

#3 - 6/17/2018 - Celebrated - 2 Samuel 5-6

I. David's greatness increased - [2 Samuel 5:1-13](#). ¹⁰ *David became greater and greater, for the LORD God of hosts was with him.* ¹² *And David realized that the LORD had established him as king over Israel, and that He had exalted his kingdom for the sake of His people Israel.*

[Vv.1-5](#) after 7-1/2 years as king of Judah, David was anointed king over all Israel at age 30 and served for another 33 years.

[Vv.6-10](#) David and his troops went to Jerusalem and attack the stronghold of the Jebusites and was victorious. The key to David's victories was the presence of the Lord God with him [v.10], for the people of Israel [v.12] and ultimately the entire world through Jesus. Over 3,000 years later Jerusalem is again recognized as the capital of Israel.

Before leaving the wilderness future kings of Israel were given specific instructions: the king shall not 1] increase his horses, 2] cause the people to return to Egypt, 3] multiply wives for himself, 4] greatly increase his wealth and 5] *"he shall write for himself a copy of this law on a scroll in the presence of the Levitical priests. It shall be with him and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, by carefully observing all the words of this law and these statutes,"* ^A

[Vv.11-13](#) David knew that the Lord had established him as king for the purpose of blessing His people Israel. However, he took more wives and concubines in addition to those he brought with him to Jerusalem.

I believe that David had a copy of the law that he had written and read it on a regular basis. He was being guided by the Spirit of God and His Word--at that time probably Genesis through Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges and Job. He trusted the Lord explicitly, yet he directly ignored the law about wives. ^B

How do you explain David's growing greater, the presence of the Lord, and the Word; and yet he disobeyed the Lord? What is the application for your life?

Notes: A- [Deuteronomy 17:14-20](#); B- Henry M. Morris III said "There are many polygamous marriages recorded in Scripture, but none meet the standard set by God at creation. None are happy marriages. There are many out-of-wedlock affairs and pregnancies recorded in the Bible. Not one works out well. God may, in mercy, use the people involved to accomplish His plans, but the circumstances are always more difficult than they might have been had the choice been to trust God and to stick with His standards.

God's design for those who bear His image is always good. Whenever those standards are violated—even when the social milieu in which we may find ourselves looks with disdain on those standards— those who through rationalization, indifference, or open rebellion break out of God's design will discover that serious consequences are the result." page 491, The Book of Beginnings. To order click [here](#).

II. David's two battles with the Philistines - [2 Samuel 5:17-25](#).. ¹⁷ *When the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines went up to seek out David; ¹⁹ Then David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will You give them into my hand?" And the LORD said to David, "Go up, for I will certainly give the Philistines into your hand."* ²⁰ *So David came... and defeated them there;*

²² *Now the Philistines came up once again and spread themselves out in the valley of Rephaim. ²³ When David inquired of the LORD, He said, "You shall not go directly up; circle around behind them and come at them in front of the balsam trees. ²⁴ It shall be, when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, then you shall act promptly, for then the LORD will have gone out before you to strike the army of the Philistines."* ²⁵ *Then David did so, just as the LORD had commanded him, and struck down the Philistines*

David inquired of the Lord how to proceed before both battles. For the 1st battle He said go up but the instructions for the 2nd battle were detailed. In both battles David was obedient and victorious.

This again raises the question about how David communicated with the Lord. After intense study, meditation and prayer over the last 3 weeks I believe David ask God directly as stated in vv.19 & 23 and God answered him by the Holy Spirit. David had the Word of God and the Spirit with him and received inspiration from the Spirit to write at least 75 Psalms. ^A

David did not always ask for God's guidance, usually with disastrous results like when he decided to move the ark to Jerusalem or stayed home from the battle. ^B

Am I always faithful in seeking guidance from the Word, Spirit and mind of Jesus before making decisions? ^C

Notes: A- For more information on my previous study click [here](#); B- [2 Samuel 6:1-11, 11:1-22](#); C- For how we can make Spirit led decisions now click [here](#).

