in Jerusalem to bring up the ark of the LORD to the place he had prepared for it.
⁴ He called together the descendants of Aaron and the Levites:*
