

## **1 Chronicles 11-14**

Tonight we are going to continue our study through the Old Testament, please turn in your Bibles to 1 Chronicles Chapter 11.

We have come to the 3<sup>rd</sup> section in the Book of Chronicles, the 1<sup>st</sup> section being the genealogies and the 2<sup>nd</sup> section was a brief dealing with the king Saul.

The chronicler has no interest in Saul, but his focus, unlike in the Books of Samuel and the Books of the Kings, his focus is solely on King David, and the Messianic lineage.

The genealogical record gave us the preserved lineage from Adam to David, and even went down the Davidic lineage all the way to when the Jews went into captivity.

Now, as we jump passed Saul's reign and into David, we move into the this third section, and that will take us to the end of the Book of 1 Chronicles, the subject of this third section is the Reign of David.

Now, much of what we will be looking at we have already studied in the previous books that we have been in, but the Chronicler expands on some of the areas by giving us a more detailed picture.

**So let's pray, and we will get into our study tonight.**

Let's look at 1 Chronicles chapter 11 starting with the first 3 verses...

## **David Made King over All Israel(2 Sam 5:1-3)**

11:1 Then all Israel came together to David at Hebron, saying, "Indeed we are your bone and your flesh. 2 Also, in time past, even when Saul was king, you were the one who led Israel out and brought them in; and the Lord your God said to you, 'You shall shepherd My people Israel, and be ruler over My people Israel.'" 3 Therefore all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord. And they anointed David king over Israel, according to the word of the Lord by Samuel.

Remember now, that after the death of Saul, David was first anointed King only over the tribe of Judah.

He reigned in Hebron for seven years while the other tribes were ruled over by Saul's son, Ishbosheth.

In 2 Samuel Chapter 4 we learned that Ishbosheth was murdered and it was only after that event did the Nation of Israel unite under King David.

This is the point where the Chronicler picks up the narrative, apparently, David was not truly King until all the tribes united under his leadership.

It is telling that the nation of Israel only followed David after their first fleshly led choice failed.

It was a testament to where the nation would ultimately end up as in the future they will again follow

their fleshly desires, and they will end up divided once again.

This is a picture for us today, to turn to Jesus first, and not to wait until our flesh fails us, to make Jesus our second choice.

We can learn much from the lessons that the Nation of Israel learned themselves.

Now, we pick it up here in at the time the elders finally recognize David as their King, even recognizing his past leadership capabilities.

As they discussed these things, and assessed David, it was evident that he was a true leader through and through.

It became evident to them that God had called him to lead, and the characteristics they point out in his character are actually two important traits that should mark anyone who leads God's people.

Firstly, a leader should must demonstrate or have experience that proves their ability to lead.

In the New Testament the instruction is similar, we are told a leader should not be **1 Tim 3:6 ...a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.**

The second important fact about a spiritual leader, is there needs to be an evidence of a calling by God.

It was clear as the elders looked at David's life and assessed his ministry, that God had called him to Shepherd His People.

Of course, this is according to all that God spoke through the Prophet Samuel, and David's life backed up the Word that was given when the Prophet anointed him with oil many years prior to David coming to the throne.

Now, it is important that the elders and all Israel acknowledged this in David, because a title does not necessarily give a person a Kingdom, there needs to be those that follow their leadership.

A lonely king with no kingdom is sad picture indeed.

There are many that aspire to leadership... and I like how Chuck Smith speaks of his testing for leadership.

He says you will know a leader by who is following him.

Many aspire to leadership for recognition only, but a true leader of God will already be recognized, by those who are being influenced by him or her.

So, David is made King of all Israel, and according to the Chronicler, this is when David truly began his reign.

And as fast as the Chronicler wanted to get us to David, he equally as fast wants to get us to Jerusalem or the City of David...

Look now starting in verse 4...