III. David disobeys the Lord - [2 Samuel 6:1-4](#).. ³ *They placed the ark of God on a new cart that they might bring it from the house of Abinadab which was on the hill; and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were leading the new cart.*

The ark was the centerpiece of Israel's worship, since it symbolized the presence of God and the rule of His Law among the people. Yet under Saul, the ark was neglected, but David wanted to bring it to Jerusalem. David apparently did not ask for the Lord's guidance and in attempting to return the ark to Israel, disobeys God's law about how to transport it!

God said it was to be carried by Levites on foot using poles placed through rings in the side of the ark ^A. Instead of following these specific instructions, David decided to carry the ark back to Jerusalem on a new cart ^B. Notice that the word new is

repeated. does this emphasize that David did this in rebellion against God's commands. Certainly he and the priests knew the law.

Why do you think David rebelled against the Lord?

Praise God for Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you for sinning just like David. Thank Him for being faithful and just to forgive your sins and to cleanse you from all unrighteousness. Ask Him to help you walk today as a child of the Kingdom. ^C

Notes: A- [Exodus 25:14- 15; Numbers 4:15; 7:9; Deuteronomy 10:8; 31:9, 25](#); B- [2 Samuel 6:3](#); C- Occasionally I use parts of devotionals from the FBC Personal Study Guide, as I want to encourage people to use it. This is from a 3 month study on 2 Samuel, page 21, click, [here](#).

IV. Consequences of rebellion against God- [2 Samuel 6:5-11](#)

Things don't go well when we rebel. Examples of its truthfulness abound in God's Word. David rebelled against God by using a "new cart" to carry the ark rather than the specific way that God had commanded Israel. "Uzzah and Ahio...were driving the new cart"^A.

As Uzzah and Ahio drove the cart that carried the ark of God, one of the oxen stumbles and the ark of God appears to be falling. Uzzah, no doubt thinking to save the ark of God from crashing to the ground, sticks out his hand to stabilize it. This was rebellious because God commanded the ark-bearers not to touch the holy things ^B. God also told the ark-bearers exactly what would happen to them if they did touch the holy things: they would be struck down by God immediately. Uzzah's fate is tragic, but it would not have been a surprise.

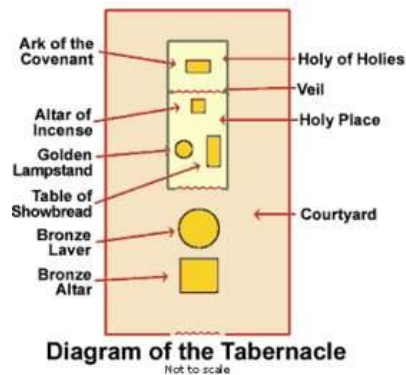
The people knew that God does not wink at sin and rebellion, but judges it with perfect righteousness and justice. David compounded his rebellion by becoming angry with the Lord and fearful of the Lord; he took the ark to the house of Obed-edom, again without asking God. [[v.8-11](#)]

“ Why did David get angry with God for Uzzah's death?

- **Do you ever struggle with self-righteousness? How might today's passage help you to come to terms with your own sins?**
- **Spend some time each day confessing to God your sins of rebellion. Ask Him to help you to walk in righteousness.**

Notes: A- 2 Samuel 6:1-4; B- [Exodus 25:14- 15; Numbers 4:15; 7:9; Deuteronomy 10:8; 31:9, 25](#); C- Occasionally I use parts of devotionals from the FBC Personal Study Guide, as I want to encourage people to use it. This is from a 3 month study on 2 Samuel, page 22, click [here](#).

V. David moved the Ark to Jerusalem in accordance with the commands of God.



2 Samuel 6:12-16..¹² Now it was told King David, saying, “The Lord has blessed the house of Obed-edom and all that belongs to him, on account of the ark of God.” David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom into the city of David with gladness.

Originally, the ark was housed in the tabernacle, where it represented the presence of God in the holy of holies ^A. After the conquest of Canaan, the tent of meeting was set up in Shiloh ^B. The army sometimes took it with them when they went out on a military campaign ^C. They brought it near to the battle during a war with the Philistines, but they lost both the battle and the ark. God struck the Philistines with the plague, and for some time they moved the ark among their cities trying to escape the plague, but they finally sent it back ^D.

