

1 Chronicles 13; David and the ark of the covenant

- I. "David consulted ... with every _____" (v1-v5)
 - A. "David said unto all the congregation of Israel, If it ... be of the LORD our God ... that they may gather themselves unto us ... And let us bring again the ark of our God to us" (v2-v3)
 - B. "all the congregation said ... the thing was right in the eyes of all the people" (v4)
 - C. "David gathered all Israel together ... to bring the ark of God from Kirjath-jearim" (v5)
- II. "David went up, and all Israel, to ... Kirjath-jearim, which belonged to Judah, to bring up thence the _____ of God the LORD" (v6-v8)
 - A. "they carried the ark of God on a new cart out of the house of Abinadab" (v7)
 - B. "Uzza and Ahio drave the cart"
 - C. "David and all Israel played before God with all their might, and with singing, and with harps ... psalteries ... timbrels ... cymbals, and with trumpets" (v8)
- III. "when they came unto the threshingfloor of Chidon, Uzza put forth his _____ to hold the ark; for the oxen stumbled" (v9-v13)
 - A. "the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzza, and he smote him, because he put his hand to the ark" (v10)
 - B. "David was displeased, because the LORD had made a breach upon Uzza (*Perez-uzza*)" (v11)
 - C. "David was _____ of God that day" (v12)
 - D. "David ... carried it (*the ark*) aside into the house of Obed-edom the Gittite" (v13)
- IV. "the ark of God remained with the family of Obed-edom in his house three months" (v14)
 - A. "the LORD _____ the house of Obed-edom, and all that he had"

Notes: David consults with his captains and with every leader (v1). He then talks with all the congregation of Israel and with the priests and Levites (v2). David's desire is to bring up the ark of God to Jerusalem (v3). All the congregation seem to approve (v4), so David gathers everyone from one end of Israel to the other (v5). A new cart is provided to carry the ark (v7). Much singing and playing of instruments proceeds the ark (v8). But then the oxen stumble and Uzza puts forth his hand to the ark to steady it (v9). God's anger is kindled and Uzza dies before the LORD. What went wrong? Didn't everyone agree to bring up the ark in this manner? Exodus 25:12-15 says that "thou shalt put the staves into the rings by the sides of the ark, that the ark may be borne with them". Using a new cart may have seemed like a good idea but God had declared that the ark must be moved by the priests using the staves. Uzza putting forth his hand to steady the ark also may have seemed a good idea at the time but God had said in Numbers 4:15 that "the sons of Kohath ... shall not touch any holy thing, lest they die". God's instructions had been clear and should have been followed exactly. Why hadn't David consulted with God, first? Although David is now afraid of God (v12) concerning moving the ark, note how the LORD abundantly blesses the house of Obed-edom for the next three months (v14) as the ark resides there. Next chapter will show us additional blessings bestowed upon David as his kingdom increases...