**The City of David(2 Sam 5:6-10)**

4 And David and all Israel went to Jerusalem, which is Jebus, where the Jebusites were, the inhabitants of the land. 5 But the inhabitants of Jebus said to David, "You shall not come in here!" Nevertheless David took the stronghold of Zion (that is, the City of David). 6 Now David said, "Whoever attacks the Jebusites first shall be chief and captain." And Joab the son of Zeruiah went up first, and became chief. 7 Then David dwelt in the stronghold; therefore they called it the City of David. 8 And he built the city around it, from the Millo to the surrounding area. Joab repaired the rest of the city. 9 So David went on and became great, and the Lord of hosts was with him.

When Joshua began the conquest of Canaan approximately 400 years prior to this time, they were commanded to take the Land, and yet they never took Jerusalem, the Jebusites were stubborn and held the city.

Jerusalem had many natural defenses and walls all around, it seemed impenetrable, and remember the Jebusites even taunted David and his army saying in **2 Sam 5:6** "You shall not come in here; but the blind and the lame will repel you," thinking, "David cannot come in here."

David however was on the side of God, and that meant God was on his side, and this proved to be more important than secure defenses.

David here offers to make the man who leads the charge successfully, the chief and captain over his army.

And Joab took the challenge, who at this point was out of the favor of David, because Joab killed his own rival Abner, who David respected.

But Joab here sees his opportunity to grab that top position, and he climbed a 70 foot tunnel through carved rock from the Spring of Gihon.

Now that is an impressive feat, and Joab proved to be one tough dude, and he garners the title he so longed for.

Joab was kind of always a thorn in David's side, but in a weird way at the same time he showed David immense loyalty and seemed to handle many tough situations that would have been bad for David to handle politically.

Joab, although difficult to deal with, will be vital to David's strength and reign.

Now, toward the end of David's reign, Joab will join in a conspiracy against David's chosen heir Solomon, and he will pay for this mistake with his life.

So, Joab here in the beginning takes Jerusalem, and Joab will not only be a great military leader, but also is entrusted to rebuild the Great City.

We are told in verse 9 that David then knew Greatness, because the Lord of hosts was with him.

Now, to be fair his Greatness did come to him overnight, this was something that happened after a Great Preparation taking place in God's man.

You remember from the time David was anointed by the Prophet Samuel he spent many years thereafter on the run for his life, he spent time even in enemy territory, and almost reached the end of himself many times.

But here is the fruit of those wilderness years, he is now Great, his time had come, and with David, we are always told that his Greatness came from the fact that the Lord was with him.

Now, that is important for us to understand, nothing is truly Great in this world, unless the Lord be with it.

Don't ever look at your life and think that you are something on your own, it is all from the Lord who deserves all the praise.

**Prov. 16:18-19 Pride goes before destruction,**

**And a haughty spirit before a fall.**

**19 Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly,**

**Than to divide the spoil with the proud.**

We had a tradesman here today fixing a water pipe that was broken.

He bailed us out, and was able to come on very short notice.

It was interesting when we had this problem come up with the leaking pipe, I just could not think of who to call last night, so I said a little prayer, and ask the Lord who could come on such short notice, and the Lord popped this gentlemen into my head, and I gave him a call.

He showed up this morning, and said once California shut down, he lost his fulltime job working for a firm who did remodels.

But he said since that time, as he has been seeking God, God has been giving him more work than he has ever had.

Things like my phone call last night, just keep happening, and I noticed he just could not stop giving God the glory for the work.

So I told, him that is why he is so busy right now, because he keeps honoring his God for his livelihood.

It is so important for us to give God the Honor and Credit that is due to Him.

David's success was tied up in the fact that God was with him...

Look now starting in verse 10...

### **The Mighty Men of David(2 Sam 23:8-39)**

10 Now these were the heads of the mighty men whom David had, who strengthened themselves with him in his kingdom, with all Israel, to make him king, according to the word of the Lord concerning Israel.

You will notice that the Chronicler loves this saying, “with all Israel,” he keeps pointing the reader to this fact, that all Israel was united here.

Now it is super important to remember that David’s Mighty Men did not start out Mighty Men.

In fact, they are described this way in **1 Sam 22:2**

**And everyone who was in distress, everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented gathered to him. So he became captain over them. And there were about four hundred men with him.**

And under David’s leadership these misfits became Mighty Men.

