Lesson 78 – The Reign of David Part I

Based on 2 Samuel 5:6-6:19

At this point in our series, Saul had been killed in battle a couple years previous. His son Ishbosheth had been made king in his stead by the top general Abner, and his reign was ended in assassination. David is here at this juncture been just coronated king over all of Israel and is beginning his reign.

1) Where did David establish his new Capital City?
   2 Samuel 5:6-7 And the king and his men went to Jerusalem unto the _____, the inhabitants of the land: which spake unto David, saying, Except thou take away the blind and the lame, thou shalt not come in hither: thinking, David cannot come in hither. Nevertheless David _____ the strong hold of Zion: the same is the city of David.
   2 Samuel 5:8-9 And David said on that day, Whosoever getteth up to the gutter, and smiteth the Jebusites, and the lame and the blind, that are hated of David's soul, he shall be chief and _____. Wherefore they said, The blind and the lame shall not come into the house. So David dwelt in the fort, and called it the _____ of David. And David built round about from Millo and inward.

Before Joshua had led the armies of Israel over Jordan it had been called Salem. Near this place Abraham had proved his loyalty to God. Eight hundred years before the coronation of David it had been the home of Melchizedek, the priest of the most high God. It held a central and elevated position in the country and was protected by an environment of hills. Being on the border between Benjamin and Judah, it was in close proximity to Ephraim and was easy of access to the other tribes.

This stronghold was called Jebus, and its inhabitants were known as Jebusites. For centuries Jebus had been looked upon as impregnable; but it was besieged and taken by the Hebrews under the command of Joab, who, as the reward of his valor, was made commander-in-chief of the armies of Israel. Jebus now became the national capital, and its heathen name was changed to Jerusalem.

2) Hearing the news, what did Hiram, king of Tyre, do for David?
   2 Samuel 5:11 And Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, and carpenters, and masons: and they built David an _____.

Hiram, king of the wealthy city of Tyre, on the Mediterranean Sea, now sought an alliance with the king of Israel, and lent his aid to David in the work of erecting a palace at Jerusalem. Ambassadors were sent from Tyre, accompanied by architects and workmen and long trains laden with costly wood, cedar trees, and other valuable material.

3) What happened shortly after?
   2 Samuel 5:17-18 But when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over _____, all the Philistines came up to seek David; and David heard of it, and went down to the hold. The Philistines also came and spread themselves in the valley of _____.

The increasing strength of Israel in its union under David, the acquisition of the stronghold of Jebus, and the alliance with Hiram, king of Tyre, excited the hostility of the Philistines, and they again invaded the country with a strong force, taking up their position in the valley of Rephaim, but a short distance from Jerusalem.

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4) What did David wisely do?
2 Samuel 5:19 And David _____ of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up to the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into mine hand? And the LORD said unto David, Go up: for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into thine hand.
5) What happened?
2 Samuel 5:20-21 And David came to Baalperazim, and David _____ them there, and said, The LORD hath broken forth upon mine enemies before me, as the breach of waters. Therefore he called the name of that place Baalperazim. And there they left their images, and David and his men _____ them.
6) Did the Philistines give up?
2 Samuel 5:22 And the Philistines came up yet _____, and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.
7) How did that go?
2 Samuel 5:23-25 And when David enquired of the LORD, he said, Thou shalt _____ go up; but fetch a compass behind them, and come upon them over against the mulberry trees. And let it be, when thou hearest the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt bestir thyself: for then shall the LORD go out before thee, to smite the host of the Philistines. And David did so, as the LORD had commanded him; and _____ the Philistines from Geba until thou come to Gazer.
8) What was the result?
1 Chronicles 14:16-17 David therefore did as God _____ him: and they smote the host of the Philistines from Gibeon even to Gazer. And the fame of David went out into all lands; and the LORD brought the _____ of him upon all nations.

Now that David was firmly established upon the throne and free from the invasions of foreign foes, he turned to the accomplishment of a cherished purpose, to bring up the ark of God to Jerusalem. For many years the ark had remained at Kirjath-jearim, nine miles distant; but it was fitting that the capital of the nation should be honored with the token of the divine Presence.

9) Was this decree a big deal?
2 Samuel 6:1-2 Again, David gathered together all the chosen men of Israel, thirty _____. And David arose, and went with all the people that were with him from Baale of Judah, to bring up from thence the ark of God, whose name is called by the name of the LORD of hosts that _____ between the cherubims.

David summoned thirty thousand of the leading men of Israel, for it was his purpose to make the occasion a scene of great rejoicing and imposing display. The people responded gladly to the call. The high priest, with his brethren in sacred office and the princes and leading men of the tribes, assembled at Kirjath-jearim. David was aglow with holy zeal.

10) What was the plan for bringing it to Jerusalem?
2 Samuel 6:3-4 And they set the ark of God upon a new _____, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab that was in Gibeah: and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drave the new cart. And they brought it out of the _____ of Abinadab which was at Gibeah, accompanying the ark of God: and Ahio went before the ark.
2 Samuel 6:5 And David and all the house of Israel played before the LORD on all manner of _____ made of fir wood, even on harps, and on psalteries, and on timbrels, and on cornets, and on cymbals.

