

2 Samuel 6:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they brought it out of the house of Abinadab which was at Gibeah, accompanying the ark of God: and Ahio went before the ark.

Analysis

And they brought it out of the house of Abinadab which was at Gibeah, accompanying the ark of God: and Ahio went before the ark.

This verse contributes to the narrative of Ark Brought to Jerusalem, emphasizing reverence in worship, God's holiness. The ark's journey to Jerusalem emphasizes God's transcendent holiness and the necessity of approaching Him on His terms. Uzzah's death for touching the ark (though apparently well-intentioned) teaches that sincerity doesn't override obedience. David's dancing demonstrates appropriate joy in worship. Michal's contempt reveals heart attitudes toward genuine worship. The Hebrew *qodesh* (קֹדֶשׁ, 'holiness') dominates this chapter.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 6 occurs during David's reign (circa 1010-970 BCE) over Israel's united monarchy. Archaeological discoveries, including the Tel Dan inscription mentioning the 'House of David,' corroborate biblical historicity. Ancient Near Eastern customs regarding reverence in worship, God's holiness provide crucial background. The geopolitical situation involved regional powers—Philistines, Ammonites, Arameans, Moabites, Edomites—as David consolidated and expanded Israel's territory. Cultural practices concerning kingship, warfare, covenant relationships, family dynamics, and religious observance differed significantly from modern Western contexts, requiring careful attention to avoid

anachronistic interpretation while extracting timeless theological principles applicable across cultures and eras.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of reverence in worship, God's holiness?
2. What does this verse reveal about God's character, and how should that shape your worship and obedience?
3. In what specific ways can you apply this truth to your current circumstances and relationships this week?

Interlinear Text

וַשָּׂא הוּ	מִבֵּית יְת	אֲבִינָדָב	אֲשֶׁר	בְּגִבְעָה		
And they brought	it out of the house	of Abinadab	H834	which was at Gibeah		
H5375	H1004	H41		H1390		
עִם	הָאָרוֹן:	הָאֱלֹהִים	וְאִחִיו	הֵלֵךְ	לִפְנֵי	הָאָרוֹן:
accompanying	the ark	of God	and Ahio	went	before	the ark
H5973	H727	H430	H283	H1980	H6440	H727

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 13:7 (References God): And they carried the ark of God in a new cart out of the house of Abinadab: and Uzza and Ahio drave the cart.