The Israelites neglected the ark during Saul's reign ^E. The ark was moved from place to place. David tried to move the ark to Jerusalem but did not consult the Lord and did not obey the Lord's command about how to move it. He abandoned the task after God struck down Uzzah for touching the ark with his hand. Angry and afraid, he disposed of the ~~new~~ cart ^H and David left the ark at the home of Obed-edom ^F.

As “*the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge*” ^G, David's fear for the Lord brought him to a point of obedience. He came back with the right ark-bearers and

carried the ark of God back to Jerusalem the way God had commanded. ¹ This move was filled with the Lord, sacrifices, dancing, and singing and shouting.

Let us pray that God the Holy Spirit would convict us of our sin, just like He did David; so that we may repent, bear fruit, experience the joy and freedom of the Lord and offer Him the worship and praise He deserves.

Notes: A- [Exodus 40:2-3](#); B- [1 Samuel 1:3](#); C- [Judges 20:26-27](#); [1 Samuel 4:12-18](#); [14:18](#); D- [1 Samuel 4. 6](#); E- [1 Chronicles 13:3](#); F- [2 Samuel 6:5-11](#); G- [Proverbs 1:7](#); H- [2 Samuel 6:3](#); I- [Exodus 25:14- 15](#); [Numbers 4:15](#); [7:9](#); [Deuteronomy 10:8](#); [31:9](#), [25](#);

VI. The presence of the Lord celebrated - 2 Samuel 6:17-19

¹⁷ *So they brought in the ark of the LORD and set it in its place inside the tent which David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.*

¹⁸ *When David had finished offering the burnt offering and the peace offering, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts. ¹⁹ Further, he distributed to all the people, to all the multitude of Israel, both to men and women, a cake of bread and one of dates and one of raisins to each one. Then all the people departed each to his house.*

For the first time in 70 years the ark of the Lord was back home. The proper offerings were made and David blessed the people in the name of the Lord and he distributed three cakes to each person present. In a more complete account there is recorded a Psalm of Thanksgiving sung on that day. [[1 Chronicles 16:7-36, vv.8-22 repeated in Psalms 105:1-15](#)]

We all remember times when we celebrated the presence and blessings of the Lord in our lives. In 1967 we had a long and joyous celebration of the 125th anniversary of FBC. At the beginning in 1838 our neighboring church Bethel Baptist and FBC were one church so we celebrated together with joint meetings at both churches. I remember Dr Lindsay Sr's sermon, "Back to Bethel" at Bethel and the closing dinner. For the 50 year Lindsay celebration at FBC on October 7, 1990 click [here](#).

I have compiled 100 things I am thankful for in my life and also the times when the Lord intervened directly in ways that impacted our family's life today. I review these often to be reminded of how good God has been to my family, to be thankful and worship Him with praise.

Do you often remember and are thankful for times when God blessed your life?

Summary/application 2 Samuel 5-6:

1. How do you explain David's growing greater, the presence of the Lord, and the Word; and yet he disobeyed the Lord? What is the application for your life?
2. Am I always faithful in seeking guidance from the Word, Spirit and mind of Jesus before making decisions? For how you can make Spirit led decisions now click [here](#)
3. Praise God each day for Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you for sinning just like David. Thank Him for being faithful and just to forgive your sins and to cleanse you from all unrighteousness. Ask Him to help you walk today as a child of the Kingdom.
4. Let us pray that God the Holy Spirit would convict us of our sin, just like He did David; so that we may repent, bear fruit, experience the joy of the Lord and offer Him the worship and praise He deserves.
5. Do you often remember and are thankful for times when God blessed your life?
6. **Memory Verse - #3 - 2 Samuel 5:10,12..** *David became greater and greater, for the LORD God of hosts was with him. ¹² And David realized that the LORD had established him as king over Israel, and that He had exalted his kingdom for the sake of His people Israel.*

Memory verse review:

2 Samuel 2:1 *David inquired of the Lord, saying, "Shall I go up to one of the cities of Judah?" And the Lord said to him, "Go up." So David said, "Where shall I go up?" And He said, "To Hebron."*

1 Peter 3:15 *sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts ^a, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence; [a—set apart Jesus as Lord and Master in your life!]*