

# 1 Chronicles 13:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And all the congregation said that they would do so: for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people.

## Analysis

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**And all the congregation said that they would do so: for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people**—The Hebrew yashar ('right') indicates moral correctness and straight judgment. David's proposal to retrieve the ark received unanimous approval. Yet this 'right thing' was attempted wrongly (on a cart instead of Levitical shoulders), resulting in Uzzah's death (v.10).

This verse warns against substituting popular consensus for divine instruction. The people's enthusiasm didn't sanctify improper methods. Good intentions without adherence to God's prescribed order end in judgment. The Chronicler teaches post-exilic Israel that worship must follow revealed patterns, not human reasoning.

## Historical Context

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David consulted all Israel about retrieving the ark from Kiriath-jearim, where it had remained since the Philistines returned it (1 Sam 6-7). This democratic consultation showed David's leadership style, yet the subsequent disaster proved that majority approval doesn't override divine law.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How can we ensure our 'good ideas' for serving God align with His revealed will?
2. When has popular enthusiasm led you to attempt God's work in unauthorized ways?

## Interlinear Text

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לְעַשׂ וְתִּזְמְרָרָ וְ  
that they would do so | H3651 H3588

כָּל הַקָּבָד לְ  
And all the congregation | H3605 H6951

שָׁרֵךְ בְּעֵינֵי כָּל  
of all the people | H3605 H5971

בְּעֵינֵי כָּל שָׁרֵךְ  
in the eyes for the thing | H1697 H5869

זֶה רַבְעֵת  
was right | H3474

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