You see in Junior High that was an awkward time for me, as my body was growing, and my voice was changing, and I was a little clumsy as I was adjusting to my new form.

I was a geek to the enth degree, and I was the last guy to be picked for the lunch time basketball game, I just had a quirky jump shot that made everyone laugh.

But my seventh grade year, my older sister had a boyfriend who was super good at basketball, and he began to teach me.

And by the end of that year I was the first pick, I had the right teacher, and soon I was getting so good that I was beating my sister's boyfriend at one on one, still to this day I rub it in his face.

But you see David was just the right teacher for these misfits, and evidently he helped them find their true potential, and they became a force to be reckoned with.

Think of the school yard, and remember all those kids who were picked last.

That is the kind of people who found their way to David, and eventually God lifted them up to be Mighty Men.

Verse 11 now...

11 And this is the number of the mighty men whom David had: Jashobeam the son of a Hachmonite, chief of the captains; he had lifted up his spear against three hundred, killed by him at one time.

Jashobeam was a leader among leaders, you see even leaders have leaders over them.

Remember the centurion when he was speaking to Jesus, he said that he was a man with authority and yet he was too a man under authority.

True leaders understand that they answer to someone as well.

I am the shepherd of this church, yet I am also an under-shepherd of the Lord, who is the Chief Shepherd of Calvary Chapel Victorville.

Verse 12 now...

12 After him was Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite, who was one of the three mighty men. 13 He was with David at Pasdammim. Now there the Philistines were gathered for battle, and there was a piece of ground full of barley. So the people fled from the Philistines. 14 But they stationed themselves in the middle of that field, defended it, and killed the Philistines. So the Lord brought about a great victory.

These were amazing accomplishments and shows of the loyalty of these men.

They were willing to stand with David even when the odds were terribly against them, and God gave them the victory.

The title Mighty Men seems to be fitting...

15 Now three of the thirty chief men went down to the rock to David, into the cave of Adullam; and the army of the Philistines encamped in the Valley of Rephaim. 16 David was then in the stronghold, and the garrison of the Philistines was then in Bethlehem. 17 And David said with longing, "Oh, that someone would give me a drink of water from the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate!" 18 So the three broke through the camp of the Philistines, drew water from the well of Bethlehem

that was by the gate, and took it and brought it to David. Nevertheless David would not drink it, but poured it out to the Lord. 19 And he said, "Far be it from me, O my God, that I should do this! Shall I drink the blood of these men who have put their lives in jeopardy? For at the risk of their lives they brought it." Therefore he would not drink it. These things were done by the three mighty men.

This was David's hometown, he grew up in Bethlehem. He knew the well at the entrance of the city very well. He had drank from it many times, and just the taste of it brought back memories of his life there.

I know, growing up in Phelan, we had Zone L water, and we drank it right from the tap, I loved that water on a hot sunny day.

But just down the street from me at my friend Troy's house, he had Sheep Creek water, and that water was terrible, you can taste the dirt in it as you drank it, and it was so bitter.

But there was nothing like coming home to that wonderful Zone L water, we did not need a filter or anything then.

It was clean tasting and thirst quenching, and I know if I just tasted it, it would bring back so many summertime memories from my childhood.

I have been told that it is no longer this way in Zone L water, but when I was young it was fantastic.

David was longing for that oh so familiar water, and these three loyal Mighty Men hear his longing for the water, but there was the enemy now overrunning his hometown enjoying his water, and perhaps Saul allowed this on purpose in spite of David.

And these men broke through the enemy lines to get David a drink.

David was so inspiring to his men, that they were willing to risk their lives just to get him water.

He did not order them to do it, they simply heard his desire, and they just wanted to bless him.

And David is so touched by their gesture and humbled that he pours out the water as an offering to the Lord.

The sacrifice of his men impressed him so much.

David was a selfless leader, as he thinks the cost was too much for him to drink of it.

So starting now in verse 20...

20 Abishai the brother of Joab was chief of another three. He had lifted up his spear against three hundred men, killed them, and won a name among these three.

21 Of the three he was more honored than the other two men. Therefore he became their captain. However he did not attain to the first three.