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The men of Israel followed with exultant shouts and songs of rejoicing, a multitude of voices joining in melody with the sound of musical instruments. It had been long since Israel had witnessed such a scene of triumph. With solemn gladness the vast procession wound its way along the hills and valleys toward the Holy City.

11) Things were going swell until what happened?
2 Samuel 6:6-7 And when they came to Nachon's threshingfloor, Uzzah put forth his _____ to the ark of God, and took hold of it; for the oxen shook it. And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his error; and there he _____ by the ark of God.

12) What happened next?
2 Samuel 6:8-10 And David was displeased, because the LORD had made a _____ upon Uzzah: and he called the name of the place Perezuzzah to this day. And David was _____ of the LORD that day, and said, How shall the ark of the LORD come to me? So David would not remove the ark of the LORD unto him into the city of David: but David carried it _____ into the house of Obededom the Gittite.

A sudden terror fell upon the rejoicing throng. David was astonished and greatly alarmed, and in his heart, he questioned the justice of God. He had been seeking to honor the ark as the symbol of the divine presence. Why, then, had that fearful judgment been sent to turn the season of gladness into an occasion of grief and mourning? Feeling that it would be unsafe to have the ark near him, David determined to let it remain where it was. A place was found for it nearby, at the house of Obed-edom the Gittite.

13) How was the Ark of God to travel?
Numbers 4:15 And when Aaron and his sons have made an end of covering the sanctuary, and all the vessels of the sanctuary, as the camp is to set forward; after that, the sons of Kohath shall come to _____ it: but they shall not touch any holy thing, lest they die. These things are the burden of the sons of Kohath in the tabernacle of the congregation.

The fate of Uzzah was a divine judgment upon the violation of a most explicit command. Through Moses the Lord had given special instruction concerning the transportation of the ark. None but the priests, the descendants of Aaron, were to touch it, or even to look upon it uncovered.

14) What equipment was given to the Kohathites for the movements of the Sanctuary?
Numbers 7:9 But unto the sons of Kohath he gave _____: because the service of the sanctuary belonging unto them was that they should bear upon their _____.

The priests were to cover the ark, and then the Kohathites must lift it by the staves, which were placed in rings upon each side of the ark and were never removed. To the Gershonites and Merarites, who had in charge the curtains and boards and pillars of the tabernacle, Moses gave carts and oxen for the transportation of that which was committed to them but of Kohath, they carried it on their shoulders symbolizing the fact we must carry the presence of God on our shoulders.

David and his people had assembled to perform a sacred work, and they had engaged in it with glad and willing hearts; but the Lord could not accept the service, because it was not performed in accordance with His directions. The Philistines, who had not a knowledge of God's law, had placed the ark upon a cart when they returned it to Israel, and the Lord accepted the effort which they made. But the Israelites had in their hands a plain statement of the will of God in all these matters, and their neglect of these instructions was dishonoring to God.

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15) What happened at the house of Obededom?
2 Samuel 6:11 And the ark of the LORD continued in the house of Obededom the Gittite three months: and the LORD _____ Obededom, and all his household.

Upon David the divine rebuke accomplished its work. He was led to realize as he had never realized before the sacredness of the law of God and the necessity of strict obedience. The favor shown to the house of Obed-edom led David again to hope that the ark might bring a blessing to him and to his people.

16) Feeling safe to proceed, what did David command?
2 Samuel 6:12 And it was told king David, saying, The LORD hath blessed the house of Obededom, and all that pertaineth unto him, because of the ark of God. So David went and _____ up the ark of God from the house of Obededom into the city of David with gladness.

At the end of three months, he resolved to make another attempt to remove the ark, and he now gave earnest heed to carry out in every particular the directions of the Lord. Again, the chief men of the nation were summoned, and a vast assemblage gathered about the dwelling place of the Gittite. With reverent care the ark was now placed upon the shoulders of men of divine appointment, the multitude fell into line, and with trembling hearts the vast procession again set forth.

17) What did that look like?
2 Samuel 6:13-15 And it was so, that when they that bare the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he _____ oxen and fatlings. And David danced before the LORD with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with _____, and with the sound of the trumpet.

18) What was sung as the Ark Returned?
Psalm 24:7-10 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall _____ _____. Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of _____. Selah.

19) What was at the ready to receive the Ark?
2 Samuel 6:17 And they brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in his place, in the midst of the _____ that David had pitched for it: and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.

20) And then…
2 Samuel 6:18-19 And as soon as David had made an end of offering burnt offerings and peace offerings, he _____ the people in the name of the LORD of hosts. And he dealt among all the people, even among the whole _____ of Israel, as well to the women as men, to every one a cake of bread, and a good piece of flesh, and a flagon of wine. So all the people departed every one to his house.

All the tribes had been represented in this service, the celebration of the most sacred event that had yet marked the reign of David. The Spirit of divine inspiration had rested upon the king, and now as the last beams of the setting sun bathed the tabernacle in a hallowed light, his heart was uplifted in gratitude to God that the blessed symbol of His presence was now so near the throne of Israel.

Can you see it's important to be obedient to what we know?

Would you like to see God Glorified and be in His Kingdom?

When is it time to humbly seek the LORD for guidance?

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