

1 Chronicles 15 - David Relocates the Ark to Jerusalem; Michal Disrespects David's Worship

- II. David prepares to build the temple (1 Chr 10:1—29:30)
 - (3) David brings the Ark to Jerusalem (1 Chr 13:1—16:43)
 - (C) David brings the Ark to Jerusalem (15:1-29)
 - (a) David prepares the Levites (15:1-15)
 - (b) David prepares the singers (15:16-24)
 - (c) David brings the Ark to Jerusalem (15:25-29)

1 Chronicles 15

- (C) David brings the Ark to Jerusalem (15:1-29)
 - (a) David prepares the Levites (15:1-15) (Cf. 2 Sam 5:11-12; 6:12-16)

1 Now *David* built **houses** for himself in the city of David; and he prepared a place for the ark of God and pitched a tent for it.

1 Now *David* built houses for himself in the city of David; and he prepared a place for the ark of God and pitched a tent for it.

1 David built palaces for himself in the City of David, and he prepared a place for the Ark of God and erected a tent for it.

1 And David made him houses in the city of David, and prepared a place for the ark of God, and pitched for it a tent.

- "...houses" - palaces; these were likely built with the help of Hiram, king of Tyre (2 Sam 5:11-12; 1 Chr 14:1-2)

- David's preparation of a tent for the Ark in Jerusalem was in harmony with God's instructions (Cf. Ex 26)

2 Then David said, "No one is to carry the ark of God except the Levites; for the LORD chose them to carry the ark of the LORD and to serve Him forever."

2 Then David said, "No one is to carry the ark of God but the Levites; for the LORD chose them to carry the ark of God and to minister to Him forever."

2 Then David ordered that the Ark of God was to be carried by no one except the descendants of Levi, because the LORD had chosen them to carry the ark of the LORD and to serve him forever.

2 Then David said, None ought to carry the ark of God but the Levites: for them hath the LORD chosen to carry the ark of God, and to minister unto him for ever.

- It seems as if David did some Bible study and learned God's requirements for carrying the Ark

3 And David assembled all Israel at Jerusalem to bring up the ark of the LORD to its place which he had prepared for it.

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3 David assembled all of Israel in Jerusalem to bring up the ark of the LORD to its proper place that he had prepared for it.

3 And David gathered all Israel together to Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the LORD unto his place, which he had prepared for it.

- David once again prepared to relocate the Ark to Jerusalem

— Though he eventually planned to place the Ark in a substantial temple, for the present he set up a tent, perhaps similar to the Tabernacle

4 David gathered together the sons of Aaron and the Levites:

4 David gathered together the sons of Aaron and the Levites:

4 David also assembled the descendants of Aaron, who were descendants of Levi,

4 And David assembled the children of Aaron, and the Levites:

5 of the sons of Kohath, Uriel the chief, and 120 of his relatives;

5 of the sons of Kohath, Uriel the chief, and 120 of his relatives;

5 including Uriel their leader from the descendants of Kohath, along with 120 of his relatives,

5 Of the sons of Kohath; Uriel the chief, and his brethren an hundred and twenty:

6 of the sons of Merari, Asaiah the chief, and 220 of his relatives;

6 of the sons of Merari, Asaiah the chief, and 220 of his relatives;

6 from the descendants of Merari, Asaiah their leader, along with 220 of his relatives,

6 Of the sons of Merari; Asaiah the chief, and his brethren two hundred and twenty:

7 of the sons of Gershom, Joel the chief, and 130 of his relatives;

7 of the sons of Gershom, Joel the chief, and 130 of his relatives;

7 from the descendants of Gershom, Joel their chief, along with 130 of his relatives,

7 Of the sons of Gershom; Joel the chief, and his brethren an hundred and thirty:

- Careful to observe proper protocol this time (v2,13,15), he gathered the priests and Levites and commanded them to transport the Ark from the house of Obed-Edom to its

new shrine in Jerusalem

- The priests were Zadok and Abiathar and the Levites came from the three Levitical families of Kohath, Merari, and Gershon (1 Chr 15:5-7). They were Uriel, Asaiah, and Joel.