So we have different levels of Mighty Men, but all of them seem to be pretty fierce.

One guy who can take on 300, that is pretty intense.

22 Benaiah was the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man from Kabzeel, who had done many deeds. He had killed two lion-like heroes of Moab. He also had gone down and killed a lion in the midst of a pit on a snowy day. 23 And he killed an Egyptian, a man of great height, five cubits tall. (7 Feet) In the Egyptian's hand there was a spear like a weaver's beam; and he went down to him with a staff, wrested the spear out of the Egyptian's hand, and killed him with his own spear. 24 These things Benaiah the son of Jehoiada did, and won a name among three mighty men. 25 Indeed he was more honored than the thirty, but he did not attain to the first three. And David appointed him over his guard.

Another great warrior here in Benaiah...

Next we will get a list of the rest of David's Honor Guard, now we will skip over them, you can read them later and butcher their names yourselves...

26 Also the mighty warriors were Asahel the brother of Joab, Elhanan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem, 27 Shammoth the Harorite, Helez the Pelonite, 28 Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite, Abiezer the Anathothite, 29 Sibbechai the Hushathite, Ilai the Ahohite, 30 Maharai the Netophathite, Heled the son of Baanah the

Netophathite, 31 Ithai the son of Ribai of Gibeah, of the sons of Benjamin, Benaiah the Pirathonite, 32 Hurai of the brooks of Gaash, Abiel the Arbathite, 33 Azmaveth the Baharumite, Eliahba the Shaalbonite, 34 the sons of Hashem the Gizonite, Jonathan the son of Shageh the Hararite, 35 Ahiam the son of Sacar the Hararite, Eliphai the son of Ur, 36 Hopher the Mecherathite, Ahijah the Pelonite, 37 Hezro the Carmelite, Naarai the son of Ezbai, 38 Joel the brother of Nathan, Mibhar the son of Hagri, 39 Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the Berothite (the armorbearer of Joab the son of Zeruiah), 40 Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite, 41 Uriah the Hittite, Zabab the son of Ahlai, 42 Adina the son of Shiza the Reubenite (a chief of the Reubenites) and thirty with him, 43 Hanan the son of Maachah, Joshaphat the Mithnite, 44 Uzzia the Ashterathite, Shama and Jeiel the sons of Hotham the Aroerite, 45 Jedaiel the son of Shimri, and Joha his brother, the Tizite, 46 Eliel the Mahavite, Jeribai and Joshaviah the sons of Elnaam, Ithmah the Moabite, 47 Eliel, Obed, and Jaasiel the Mezobaite.

Let's go into the next chapter, chapter 12 now, looking at the first 7 verses.

### **The Growth of David's Army(1 Sam 22:1,2)**

12:1 Now these were the men who came to David at Ziklag while he was still a fugitive from Saul the son of Kish; and they were among the mighty men, helpers in the war, 2 armed with bows, using both the right hand

and the left in hurling stones and shooting arrows with the bow. They were of Benjamin, Saul's brethren.

3 The chief was Ahiezer, then Joash, the sons of Shemaah the Gibeathite; Jeziel and Pelet the sons of Azmaveth; Berachah, and Jehu the Anathothite; 4 Ishmaiah the Gibeonite, a mighty man among the thirty, and over the thirty; Jeremiah, Jahaziel, Johanan, and Jozabad the Gederathite; 5 Eluzai, Jerimoth, Bealiah, Shemariah, and Shephatiah the Haruphite; 6 Elkanah, Jisshiah, Azarel, Joezer, and Jashobeam, the Korahites; 7 and Joelah and Zebadiah the sons of Jeroham of Gedor.

Now during David's time in Ziklag, these mighty warriors gathered to him and gave their allegiance to David and toward his cause.

And this was a very important time as the Chronicler takes us back in time to when David was on the run.

We see even then some of those from Saul's own tribe of Benjamin were aware of the times, and they forsook much to follow David.

They knew that God had chosen David, and they made decision according to God's Will and not how they would benefit better personally.

They are noted to be ambidextrous, as left hand fighters in the scripture seemed to be very valuable warriors, how much more those who could use both hands!

