

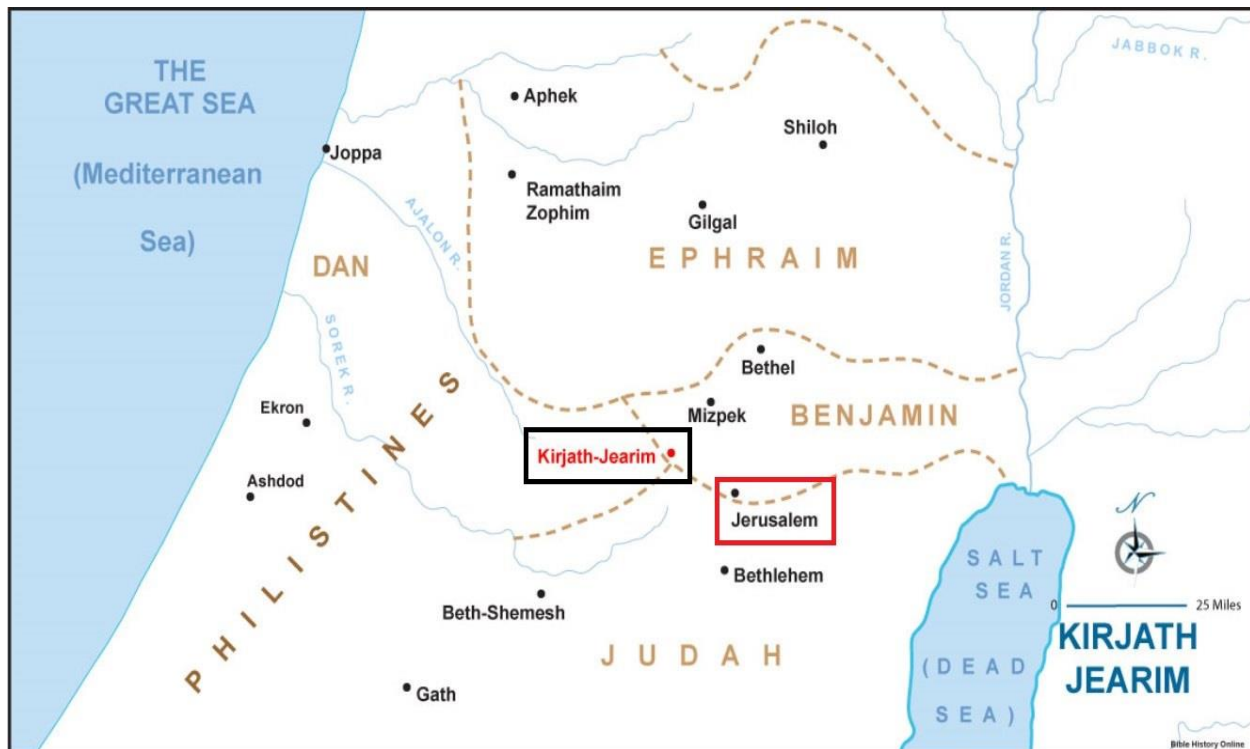
2 Samuel 6

Verses 1 – 5

Now David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. ² And David departed from Baale-judah, with all the people who were with him, to bring up from there the ark of God which is called by the Name, the very name of the Lord of armies who is enthroned *above* the cherubim. ³ They had mounted the ark of God on a new cart and moved it from the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill; and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were leading the new cart. ⁴ So they brought it with the ark of God from the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill; and Ahio was walking ahead of the ark. ⁵ Meanwhile, David and all the house of Israel were celebrating before the Lord with all kinds of *instruments made of juniper wood*, and with lyres, harps, tambourines, castanets, and cymbals.

² And David departed from Baale-judah, with all the people who were with him, to bring up from there the ark of God which is called by the Name, the very name of the Lord of armies who is enthroned *above* the cherubim.

See Map 605



Baale-judah is another name for Kiriath-Jearim

See 1 Chron. 13:5-6

⁶ David and all Israel went up to Baalath, that is, to Kiriath-jearim, which belongs to Judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, the Lord who is enthroned *above* the cherubim, where His name is called.

