

Dec 01, 2019



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

**The Oaks
Baptist Church**
Grand Prairie, Texas

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David's Worship

1 Chronicles 15:1-3, 14-16, 25-29

Lesson Background and Introduction

King David fulfilled his “in-tent” to establish a place for the ark of the covenant in Jerusalem. The ceremony during which the ark was carried to its new home was an occasion of great celebration and worship in which David himself participated with enthusiasm. The experience was indeed intense! A significant amount of preparation went into finally bringing the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem. This task was not handled in a shoddy, careless manner. David's concern for conveying the ark properly brings to mind Paul's admonition to the Corinthians that their worship “be done decently and in order” (1 Corinthians 14:40). David made sure the Levites carried the ark in the manner prescribed by the Law of Moses. The king also appointed individuals to supervise the various expressions of worship that would accompany bringing the ark into the city. Such a sacred object, and more importantly the God whose presence it represented, deserved the utmost care. We do not have an ark or other sacred object to carry to a designated place. However, the New Testament indicates that Christians are sacred objects because God's Spirit dwells among us (1 Corinthians 3:16). So, what can we do to prepare our temples for worship (6:19, 20)? How can we prepare to bring our best to God when we gather for worship? What can we do to foster a frame of mind that contributes to worship instead of distracting from it? The old adage, “You get out of something what you put into it” applies to worship. How much do we really “put into” worship?

(Adapted from the NIV Standard Lesson Commentary)

Bringing Up the Ark - King David completed the construction of his palace in Jerusalem, then turned his attention to preparing a place for the ark of God in the city. The king desired a huge, worship-filled celebration. All the people would line up for the solemn procession, play instruments, and sing and dance as the ark was brought into the city. Previously, David tried to transport the ark to the city on a cart with wheels. One of the men assisting the transport to Jerusalem from Kiriath Jearim touched the ark to steady it and instantly died (1 Chron. 13). David left the ark with Obed-Edom for three months after this incident. As David studied the law, he realized how he should bring the ark to Jerusalem. The second time the king attempted to bring the ark into the city, David made sure only the consecrated priests carried the sacred box with poles placed on their shoulders, as directed in the law of Moses. This procedure demonstrated honor to the Lord and protected the box from any damage in transport.

The Celebration - The king delegated the responsibility of organizing the national worship service to the Levites. The leaders appointed experts in music who played a variety of musical instruments—horns, harps, and cymbals—accompanied by the vocalists singing psalms. Only the best singers performed for this occasion. David called for the congregation to present to the Lord a loud, joyful expression of praise with the highest possible excellence.

Our Joyful Praise - There is certainly nothing wrong with quiet worship. God is always more interested in our hearts than the volume coming from our mouths. In fact, in some countries where Christians are persecuted, it's essential for their gatherings to be underground, low key, and discreet. But elsewhere, believers are free to worship out in the open. When you think about the graciousness and goodness of the Lord, your heart should overflow. As Psalm 150:6, says, "Let everything that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD" (KJV)

(Adapted from the Echoes Commentary)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

There are many ways to worship God, but only one God to worship

POEM FOR THE WEEK:

Sing praise to God who reigns above,
The God of all creation,
The God of power, the God of love,
The God of our salvation. —Schütz

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord
(Ps 150:6 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", Sep 28, 1997)

Series: Honoring God

UNIT: David Honors God

NEXT WEEK

David's Gratitude
(1 Chron 16:8-12, 28-36)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

The Place Readied for Worship (1 Chron 15:1-3)

Building (1)

- Building to have a dwelling place for God (Ps 132:3-5)
- Building based on God's pattern (Acts 7:44-47)
- Being a part of God's building (1 Cor 3:9)
- An eternal building (2 Cor 5:1)
- A building joined together by the Chief Cornerstone (Eph 2:19-22)

Planning (2)

- Plan by pressing on toward the goal (Phil 3:12-14)
- Plan by not losing heart, but focusing on the eternal (2 Cor 4:16-18)
- Plan depending on the Holy Spirit (2 Cor 5:1-5)
- Know that our plans are dependent on God's purposes (Prov 19:21)
- All our plans must be committed to God (Ps 37:5-7)

Gathering (3)

- The gathering of the elect (Matt 24:31)
- The gathering that will bring all the scattered children of God together (John 11:51-52)
- Christians are used to help gather God's kingdom (Matt 12:30)
- Gathered so that we may give thanks, praise and worship to God (Ps 106:47)
- All the nations will gather together and the peoples assembled (Isa 43:6-9)

The Leaders Readied for Worship (1 Chron 15:4-16)

Sanctification (14)

- Sanctification is when God makes one blameless (1 Thess 5:23)
- Sanctification through the blood of Jesus (Heb 9:13-14)
- Sanctification is setting apart Jesus as Lord (1 Peter 3:15)
- Sanctification is presenting to God in righteousness (Rom 6:19)
- Sanctification is the purpose for which God has called His people (1 Thess 4:7)
- Pursue sanctification (Heb 12:14)

Obedience (15)

- Obedience that is consistent with God's will (Isa 58:6-9)
- Obedience that delights God (1 Sam 15:22)
- Obedience that is from humble, praying, repentant people of God (2 Chron 7:14)
- Obedience that is bold and steadfast (Dan 3:16-18)

Appointments (16)

- An appointment because God chose us (Eph 1:3-7)
- An appointment because God predestined it (Rom 8:29-30)
- An appointment of leadership (1 Cor 12:28)
- An appointment to receive salvation (1 Thess 5:9)
- An appointment for service (1 Tim 1:12)

The Worship Celebrated (1 Chron 15:25-29)

With joy (25)

- Joy of the righteous (Ps 68:3)
- Joy in worship (Ps 100:2)
- Joy even in trials (Hab 3:17-19)
- Joy in fasts (Zech 8:19)
- Joy in hope (Rom 12:10-12)

With offerings (26)

- Everyone who is willing should bring an offering to God (Exodus 35:5)
- Sharing with others is considered a pleasing offering to God (Heb 13:16)
- The best offering to God is ourselves as a living sacrifice (Rom 12:1)
- The most important offering to God is to love Him with all that we have (Mark 12:33)

With music and singing (27-29)

- Music and songs of the heart (Eph 5:19)
- Music and songs of gratitude (Col 3:16)
- Music and songs of praise (James 5:13)
- Music and songs of thanksgiving (Ps 147:7)
- Music and songs of God's wonderful acts (Ps 105:2)
- Music and songs of exhortation (Ps 95:2)