Starting in verse 8 now...

8 Some Gadites joined David at the stronghold in the wilderness, mighty men of valor, men trained for battle, who could handle shield and spear, whose faces were like the faces of lions, and were as swift as gazelles on the mountains: (Very masculine description for sure) 9 Ezer the first, Obadiah the second, Eliab the third, 10 Mishmannah the fourth, Jeremiah the fifth, 11 Attai the sixth, Eliel the seventh, 12 Johanan the eighth, Elzabad the ninth, 13 Jeremiah the tenth, and Machbanai the eleventh. 14 These were from the sons of Gad, captains of the army; the least was over a hundred, and the greatest was over a thousand. 15 These are the ones who crossed the Jordan in the first month, when it had overflowed all its banks; and they put to flight all those in the valleys, to the east and to the west.

These eleven Gadites had a fierce loyalty as they show their determination and grit in crossing the Jordan River at a time that it would be raging and even overflowing on its banks.

They had an incredible physical strength and were lion like in their appearance.

David gained much in having them by his side...

This is a great picture for us today, where Christianity has kind of grown soft and there are great attempts to emasculate it through culture and by pressure.

The currents of our day are flowing swiftly and dangerously, and we need to be strong and steady in our resolve to stand with Christ.

You will be unpopular and you will be swimming against the current of pop culture, but we are expected to stand strong with our Lord.

We should not be apologizing or bowing to the prevailing pressures, but we need this lion like faith today.

Look now starting in verse 16...

16 Then some of the sons of Benjamin and Judah came to David at the stronghold. 17 And David went out to meet them, and answered and said to them, "If you have come peaceably to me to help me, my heart will be united with you; but if to betray me to my enemies, since there is no wrong in my hands, may the God of our fathers look and bring judgment." 18 Then the Spirit came upon Amasai, chief of the captains, and he said:

"We are yours, O David; We are on your side, O son of Jesse! Peace, peace to you, And peace to your helpers! For your God helps you."

So David received them, and made them captains of the troop.

19 And some from Manasseh defected to David when he was going with the Philistines to battle against Saul; but they did not help them, for the lords of the

Philistines sent him away by agreement, saying, "He may defect to his master Saul and endanger our heads." 20 When he went to Ziklag, those of Manasseh who defected to him were Adnah, Jozabad, Jediael, Michael, Jozabad, Elihu, and Zillethai, captains of the thousands who were from Manasseh. 21 And they helped David against the bands of raiders, for they were all mighty men of valor, and they were captains in the army. 22 For at that time they came to David day by day to help him, until it was a great army, like the army of God.

First David went out to meet others here from Benjamin and Judah, and David was cautious.

But in the end he accepts their pledge.

In verse 18, we see the Spirit come upon Amasai.

In the Hebrew the word is *Labash* (law-bash'); Which means properly, to wrap around to put on a garment to clothe oneself literally or figuratively.

In the New Testament Jesus spoke of this Epi experience with the Holy Spirit in **Luke 24:49** "Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."

That word endue in the Greek is *enduo*- in the sense of sinking into a garment; to invest with clothing, literally or figuratively.

Today we too can be clothed with the Holy Spirit, we can have the same experience.

This is something we should be seeking daily this empowering of the Holy Spirit.

And so David took them along with those from the tribe of Manasseh, and now a great army is formed as the Great Army of God.

So the next section, verses 23-37 is a list of divisions by grouping and number, and this is another section that is good for you to read on your own...

