

Can't Touch That!

(2 Samuel 6:1-19, 1 Chronicles 15:1-3, 12-15)

- Introduction:
1. (Romans 15:4) "For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."
 2. There is an interesting story with reference to the Ark of the Covenant that teaches us several lessons about God as well as man.

I. Background To The Text

- A. For many years, the ark of the covenant was moved from place to place, but when David became King, he decided to bring the ark to Jerusalem.
- B. So David, along with some of the most noble men in Israel, came to the home of Abinadab to retrieve the ark.
- C. In order to get the cart to Jerusalem, they placed the ark on a cart pulled by oxen.
- D. Somewhere along the way, the oxen stumbled and Uzzah reached out his hand to steady the ark, and he was struck dead.
- G. This angered David initially, but later he calmed down, thought about things, then came again and successfully brought the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem.

II. Lessons To Be Learned From This Account

- A. God demands obedience.
 1. Many think a God is not concerned about the details.
 2. (1 Samuel 15:22) to obey is better than sacrifice.
 3. (Genesis 6:8, 14) Noah found grace...and did all he was commanded.
 4. (Matthew 7:21; Hebrews 5:9)
- B. Convenience does not trump the word of God.
 1. Fifteen miles is a long way to carry a heavy ark on one's shoulders.
 2. User Friendly -vs- God Friendly
- C. Feelings Do Not Determine Truth
 1. They were rejoicing and having a great time until God's judgment.
 2. (Proverbs 14:12; 2 Kings 5:11).
- D. Good intentions do not excuse disobedience.
 1. Surely, Uzzah's intentions were good.
 2. (Acts 23:1; Genesis 19:26).
- E. Notice the goodness and severity of God
 1. Severity upon Uzzah, Goodness for Obed-Edom (2 Samuel 6:12).
 2. (Romans 11:22)
- F. Notice the attitude of David.
 1. At first, he is angry of God because of the consequences of sin (Prov. 13:15), then he is humble and acknowledges his sin (1 Chronicles 15:13).

- Conclusion:
1. From this lesson, we learn much about the character of God.
 2. While there is no ark to touch today, there are plenty of commands that we are either obeying, or ignoring.
 3. How are you treating God's word?