³ They had mounted the ark of God on a new cart and moved it from the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill; and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were leading the new cart.

This was in direct violation of the rules laid down in the Pentateuch.

Only the Kohathites could carry the Ark and it had to be carried using the poles. If they touched the Ark itself they would die.

See Numbers 4:15

¹⁵ When Aaron and his sons have finished covering the holy *objects* and all the furnishings of the sanctuary, when the camp is to set out, after that the sons of Kohath shall come to carry them by the poles, so that they will not touch the holy objects and die. These are the things in the tent of meeting that the sons of Kohath are to carry.

⁴ So they brought it with the ark of God from the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill; and Ahio was walking ahead of the ark.

Ahio went before the ark to guide the oxen and Uzzah walked behind the Ark to keep a watchful eye on it.

⁵ Meanwhile, David and all the house of Israel were celebrating before the Lord with all kinds of *instruments made of juniper wood*, and with lyres, harps, tambourines, castanets, and cymbals.

This was a happy time for Israel and the people expressed their joy with the playing of musical instruments.

Verses 6 – 11

⁶ But when they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah reached out toward the ark of God and took hold of it, because the oxen nearly overturned *it*. ⁷ And the anger of the Lord burned against Uzzah, and God struck him down there for his irreverence; and he died there by the ark of God. ⁸ Then David became angry because of the Lord's outburst against Uzzah; and that place has been called Perez-uzzah to this day. ⁹ So David was afraid of the Lord that day; and he said, "How can the ark of the Lord come to me?" ¹⁰ And David was unwilling to move the ark of the Lord into the city of David with him; but David took it aside to the house of Obed-edom, the Gittite. ¹¹ The ark of the Lord remained in the house of Obed-edom the Gittite for three months, and the Lord blessed Obed-edom and all his household.

⁶ But when they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah reached out toward the ark of God and took hold of it, because the oxen nearly overturned *it*.

There is no doubt that this was done with the best of intentions but Uzzah had violated a strict command concerning a Holy Object.

Why did the priests of that time not instruct David concerning the proper way to move the Ark.? It never should have been placed on a cart. This is an indication of how little the priesthood of that time knew about these matters.

⁷ And the anger of the Lord burned against Uzzah, and God struck him down there for his irreverence; and he died there by the ark of God.

The death of Uzzah may seem unfair to some but it was the punishment that God had set forth for anyone that touched the Ark or any of the Holy Objects. If anyone wants to assign blame then it should fall on the priests because it was their responsibility to know the law and follow it carefully.

⁹ So David was afraid of the Lord that day; and he said, "How can the ark of the Lord come to me?" ¹⁰ And David was unwilling to move the ark of the Lord into the city of David with him; but David took it aside to the house of Obed-edom, the Gittite.

David loved God but his lack of knowledge about how to move the Ark caused him to come to the wrong conclusion. There may be a lesson to be learned here!

The Gittite refers to the name of his birthplace, the Levitical city of Gath-rimmon in the tribe of Dan. Obed-edom was a Levite descended from Kohath.

See 1 Chronicles 15:24.

²⁴ Shebaniah, Joshaphat, Nethanel, Amasai, Zechariah, Benaiah, and Eliezer, the priests, blew the trumpets before the ark of God. Obed-edom and Jehiah also were gatekeepers for the ark.

¹¹ The ark of the Lord remained in the house of Obed-edom the Gittite for three months, and the Lord blessed Obed-edom and all his household.

When God blessed Obed-edom and all his household, David took this as a sign that he should now bring the Ark to Jerusalem.

Verses 12 - 16

¹² Now it was reported to King David, saying, “The Lord has blessed the house of Obed-edom and all that belongs to him, on account of the ark of God.” So David went and brought the ark of God up from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with joy. ¹³ And so it was, that when those carrying the ark of the Lord marched six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fattened steer. ¹⁴ And David was dancing before the Lord with all *his* strength, and David was wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁵ So David and all the house of Israel were bringing up the ark of the Lord with joyful shouting and the sound of the trumpet. ¹⁶ Then it happened, as the ark of the LORD was coming into the city of David, that Michal the daughter of Saul looked down through the window and saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she was contemptuous of him in her heart.