### **David's Army at Hebron**

23 Now these were the numbers of the divisions that were equipped for war, and came to David at Hebron to turn over the kingdom of Saul to him, according to the word of the Lord: 24 of the sons of Judah bearing shield and spear, six thousand eight hundred armed for war; 25 of the sons of Simeon, mighty men of valor fit for war, seven thousand one hundred; 26 of the sons of Levi four thousand six hundred; 27 Jehoiada, the leader of the Aaronites, and with him three thousand seven hundred; 28 Zadok, a young man, a valiant warrior, and from his father's house twenty-two captains; 29 of the sons of Benjamin, relatives of Saul, three thousand (until then the greatest part of them had remained loyal to the house of Saul); 30 of the sons of Ephraim twenty thousand eight hundred, mighty men of valor, famous men throughout their

father's house; 31 of the half-tribe of Manasseh eighteen thousand, who were designated by name to come and make David king; 32 of the sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their command; 33 of Zebulun there were fifty thousand who went out to battle, expert in war with all weapons of war, stouthearted men who could keep ranks; 34 of Naphtali one thousand captains, and with them thirty-seven thousand with shield and spear; 35 of the Danites who could keep battle formation, twenty-eight thousand six hundred; 36 of Asher, those who could go out to war, able to keep battle formation, forty thousand; 37 of the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh, from the other side of the Jordan, one hundred and twenty thousand armed for battle with every kind of weapon of war.

Starting now in verse 38...

38 All these men of war, who could keep ranks, came to Hebron with a loyal heart, to make David king over all Israel; and all the rest of Israel were of one mind to make David king. 39 And they were there with David three days, eating and drinking, for their brethren had prepared for them. 40 Moreover those who were near to them, from as far away as Issachar and Zebulun and Naphtali, were bringing food on donkeys and camels, on mules and oxen — provisions of flour and cakes of

figs and cakes of raisins, wine and oil and oxen and sheep abundantly, for there was joy in Israel.

Now, all of Israel was here rejoicing in David being their King, and the celebration lasted 3 days.

Now, the Chronicler brings us back to Hebron here, where all these who have joined to David are there with him, and remember this is now seven years after Saul has died.

David was patient, he was not a tyrant, and he waited for the people's hearts to turn to him as King.

We see Jesus in all of this, Jesus never forces Himself upon us demanding that we worship Him and see Him as Lord and King.

No, He waits patiently for us to come to Him and acknowledge Him as our Lord and Savior.

Jesus gives us all many opportunities but the choice is in our hands, we must choose to accept Him as our Savior.

So next chapter now, starting in verse 1 of chapter 13...

### **The Ark Brought from Kirjath Jearim(2 Sam 6:1-11)**

13:1 Then David consulted with the captains of thousands and hundreds, and with every leader. 2 And David said to all the assembly of Israel, "If it seems good to you, and if it is of the Lord our God, let us send out to our brethren everywhere who are left in all the land of Israel, and with them to the priests and Levites

who are in their cities and their common-lands, that they may gather together to us; 3 and let us bring the ark of our God back to us, for we have not inquired at it since the days of Saul." 4 Then all the assembly said that they would do so, for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people.

King David wanted to make a clear delineation between his Kingdom and that of Saul's.

The first move that he made as acting King over all Israel was a spiritual move.

He wanted to show that unlike Saul, he would put God at the top priority.

The Ark had been the key symbol that the Presence of God was in the midst of Israel since the days of Moses.

Now, remember prior to this, the Philistines captured the Ark during the rule of Saul.

But that did not go well with them, in any city that they brought it into they received a terrible judgment, as boils broke out on the Philistines.

Finally, the Philistines built a cart and had two milk cows pull the thing away from them, and instead of going to their babies, the Lord led the cows back to Israeli territory.

Now, David here desires to bring the Ark to Jerusalem, and he has a real dilemma here, because although he

wanted to do a great thing for the Lord, he only really consulted with the leading men.

He should have sought the Lord's will and direction on getting it to Jerusalem.

Man's wisdom is incomplete, he needs heavenly wisdom here, and because he lacked in seeking God's Will, there will be huge consequences.

5 So David gathered all Israel together, from Shihor in Egypt to as far as the entrance of Hamath, to bring the ark of God from Kirjath Jearim. 6 And David and all Israel went up to Baalah, to Kirjath Jearim, which belonged to Judah, to bring up from there the ark of God the Lord, who dwells between the cherubim, where His name is proclaimed. 7 So they carried the ark of God on a new cart from the house of Abinadab, and Uzza and Ahio drove the cart. 8 Then David and all Israel played music before God with all their might, with singing, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on cymbals, and with trumpets.