8 of the sons of Elizaphan, Shemaiah the chief, and two hundred of his relatives;

8 of the sons of Elizaphan, Shemaiah the chief, and 200 of his relatives;

8 from the descendants of Elizaphan, Shemaiah their leader, along with 200 of his relatives,

8 Of the sons of Elizaphan; Shemaiah the chief, and his brethren two hundred:

9 of the sons of Hebron, Eliel the chief, and eighty of his relatives;

9 of the sons of Hebron, Eliel the chief, and 80 of his relatives;

9 from Hebron's descendants, Eliel their leader, along with 80 of his relatives,

9 Of the sons of Hebron; Eliel the chief, and his brethren fourscore:

10 of the sons of Uzziel, Amminadab the chief, and 112 of his relatives.

10 of the sons of Uzziel, Amminadab the chief, and 112 of his relatives.

10 and from Uzziel's descendants, Amminadab their leader, along with 112 of his relatives.

10 Of the sons of Uzziel; Amminadab the chief, and his brethren an hundred and twelve.

- In addition, there were three other Levites, all from the family of Kohath

- Shemaiah was of the clan of Elizaphan (15:8,11; Cf. Ex 6:22), Eliel of the clan of Hebron and Amminadab of the clan of Uzziel

— There were thus four Levites of Kohath and one each of the other two branches, plus 862 assistants

11 Then David called for the priests Zadok and Abiathar, and for the Levites, for Uriel, Asaiah, Joel, Shemaiah, Eliel, and Amminadab;

11 Then David called for Zadok and Abiathar the priests, and for the Levites, for Uriel, Asaiah, Joel, Shemaiah, Eliel and Amminadab,

11 Then David summoned the priests Zadok and Abiathar, along with the descendants of Levi Uriel, Asaiah, Joel, Shemaiah, Eliel, and Amminadab

11 And David called for Zadok and Abiathar the priests, and for the Levites, for Uriel, Asaiah, and Joel, Shemaiah, and Eliel, and Amminadab,

12 and he said to them, "You are the heads of the fathers' *households* of the Levites; consecrate yourselves, you and your relatives, so that you may bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel to *the place* that I have prepared for it.

12 and said to them, "You are the heads of the fathers' *households* of the Levites; consecrate yourselves both you and your relatives, that you may bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel to *the place* that I have prepared for it.

12 and addressed them: "As leaders of your Levitical families, set yourselves apart, both you and your relatives, so you can be qualified to bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel to the place I've prepared for it.

12 And said unto them, Ye are the chief of the fathers of the Levites: sanctify yourselves, both ye and your brethren, that ye may bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel unto the place that I have prepared for it.

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."

13 Because you did not *carry it* at the first, the LORD our God made an outburst on us, for we did not seek Him according to the ordinance."

13 Because you didn't carry it from the very first, the LORD our God attacked us, since we didn't care for it appropriately."

13 For because ye did it not at the first, the LORD our God made a breach upon us, for that we sought him not after the due order.

14 So the priests and the Levites consecrated themselves to bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel.

14 So the priests and the Levites consecrated themselves to bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel.

14 So the priests and descendants of Levi set themselves apart to carry the ark of the LORD God of Israel.

14 So the priests and the Levites sanctified 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.

15 The sons of the Levites carried the ark of God on their shoulders with the poles thereon, as Moses had commanded according to the word of the LORD.

15 The descendants of Levi carried the Ark of God the way Moses had commanded and in accordance with the command from the LORD—that is, with poles on their shoulders.

15 And the children of the Levites bare the ark of God upon their shoulders with the staves thereon, as Moses commanded according to the word of the LORD.

- David scrupulously observed the Mosaic Law as he brought the Ark into Jerusalem

— After the prescribed consecration (Num 8:5-13) all these set about the task of transporting the Ark

(b) David prepares the singers (15:16-24)

16 Then David spoke to the chiefs of the Levites to appoint their relatives as the singers, with musical instruments, harps, lyres, and cymbals, playing to raise sounds of joy.

