David wanted the blessing that had been poured out on the house of Obed-Edom, and he was willing to do things God’s way to get it!

Every six paces, they would sacrifice an ox, as if to let both God and man know – NO MORE OXEN! The ox is a symbol of strength, but it is the weakness of man that will carry the ark of God’s presence!

They carried that heavy ark for nearly 15 miles – they didn’t walk through the gates of Jerusalem “looking their Sunday best!”

SWEAT is the means by which value is transferred here on earth – it requires “sweat” to worship! Our lazy humanity tries to use “no-sweat” methods, and just get excited about “transporting the glory!”

David was so passionate for God’s presence that he began to dance as the ark entered Jerusalem.

David began to value the things that God values, but his wife Michal valued dignity over Deity! God cursed her with barrenness!

You can’t seek His Deity and maintain your dignity! It is time to abandon spectator services and become a participator!

Are we willing to pay the price for God’s presence?

Immediately when they set the ark down, David demanded that the Levites begin offering 24-hour worship to the Lord!

The worshippers became the veil around the ark – they had to turn their back on man to worship the God in their midst!

Ezekiel 22:30
And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.

- God wants to see all men saved, but He depends on you and me!
- We are called to become bridges between darkness and light – we are intercessors, gap-standers!
- The world doesn’t need better sermons or songs. They need “gap people” who can reach for God with one hand and for the world with the other. We “prop open the heavens” with our upraised hands!
- David kept heaven open for nearly 36 years ... and God wants to rebuild the tabernacle of David that fell when they got tired!!

Psalm 84:10
For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

- David, you’re a king – why would you want to be a doorkeeper? A doorkeeper AT THE RIGHT DOOR has more influence!
- Obed-Edom became a doorkeeper for the ark – he was so passionate for God that he moved to Jerusalem! (1 Chron. 15:24)

The Price of His Presence

Acts 15:14-17

Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name. And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written, After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up: That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things.

- Why would God want to rebuild THAT tabernacle, instead of Moses’ tabernacle or Solomon’s temple?
- David’s makeshift tent barely qualifies as a Tabernacle!
- BUT DAVID’S TABERNACLE WAS GOD’S FAVORITE HOUSE (because God has wonderful memories of what happened there!)
- David’s tabernacle was LESS STRUCTURE AND MORE EVENT; church today is MORE STRUCTURE AND LESS EVENT!
- What is impressive to God and what is impressive to man are obviously two different things!

Acts 13:22
And when he had removed [Saul], he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.

- The most powerful component of David’s tabernacle began long before it was built, in the heart of a worshipping shepherd boy!
- DAVID HAD AN UNUSUAL HUNGER FOR GOD, ALWAYS PURSUING GOD’S PRESENCE, CHASING “AFTER” GOD’S HEART! HE HAD A “PASSION FOR THE PRESENCE!”
- When David began to talk about bringing the Ark of the Covenant back to Jerusalem, he wasn’t interested in the gold-covered box with the artifacts inside. He was interested in the BLUE FLAME that hovered between the outstretched wings of the cherubim on top of the ark – the Shekinah presence of God!
- In Moses’ Tabernacle and Solomon’s Temple, the Ark resided behind a veil. GOD NEVER DID LIKE THAT VEIL! He had to have it to preserve the life of sinful humanity as they came to worship Him, but He didn’t like it.
• When Jesus died on Calvary, God ripped the veil from top to bottom in such a way that it could never be rewoven again! God doesn’t want to be separated from us!
• This is why God loved David’s Tabernacle – there was no veil or walls of any kind to separate mankind from His presence.
• The only thing encircling God’s presence was the worshippers! They ministered non-stop to the Lord 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year for nearly 36 years!
• In David’s Tabernacle, the glory was seen by everyone!
• Perhaps it was one night during this time that David wrote ...

Psalm 134:1-3
Behold, bless ye the LORD, all ye servants of the LORD, which by night stand in the house of the LORD. Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the LORD. The LORD that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Zion.

2 Samuel 6:1-11 (The First Attempt)
1And again, David gathered together all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. 2And David arose, and went with all the people that were with him from Baale of Judah, to bring up from thence the ark of God, whose name is called by the name of the LORD of hosts that dwelleth between the cherubims.
3And they set the ark of God upon a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab that was in Gibeath: and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drave the new cart. 4And they brought it out of the house of Abinadab which was at Gibeath, accompanying the ark of God: and Ahio went before the ark.
5And David and all the house of Israel played before the LORD on all manner of instruments made of fir wood, even on harps, and on psalteries, and on timbrels, and on cornets, and on cymbals. 6And when they came to Nachon’s threshingfloor, Uzzah put forth his hand to the ark of God, and took hold of it; for the oxen shook it.
7And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his error; and there he died by the ark of God. 8And David was displeased, because the LORD had made a breach upon Uzzah: and he called the name of the place Perezuzzah to this day.

2 Samuel 6:12-17 (The Second Attempt)
9And David was afraid of the LORD that day, and said, How shall the ark of the LORD come to me? 10So David would not remove the ark of the LORD unto him into the city of David: but David carried it aside into the house of Obededom the Gittite.

11And the ark of the LORD continued in the house of Obededom the Gittite three months: and the LORD blessed Obededom, and all his household.

12And it was told king David, saying, The LORD hath blessed the house of Obededom, and all that pertaineth unto him, because of the ark of God. So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obededom into the city of David with gladness.
13And David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet. 14And as the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal Saul’s daughter looked through a window, and saw king David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart.
15And they brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in his place, in the midst of the tabernacle that David had pitched for it: and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.