Now, because David and the leading men did not seek God on how to bring the cart to Jerusalem, they copied the method the Philistines used, with a cart.

It seems like things are going pretty smoothly at this point, there is music, much joy and dancing.

But they were copying the world's methods here.

There was a specific way the Ark needed to be handled and moved as laid out in the Mosaic Law.

Yet in their zeal and prayerlessness they expected God to bless their worldly idea.

This speaks volumes to us today in 2020, as much of the church has turned to the world for its ideas and programs, in order to be relevant.

As a church we must commit to being immovable in God's Word, and keeping God's Standard if we expect God's Blessing to be on our ministry.

We must not allow the culture to dictate the worship within God's Church, but as we seek God's Will and Way, we will find that we are in fact influencing our culture.

The influence goes the other way.

And as is always the case, the result in following the flesh, and doing it man's way is death in one way or another, physically or spiritually, or both.

9 And when they came to Chidon's threshing floor, Uzza put out his hand to hold the ark, for the oxen stumbled. 10 Then the anger of the Lord was aroused against Uzza, and He struck him because he put his hand to the ark; and he died there before God. 11 And David became angry because of the Lord's outbreak against Uzza; therefore that place is called Perez Uzza to this day. 12 David was afraid of God that day, saying, "How can I bring the ark of God to me?"

This seems severe to our form of Christianity today, but God was specific on how to move His Ark, and it was to be carried by man on long poles.

Beasts were not required to carry the load, and because of this disobedience there were huge consequences.

The Lord's anger was aroused and Uzza became a Wasa.

God killed him to show the severity of obedience, and the King began to feel the weight of his calling and the incredible importance in following God in his leadership.

Today many things are done in the church in the name of worship, they are brought in on worldly carts, and done in ways that God never wanted.

But they are performed with great emotion and excitement and the thrill of it all causes people to get caught up in it.

These new winds of doctrines come blowing in and as fast as they blow in, they blow out.

It is important to worship God in Truth and in Spirit all in accordance to God's Word.

We do not need to barrow ideas from the world to worship our God.

Jesus warned in **Matt 15:8-9**

**8 "These people draw near to Me with their mouth,**

And honor Me with their lips,  
But their heart is far from Me.

9 And in vain they worship Me,

Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

The Psalmist declared in Ps 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart — These, O God, You will not despise.

We do not need to rev up a false worship to have a thrilling experience, true worship comes from a humble and contrite heart.

No Gimmicks, no new carts, and no fluff, just genuine worship.

So after this incident with Uzza we read now in verse 13...

13 So David would not move the ark with him into the City of David, but took it aside into the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite. 14 The ark of God remained with the family of Obed-Edom in his house three months. And the Lord blessed the house of Obed-Edom and all that he had.

Now David seems to be moving in the right direction here, after the death of Uzza.

We see now a healthy fear and reverence for his Lord.

He begins to ask, “How can I bring the Ark to the center of Israel?” He wants God’s presence in the center.

So he takes a moment to seek the Lord, and leaves the Ark with someone who knew how to handle it a priest Obed-Edom.

And there we see the potential that comes from obedience, doing it God’s Way, we see blessing, as Obed-Edom’s house was blessed by God.

The presence of God, and handling it His way, brings blessing upon His people.

We don’t need to work it up, or muster it up with emotion, we just need to seek Him on His own terms, trusting in faith that that will bring blessing into our lives.

So let’s look at the last chapter here for tonight, chapter 14... starting in verse 1...

### **David Established at Jerusalem(2 Sam 5:11-16)**

14:1 Now Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, with masons and carpenters, to build him a house. 2 So David knew that the Lord had established him as king over Israel, for his kingdom was highly exalted for the sake of His people Israel.

David understood his need for regional alliances, and we see here God had raised him up to be respected by neighboring kings.

We see some more qualities in David's leadership here that should be modeled in spiritual leaders.

David recognized immediately that his own success was because the Lord had called Him and is now establishing him as King.

David was not self-appointed but he was appointed by God, and that realization is becoming more and more clear to him.

Secondly he was lifted up for the people's sake not for his own legacy.