¹² Now it was reported to King David, saying, “The Lord has blessed the house of Obed-edom and all that belongs to him, on account of the ark of God.” So David went and brought the ark of God up from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with joy.

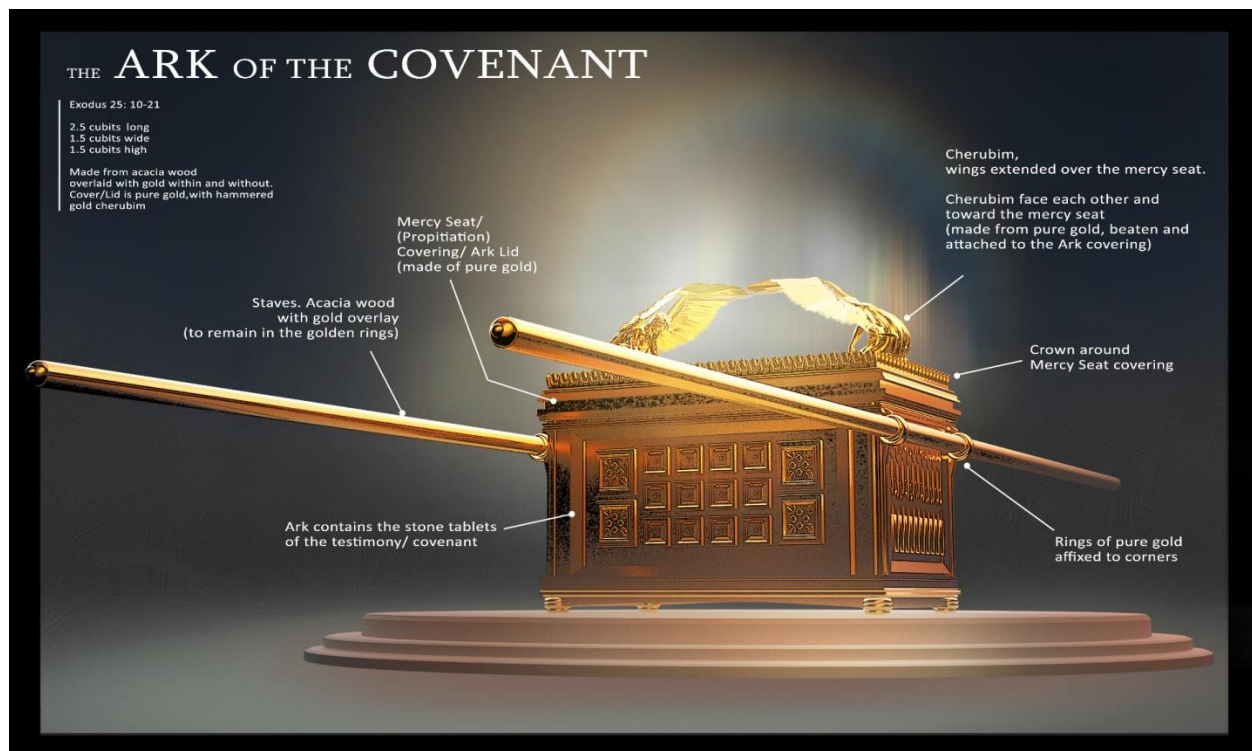
David was not properly prepared the first time but after learning what he had done wrong he was ready to bring the Ark to Jerusalem.

See 1 Chron. 15:13-15

¹³ Because you did not *carry it* at the first, the Lord our God made an outburst against us, since we did not seek Him according to the ordinance. ¹⁴ So the priests and the Levites consecrated themselves to bring up the ark of the Lord God of Israel. ¹⁵ The sons of the Levites carried the ark of God on their shoulders with the poles on them, just as Moses had commanded in accordance with the word of the Lord.

God had commanded the ark to be carried by the priests who used the poles that had been made for this very purpose.

See pic 610



This is one of the best pictures of the Ark because the poles are shown as being on the short side of the Ark. Most pics have the poles on the long sides which is not correct. There is still one small problem with this pic. The poles should be near the bottom of the Ark attached to the legs of the Ark.

