

When the King Comes to Zion

Texts: II Samuel 5:7; Psalm 48:1-14

When King David brought the Ark of the Covenant to the Hill of Zion; God is now in His rightful place in the earth. Peace ensued and wherever there was not peace, victory ensued. In the personal life of every Christian, when God sits as Lord upon the throne of our hearts, there is peace within and when we are troubled from without, we can claim the promise of Isaiah 54:17: "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD."

I want to bring three observations to our attention when the King comes to Zion:

I. THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE KING

II Samuel 6:1-11

A. United Israel. II Samuel 6:1

Proverbs 16:7: "When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him. Psalm 133:1: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

Ecclesiastes 4:9, 10, 12: "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

Even a cord when intertwined with other strands, becomes stronger.

B. Decision to transport. II Samuel 6:2-5

It's time for David to come into his place, but he understood that in all that he does God must reign. Therefore it was necessary for the Ark, the place where the Shekhinah presence of the Lord is fully manifested, must be centered in Zion. Colossians 1:18b: "...that in all things He might have the preeminence."

C. The right atmosphere. II Samuel 6:5

We are reminded again that music is conducive to worship. Psalm 33:3: "Sing unto him a new song; play skilfully with a loud noise." Colossians 3:23: "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men." I Corinthians 14:40: "Let all things be done decently and in order."

D. The fear of the Lord is reinstated. II Samuel 6:6-10

It may seem severe that God would not allow an unlawful touching of the Ark of the Covenant, but Israel needed the reminder, as well as David, that God is holy and must be respected. Exodus 3:5:

"And He (the Lord) said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground." I Peter 1:15, 16.

The fear of the Lord is the starting point of true worship and the requirement for wisdom and knowledge: Psalm 111:10; Proverbs 1:7; Proverbs 9:10.

The Uzzah incident is to inform us that God is independent of man. Psalm 50:12: "If I were hungry, I would not tell thee for the world is mine, and the fulness thereof."

II. THE INSTALLMENT OF THE ARK

II Samuel 6:11-19

A. The blessing that follows the Ark. II Samuel 6:11-12a

Any home is blessed if God abides there. John 15:4, 5: "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

B. The joy in the journey. II Samuel 6:12b-16

The gladness David experienced exploded into exuberant joy! The word "dance" means to whirl and leap for a joy. Psalm 95:2: "Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms."

C. The King of Kings is upon His throne. II Samuel 6:17a

The place God has chosen for His throne on earth is now occupied! II Chronicles 6:6: "But I have chosen Jerusalem, that my name might be there; and have chosen David to be over my people Israel."

1. Love to God is expressed. II Samuel 6:17b-18b

Mark 12:30: "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment."

2. Love to the people is extended. II Samuel 6:18b-19.

Mark 12:31: "And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these."

III. THE IMMANUEL FACTOR

II Samuel 6:20-23; I Isaiah 7:14

A. The blessing that backfired. II Samuel 6:20

Jesus said in Matthew 10:36, "And a man's foes shall be they of his own household." David's royal robe fell from him as he was celebrating God. It was actually a beautiful humbling of David before His God to say in essence, "It is all about You."

B. Praise the Lord anyway. II Samuel 6:21, 22

David was determined that he would not be another Saul, but rather, he would praise the Lord always! Psalm 34:1: "I will bless the LORD at all times his praise shall continually be in my mouth." With God's throne established in Zion (Jerusalem), The manifestation of God is apparent. Immanuel (Emmanuel) means "God With Us."

C. The providence of the Lord. II Samuel 6:23

"Therefore Michal the daughter of Saul had no child unto the day of her death." This is a sad verse. Because of the word "therefore," we understand that Michal would have been able to bear children, but now she would not. The Bible doesn't give us the specific reasons she would not be having children, but we can speculate to a degree. The providence we see at work is the prevention of a threat against God's plan for the house of David. Had David and Michal had a child, that child would have been of the royal lineage of Saul as well as of the royal lineage of David. And God was through with the house of Saul.