He was serving the Lord's purposes over the Nation of Israel, it was not about David's name being known, but he was to simply be a conduit of God's Blessing to the people.

And this is a fruit of strong spiritual leadership, the people are blessed of God as a byproduct of their leader's submission to God.

Now, David was a great leader, who had immense qualities for us to look at and model.

But, remember the scriptures never let us lift man too high, God's Word is always faithful to show us the humanity of its characters, so next we will see David's failures...

Starting in verse 3...

3 Then David took more wives in Jerusalem, and David begot more sons and daughters. 4 And these are the

names of his children whom he had in Jerusalem: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon, 5 Ibhar, Elishua, Elpelet, 6 Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, 7 Elishama, Beeliada, and Eliphelet.

In the Law for the kings in Deuteronomy, it specifically says... **Deut. 17:17 Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself.**

Understand something, people today claim that our God okay's polygamy in the Bible.

But understand, although it is recorded here as a historical event, God never once in His Word gives the okay for multiple wives.

In fact the opposite can be said, the Bible continually records the painful realities of having competing wives.

It is never recorded in a good light, and that is important to know, this will become problematic for David later in his life, as many family feuds will arise within his own household from the children of his different wives.

So verse 8 now...

### **The Philistines Defeated(2 Sam 5:17-25)**

8 Now when the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over all Israel, all the Philistines went up to search for David. And David heard of it and went out against them. 9 Then the Philistines went and made a

raid on the Valley of Rephaim. 10 And David inquired of God, saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will You deliver them into my hand?"

The Lord said to him, "Go up, for I will deliver them into your hand."

We see David's maturity here now, as he has learned from past errors, and is now seeking the Lord.

It is natural for us to want to protect our children from failure in this life, we give them all a participation ribbon, and protect their feelings, but there is no greater teacher in this life than failure.

It is important to let our children fail, and to teach them to learn from their failures to be better.

So here, the Lord promises David Victory, and this is a vital reality for our own spiritual walk, when we are seeking the Lord's Will for our lives, we are seeking the Victorious Life.

Verse 11 now...

11 So they went up to Baal Perazim, and David defeated them there. Then David said, "God has broken through my enemies by my hand like a breakthrough of water." Therefore they called the name of that place Baal Perazim. 12 And when they left their gods there, David gave a commandment, and they were burned with fire.

13 Then the Philistines once again made a raid on the valley. 14 Therefore David inquired again of God, and God said to him, "You shall not go up after them; circle around them, and come upon them in front of the mulberry trees. 15 And it shall be, when you hear a sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees, then you shall go out to battle, for God has gone out before you to strike the camp of the Philistines." 16 So David did as God commanded him, and they drove back the army of the Philistines from Gibeon as far as Gezer. 17 Then the fame of David went out into all lands, and the Lord brought the fear of him upon all nations.

David gets the victory as was promised to him, and after the first victory David goes back to the Lord to seek Him for the next step.

We see a great pattern now building in David's prayer life.

He asks, "Lord, shall I go forward at this time?"

We see it could have been easy for David to assume that victory would come the same way it did before, but presuming upon God never ends well.

We see the second time around, God has another strategy, showing us that God rarely does things the same as He did in the past.

This keeps us on our knees seeking Him continually, instead of trusting on past experience.

We must seek Him at every trial and every battle before we move ahead.

Total dependency upon God is the best way to live your life.

It is common practice today to keep parts of our lives from the Lord, and we only allow Him in certain areas.

Church, understand it is a total surrender that God expects, He desires all of us, big and small parts of our lives.

He wants to go to work with you tomorrow, He wants to be involved with you as you are home with your kids tomorrow.

To have a continual communication with God is the greatest pinnacle you can achieve in this life, there is no higher plain to live on, then seeking God in all areas of your life.

David became renown because of this, his reputation was that of God being with him continually, that is a good aim.

Amen?

**Let's pray...**

Maybe there are some areas in your life that God has been left out of, these men up here are here to pray with you, if God has revealed something to you tonight.

Bring it to the Lord in prayer, whatever your burden is tonight, come up and be ministered too.