

2 Samuel 6:5-6

Then David and all the house of Israel played music before the LORD on all kinds of instruments of fir wood, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on sistrums, and on cymbals. And when they came to Nachon's threshing floor, Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled.

You may be reading this and wondering what in the world is going on? One minute people are singing and dancing to the Lord and the next minute, wham, God kills a man, and for what, not wanting the Ark of the Covenant to fall off a cart? Really?

Yep, that's exactly what happened, but not in that tone of voice. Long story short is that the Ark of the Covenant was captured by the Philistines. God punished the Philistines for having the Ark of the Covenant, so they brought the Ark of the Covenant back to Israel, but not to Jerusalem but to Kirjath Jearim to the house of Abinadab who had it for twenty years.

† **1 Samuel 7:1-2** *Then the men of Kirjath Jearim came and took the ark of the LORD, and brought it into the house of Abinadab on the hill, and consecrated Eleazar his son to keep the ark of the LORD. So it was that the ark remained in Kirjath Jearim a long time; it was there twenty years. And all the house of Israel lamented after the LORD.*

Which bring us up to the current situation where King David was now wanting to bring the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem. So King David decided himself how it would be done, and it sounded great how he was doing it: ***Then David and all the house of Israel played music before the LORD on all kinds of instruments of fir wood, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on sistrums, and on cymbals.***

The only problem was that it was not the right way, because it wasn't God's way. Now there was nothing wrong with the singing and dancing and rejoicing in the Lord. No, the sin was how they transported the Ark of the Covenant. The instructions were given by God way back in the book of Exodus:

† **Exodus 25:13-14** *And you shall make poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold. You shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, that the ark may be carried by them.*

The Ark of the Covenant was so sacred that only the priests were to carry the Ark of the Covenant, and they were not to even touch it, but poles were made for the priests to use to carry the Ark of the Covenant. So the two sins committed were that the Ark of the Covenant was on a cart pulled by some oxen and not the shoulders of the anointed priests, and the second sin was that the ark was touched. Even though the motives may have seemed good, we know that are ways are not God's ways, and what seems good to us could be an abomination to God.

So, with all that said, we need to look at the church. Sure we can be singing out loud, lifting our hands to the Lord in worship, but if there is sin in the church, and you know it, God is not pleased. Now you may be thinking, doesn't everyone sin and that's why we need Jesus? That is 100% correct, but the bible also talks about willful knowingly sinning in the church. Paul addressed it in the Corinthian church:

† **1 Corinthians 5:9-13** *I wrote to you in my epistle not to keep company with sexually immoral people. Yet I certainly did not mean with the sexually immoral people of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner--not even to eat with such a person. For what have I to do with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside? But those who are outside God judges. Therefore "put away from yourselves the evil person."*

We are to approach those who are willfully living together outside of marriage, or maybe you know someone in church committing adultery, or a gay relationship, or willfully into drugs and partying and alcohol. Yes, once again we all struggle with things, but if a person is willfully doing such things and you or others know it, God is not pleased with us, the church for allowing it to continue and not confronting the person(s). *Therefore "put away from yourselves the evil person."*

† **1 Corinthians 5:5** *deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.*