16 Then David spoke to the chiefs of the Levites to appoint their relatives the singers, with instruments of music, harps, lyres, loud-sounding cymbals, to raise sounds of joy.

16 David also told the leaders of the descendants of Levi to appoint their relatives as singers, to play musical instruments such as harps, lyres, and cymbals, and to keep sounding aloud with joyful voices.

16 And David spake to the chief of the Levites to appoint their brethren to be the singers with instruments of musick, psalteries and harps and cymbals, sounding, by lifting up the voice with joy.

- David provided for a full orchestra and choir to sing God's praises at his new worship center

— This marked the beginning of the Levitical singers' ministry in Israel (Cf. 16:7)

17 So the Levites appointed Heman the son of Joel, and from his relatives, Asaph the son of Berechiah; and from the sons of Merari their relatives, Ethan the son of Kushaiah,

17 So the Levites appointed Heman the son of Joel, and from his relatives, Asaph the son of Berechiah; and from the sons of Merari their relatives, Ethan the son of Kushaiah,

17 So the descendants of Levi appointed Joel's son Heman, his relative Berechiah's son Asaph, as well as certain relatives of Merari's sons, including Kushaiah's son Ethan,

17 So the Levites appointed Heman the son of Joel; and of his brethren, Asaph the son of Berechiah; and of the sons of Merari their brethren, Ethan the son of Kushaiah;

- The move of the Ark was accompanied by great religious celebration

— David ordered the Levitical leaders to appoint musicians who would join in the great procession

— The chief of these were Heman, son of Joel (and grandson of Samuel), Asaph, and Ethan, who sounded the bronze cymbals

18 and with them their relatives of the second rank, Zechariah, Ben, Jaaziel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattithiah, Eliphelehu, Mikneiah, Obed-edom, and Jeiel, the gatekeepers.

18 and with them their relatives of the second rank, Zechariah, Ben, Jaaziel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattithiah, Eliphelehu, Mikneiah, Obed-edom and Jeiel, the gatekeepers.

18 their second order relatives Zechariah, Jaaziel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattithiah, Eliphelehu, and Mikneiah, as well as the trustees Obed-edom and Jeiel.

18 And with them their brethren of the second degree, Zechariah, Ben, and Jaaziel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehiel, and Unni, Eliab, and Benaiah, and Maaseiah, and Mattithiah, and Elipheleh, and Mikneiah, and Obededom, and Jeiel, the porters.

19 So the singers, Heman, Asaph, and Ethan, *were appointed* to sound aloud cymbals of bronze;

19 So the singers, Heman, Asaph and Ethan *were appointed* to sound aloud cymbals of bronze;

19 The singers included Heman, Asaph, and Ethan (who played bronze cymbals).

19 So the singers, Heman, Asaph, and Ethan, were appointed to sound with cymbals of brass;

20 and Zechariah, Aziel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Maaseiah, and Benaiah, with harps *tuned* to alamothe;

20 and Zechariah, Aziel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Maaseiah and Benaiah, with harps *tuned* to alamothe;

20 Zechariah, Aziel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Maaseiah, and Benaiah played harps to accompany the women singers,

20 And Zechariah, and Aziel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehiel, and Unni, and Eliab, and Maaseiah, and Benaiah, with psalteries on Alamothe;

21 and Mattithiah, Eliphelehu, Mikneiah, Obed-edom, Jeiel, and Azaziah, to lead with lyres *tuned* to the sheminith.

21 and Mattithiah, Eliphelehu, Mikneiah, Obed-edom, Jeiel and Azaziah, to lead with lyres tuned to the sheminith.

21 and Mattithiah, Eliphelehu, Mikneiah, Obed-edom, Jeiel, and Azaziah led on lyres, sounding the octaves.

21 And Mattithiah, and Elipheleh, and Mikneiah, and Obededom, and Jeiel, and Azaziah, with harps on the Sheminith to excel.

22 Chenaniah, chief of the Levites, was *in charge of* the singing; he gave instruction in singing because he was skillful.

22 Chenaniah, chief of the Levites, was *in charge of* the singing; he gave instruction in singing because he was skillful.

