

2 Samuel 6:12-15

Now it was told King David, saying, "The LORD has blessed the house of Obed-Edom and all that belongs to him, because of the ark of God." So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-Edom to the City of David with gladness. And so it was, when those bearing the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, that he sacrificed oxen and fattened sheep. Then David danced before the LORD with all his might; and David was wearing a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet.

Look at verse 13 in today's devotional again.

† *And so it was, when those bearing the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, that he sacrificed oxen and fattened sheep.*

Can you imagine how long that would have taken? But we in our fast paced lifestyle want to rush into worship and church, give an hour, or maybe two to the Lord, and go running out of there like we did God an honor with just our presence alone.

But if you read what was going on prior to today's devotional verses, you realize that the Ark of God was not being brought in the correct way.

† *2 Samuel 6:3-5 So they set the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill; and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drove the new cart. And they brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill, accompanying the ark of God; and Ahio went before the ark. 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.*

I mean, if you were to just read verse 5

† *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.*

You would think, what's wrong with that, we play music and sing to the Lord in church, so what's the big deal? The big deal is verse 3 *So they set the ark of God on a new cart.*

You see the Ark of God was not to be on a cart pulled by man or an animal, it was to be carried by the priests.

† *Deuteronomy 31:9 So Moses wrote this law and delivered it to the priests, the sons of Levi, who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and to all the elders of Israel.*

I don't think God wants some Wham, Bam, thank You God, type of worship. No, He wants to be revered as God. Yet how many treat the worship like they are at a concert. The music starts,

and bam, they are right there in it. But once the music stops it's like, "Concert over, time to go home."

But the worship does not start or stop when the music starts and stops. No, worship starts before you get to church. It starts in the morning with prayer and being in God's word. It continues as you meditate (think about) God's word and His goodness. It continues as you drive to church and you have the worship music going and you are singing to the Lord before you get to church. That's the warm up part of your worship. Then you get to church, **not late but on time before worship starts**, and then you join in with your brothers and sisters in worshipping the Lord.

The music stops, which just means you have stopped pouring your heart out to the Lord in song, so that you can listen to God pour His heart out to you through His word being taught.

Then, hopefully there is a time of singing to the Lord afterward the teaching. Now this is not a time to talk to your friends, because you are responding to the Lord in worship about what He has spoken to you through the pastor in God's word.

Then the music stop, but worship doesn't stop. No, now is when worship is what Jesus said:

† **Matthew 25:40** **And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'**

What that means is that during this time you are talking and praying with others. Not rushing out to beat the traffic, or run to be first in line to get your kids out of Sunday School. It's also a time of sharing what the Lord has been doing in your life that week, and/or what the Lord has spoken to you in the service.

So when does worship stop? Actually, it should never stop.

† **1 Corinthians 10:31 (NKJV)** *Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.*