

2 Samuel 6:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David was afraid of the LORD that day, and said, How shall the ark of the LORD come to me?

Analysis

And David was afraid of the LORD that day, and said, How shall the ark of the LORD come to me?

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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

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

וַיִּירָא	וַיֹּדַע	אֶת	יְהוָה:	בַּיּוֹם	הַהוּא	וַיֹּאמֶר	אֵל יֵי
was afraid	And David	H853	of the LORD	that day	H1931	and said	H349
H3372	H1732		H3068	H3117		H559	
וַיָּבֹאוּ	אֵלַי	אֵר וְ	יְהוָה:				
come	H413	How shall the ark	of the LORD				
H935		H727	H3068				

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 119:120 (Parallel theme): My flesh trembleth for fear of thee; and I am afraid of thy judgments.