¹³ And so it was, that when those carrying the ark of the Lord marched six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fattened steer.

This was not required in the law but this may have been an act of repentance on David's part for not consulting God before he tried to move the Ark the first time.

¹⁴ And David was dancing before the Lord with all *his* strength, and David was wearing a linen ephod.

The linen ephod was the garment of a priest. Was David a Levite or a priest? No, he was from the tribe of Judah and only a Levite could be a priest. Oops!

David also wore a fine linen robe as did all of the Levites who carried the ark.

See 1 Chronicles 15:27

²⁷ Now David was clothed with a robe of fine linen with all the Levites who were carrying the ark, and the singers, and Chenaniah the leader of the singing *with the singers.* David also wore an ephod of linen.

¹⁶ Then it happened, as the ark of the Lord was coming into the city of David, that Michal the daughter of Saul looked down through the window and saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord; and she was contemptuous of him in her heart.

David exposed himself during his wild dancing. This could have been avoided by wearing the proper clothing. Since he wore an ephod of linen like a priest he should have also worn the underwear of a priest.

See pic 615



This event alone would hardly have caused this level of contempt so what else do you think might have caused Michael to despise David?

Perhaps she never forgave David for taking her away from her first husband, Paltiel, and making her just one of his many wives. ☹️ The concubines would have added another layer of frustration.

Verses 17 - 19

¹⁷ Now they brought in the ark of the Lord and set it in its place inside the tent which David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the Lord. ¹⁸ When David had finished offering the burnt offering and the peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of armies. ¹⁹ Further, he distributed to all the people, to all the multitude of Israel, both to men and women, a cake of bread, one of dates, and one of raisins to each one. Then all the people left, each to his house.

¹⁷ Now they brought in the ark of the Lord and set it in its place inside the tent which David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the Lord.

This tent was not the proper place for the Ark. It belonged in the Tabernacle but it was in Gibeon.

See 1 Chron. 16:37 - 40

³⁷ So he left Asaph and his relatives there before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to minister before the ark continually, as every day's work required, ³⁸ and Obed-edom with his sixty-eight relatives; Obed-edom, the son of Jeduthun, and Hosah as gatekeepers. ³⁹ He left Zadok the priest and his relatives the priests before the tabernacle of the Lord in the high place which was at Gibeon, ⁴⁰ to offer burnt offerings to the Lord on the altar of burnt offering continually morning and evening, even according to everything that is written in the Law of the Lord, which He commanded Israel.

Why did David leave the Tabernacle in Gibeon but keep the Ark in Jerusalem? This may have been a political decision to unite the North & South but it was not what God had commanded.

See Map 620



Verses 20 - 23

²⁰ But when David returned to bless his *own* household, Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David and said, “How the king of Israel dignified himself today! For he exposed himself today in the sight of his servants’ female slaves, as one of the rabble shamelessly exposes himself!” ²¹ But David said to Michal, “I was before the Lord, who preferred me to your father and to all his house, to appoint me as ruler over the people of the Lord, over Israel. So I will celebrate before the Lord! ²² And I might demean myself *even* more than this and be lowly in my own sight, but with the female slaves of whom you have spoken, with them I am to be held in honor!” ²³ And Michal the daughter of Saul had no child to the day of her death.

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Michal was right concerning the facts and David did not deny her accusation but she delivered the message in a way that was somewhat harsh. Had it been delivered in a loving manor her station in life would have been better.

²¹ But David said to Michal, “I was before the Lord, who preferred me to your father and to all his house, to appoint me as ruler over the people of the Lord, over Israel. So I will celebrate before the Lord! ²² And I might demean myself *even more than this* and be lowly in my own sight, but with the female slaves of whom you have spoken, with them I am to be held in honor!”

David tried to defend his actions but he could have danced with the same amount of enthusiasm had he been wearing some underwear. And insulting her father and his family did not change the facts.

As far as the female slaves were concerned they would treat the king with honor but men of honor should not open the door for them to whisper among themselves.

²³ And Michal the daughter of Saul had no child to the day of her death.

Did David, a man after God’s own heart, not forgive this indignation?