

BIBLE TRANSLATION

2 Samuel 6

Then David organised 30,000 of his elite troops who followed him to Baal-judah to bring home to Jerusalem the Ark of the Covenant.

The Ark was placed on a brand new cart and taken from the home of Abinabad on the hillside. The drivers of this cart were Abinabad's sons, Uzziah and Ahio.

Ahio walked in front of the cart guarding and leading it. He was followed by David and all the leaders of Israel playing all sorts of musical instruments and waving branches of trees. There was jubilation, dancing, excitement and high spirits.

On arriving at the threshing floor of Nacon, the oxen drawing the cart stumbled and Uzziah put out his hand to steady it to stop it overturning or dropping its precious load.

The Lord was displeased with Uzziah's action and Uzziah collapsed and died.

David was grossly indignant and irate at the Lord and called this location, The Place of God's Wrath upon Uzziah. David was now in a very bad mood and asked the Lord, "Will I ever bring the Ark home?".

While he should have taken it into Jerusalem, David was both afraid of God and very angry at Him. And so he took it to the home of Obed-edom who originated from Gath. It stayed there for three months and the Lord was pleased and blessed Obed-edom and his family.

Thereafter, David brought the Ark into the city of Jerusalem with a great celebration of singing, dancing and high spirits. After they had carried the Ark for six paces, they stopped and waited while there was a sacrifice of a lamb and an ox.

It is highly probable that David was still angry at the Lord for what happened to Uzziah and, in addition, extremely vexed for the three month delay that God had allowed.

This sacrifice being done, the celebration recommenced with singing, dancing and exuberance.

David, who was wearing the clothing of the High Priest, which it was not lawful for him to do, danced ecstatically and in a carefree spirit. The Lord saw him since all that we do is before the Lord.

There was shouting, blowing of trumpets and wild excitement.

Michal, the daughter of Saul, who was married to David, was watching this noisy procession from a window and saw David leaping and dancing and she was disgusted at the spectacle he was making of himself.

The Ark was placed in a specially made tent where burnt offering and peace offerings were made to the Lord. David blessed the people in the Name of the God of Heaven and gave everyone a present of bread, wine and a raisin cake. Both men and women had these presents. There was great rejoicing and the party continued.

Eventually, David went home.

Michal came out to meet him and was sarcastic to him saying, "How glorious was the King today. He was uncovered and exposed himself even to the girls along the street behaving like a common pervert!".

David replied, ""I was chosen by God to be the leader of the people in place of your father, Saul, and of all his family. The Lord saw me dancing and I am willing to play around and be a fool. I was being a base and vile fellow and the girls who saw me will have respect for me".

Only the prophet could criticise the King and Michal was childless all her life.

NOTES

David admitted that his dancing was vile and that he was a base fellow in so doing.

He exposed himself and did not deny it. He was uncovered. He was breaking God's law. Even the girls watching the procession saw his indecent exposure. Michal was right to express disgust in her role as his wife.

Exposure, nakedness and semi nakedness is condemned in the Bible.

This contradicts the teaching of some that dancing is to be employed in worship since David danced before the Lord. The Lord did not approve of David.

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