

Our Promise Keeping King – 2 Samuel

2 Samuel 6:1-23

“Our God is Holy” – October 28, 2018



Introduction

When Saul, Israel's 1st king, took the throne, greatness went to his head. He longed to be loved, respected and revered by the people and made God's kingdom about *him*. Instead of leading by obeying God, Saul feared man and disobeyed God. But God had made it clear from the beginning – Israel's king would *not* be like the kings of the nations. Instead, his job was to follow God's commands and point people to God – not to himself. After Saul and his family line is felled, God chose David to be king; a man after His own heart. For almost 25 years, David had waited on the sidelines for God's promise. Then, in 2 Samuel 5, he *finally* takes the throne. David was becoming greater and greater ([2 Samuel 3:1](#), [5:10](#)). With the spotlight on *him* and the applause of the nation, would David make the same mistake as Saul?

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response.

Sermon Outline

- 1) Greatness is deceitful (6:1-11)
- 2) Humility leads to joy (6:12-19)
- 3) Pride leads to misery (6:20-23)

Read & Discuss

- 1) Read [2 Samuel 6:1-11](#)

As David and 30,000 Israelites bring in the ark of the Lord, they ignored and/or disobeyed God's commands regarding how the ark (which represented the presence of God) was to be transferred (see [Ex. 25:12-14](#); [Numb. 4:15](#)). It seems they'd lost sight of God's greatness by looking in the mirror and assuming *they* were equally great. How did they *dishonor* God by disobeying His commands here and putting the ark on a cart? Why are there times we are shocked when we see God's justice? What does that say of our view of His grace?

Additional reading: Romans 2:4-5, Exodus 34:6-7

- 2) Read [2 Samuel 6:12-19](#)

After the tragic event of Uzzah's death, David drops the ark off at Obed-edom's house where it will remain for the next 3 months. David no doubt wrestled with what happened, shifting from anger, to fear, and to confusion. How was he to respond now? When he hears the news that God was *blessing* Obed-edom, we're reminded that the heart of

God is to bless, not to crush His people. The lesson? If they were to experience that blessing, they would have to see who God is (holy!), humble themselves before Him, and do things *His way*. God's demand for worship and obedience is not the neediness of an egotistical being (He has no needs - [Acts 17:25](#), [Psalm 50:12](#)) – His demand for obedience is for *our good*. He is the life and the way to life!

The second time David comes with the ark, he and the people with him rejoice with trembling (see [Psalm 2:10-11](#)). Why are both necessary in the Christian life? How are we able to rejoice *with* trembling (how was David able)?

Additional reading: Psalm 32:1-4, 1 Chronicles 15:13-15

3) Read [2 Samuel 6:20-23](#)

When David gets home, happy and ready to bless his family, he's met with the bitter rebuke of a miserable Michal. She was disgusted with the fact that David, the king of Israel, had humbled himself 'before the eyes' of his servants. But David responds to her that his worship, his actions that day were not for an audience of people (who she feared). He danced 'before the Lord' (literally: *before the face of God*). David had come to realize that at the end of the day, God's opinion mattered most. God, is everywhere present, all-knowing, and sovereign over all things – but we can lose sight of him in our self-focus and live as if that's not true. To fear man means to care so much about the opinions of others that they control our decisions (for example, see [1 Sam. 15:24](#)). That's why Proverbs 29:25 "The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is safe." Are you miserable and ensnared in the fear of man? Like David, we must see the holiness, the greatness, of God and respond in humility. What are ways you can grow in your understanding of God's greatness? What needs to be removed? What needs to be added?

Additional reading: 2 Corinthians 3:18, Jeremiah 29:13

Prayer of Response

Spend time praying together in response to God's word for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

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