22 Chenaniah, music leader for the descendants of Levi, served as music director, because he was expert at it.

22 And Chenaniah, chief of the Levites, was for song: he instructed about the song, because he was skilful.

23 Berechiah and Elkanah were gatekeepers for the ark.

23 Berechiah and Elkanah were gatekeepers for the ark.

23 Berechiah and Elkanah served as gatekeepers for the ark.

23 And Berechiah and Elkanah were doorkeepers for the ark.

- Chenaniah, the head Levite, was in charge of the vocal music since he had special expertise in that area

— Four others were to protect the ark, probably two in front of it and two behind it

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.

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.

24 Shebaniah, Joshaphat, Nethanel, Amasai, Zechariah, Benaiah, and Eliezer the priests were appointed to sound the trumpets before the Ark of God, and Obed-edom and Jehiah were trustees for the ark.

24 And Shebaniah, and Jehoshaphat, and Nethaneel, and Amasai, and Zechariah, and Benaiah, and Eliezer, the priests, did blow with the trumpets before the ark of God: and Obededom and Jehiah were doorkeepers for the ark.

(c) David brings the Ark to Jerusalem (15:25-29) (Cf. 2 Sam 6:12-15)

25 So *it was* David, with the elders of Israel and the captains of thousands, who went to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD from the house of Obed-edom with joy.

25 So *it was* David, with the elders of Israel and the captains over thousands, who went to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD from the house of Obed-edom with joy.

25 Then David, the elders of Israel, and the leaders of groups of thousands proceeded to bring the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD from Obed-edom's house, rejoicing as they went.

25 So David, and the elders of Israel, and the captains over thousands, went to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the house of Obededom with joy.

26 Because God was helping the Levites who were carrying the ark of the covenant of the LORD, they sacrificed seven bulls and seven rams.

26 Because God was helping the Levites who were carrying the ark of the covenant of the LORD, they sacrificed seven bulls and seven rams.

26 As God helped the descendants of Levi who were carrying the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD, they sacrificed seven bulls and seven rams.

26 And it came to pass, when God helped the Levites that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, that they offered seven bullocks and seven rams.

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.

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.

27 David wore a robe made from fine linen, as did all of the descendants of Levi who were carrying the ark, the singers, and Chenaniah the music and choir director. David also wore a linen ephod.

27 And David was clothed with a robe of fine linen, and all the Levites that bare the ark, and the singers, and Chenaniah the master of the song with the singers: David also had upon him an ephod of linen.

28 So all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting, and with *the* sound of the horn, with trumpets, with loud-sounding cymbals, with harps, and lyres.

28 Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting, and with sound of the horn, with trumpets, with loud-sounding cymbals, with harps and lyres.

28 All of Israel were bringing up the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD, accompanied by shouting, sounding of horns, trumpets, and cymbals, along with loud music on harps and lyres.

28 Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting, and with sound of the cornet, and with trumpets, and with cymbals, making a noise with psalteries and harps.

David's Wife Michal Disrespects David's Worship (Cf. 2 Sam 6:16-23)

29 When the ark of the covenant of the LORD came to the city of David, Michal the daughter of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David dancing and celebrating; and she despised him in her heart.

29 It happened when the ark of the covenant of the LORD came to the city of David, that Michal the daughter of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David leaping and celebrating; and she despised him in her heart.

29 But as the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD approached the City of David, Saul's daughter Michal was peering out a window, watching King David dancing and cavorting around, and she despised him in her heart.

29 And it came to pass, as the ark of the covenant of the LORD came to the city of David, that Michal the daughter of Saul looking out at a window saw king David dancing and playing: and she despised him in her heart.

- Somewhere in the procession, perhaps at its head, David danced, clothed in the garments of a priest (a robe of fine linen and a linen ephod)

— Michal, his wife and Saul's daughter, watching from a window, despised him for she mistook his holy zeal for exhibitionism (Cf. 2 Sam 6:20)

— Her concept of kingship in Israel was her father's, namely, that the human king was the ultimate authority in Israel

— It was her attitude, not David's actions, that was despicable