



Summer Study Discussion Guide #6

Sermon Title: Displeased with God

Biblical Reference: 1 Chronicles 13:1-14

Date Preached: Sunday, July 17th, 2022 @ 11am

Summer Study Date: Wednesday, July 20th, 2022

Sermon Summary

In 1 Chronicles 13, we read about David bringing the ark to Jerusalem. The ark had been in the house of Abinadab for around 70 years. During this time there is no mention of the ark, it was in obscurity. David wanted the children of Israel to have their focus once again on the Lord and inquire of Him for wisdom.

In the process of bringing the ark back to Jerusalem, the oxen pulling the cart stumbled threatening the ark. Uzza, one of the sons of Abinadab, reached to stabilize the ark and as soon as his hand touched the ark, the Lord struck him dead.

When David saw Uzza dead he had three reactions:

1. He became displeased (angry) with the Lord.
2. He became afraid of the Lord.
3. He distanced himself from the Lord by placing the ark in the house of Obededom.

The Lord did something he felt was unfair harsh or extreme. It did not match his view of what he believed should be done. The sermon explores the mistakes that lead to Uzza's death.

Quick Review

Were you able to apply something you learned from the sermon this week?

My Story

In this passage, the Lord acted in a way that caught David off guard. Uzza's death was not what he expected the Lord would do or should do.

Can you tell us about a time when you learned the Lord was different than you imagined He would be?

Digging Deeper

1. Introduction

Ask a volunteer to read: 1 Chronicles 13:10-13

10- And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzza, and he smote him, because he put his hand to the ark: and there he died before God.

11- And David was displeased, because the LORD had made a breach upon Uzza: wherefore that place is called Perezuzza to this day.

12- And David was afraid of God that day, saying, How shall I bring the ark of God home to me?

13- So David brought not the ark home to himself to the city of David, but carried it aside into the house of Obedom the Gittite.

In the introduction of the sermon, we saw how David was displeased with God because of Uzza's death. He became afraid of God and then distanced himself from the Lord by leaving the ark in the house of Obad-Edom for three months. He became displeased with God when his ideas of acceptable ways for the Lord to act came into collision with reality.

Discussion Questions:

- We all see and experience tragedies like this. Has there ever been a season in your life when you distanced yourself from the Lord because you held Him responsible for what you saw or experienced?
- In verse 11 David name of the place where Uzza died is "Perezuzza" which means to burst out against Uzza. Why are we more inclined to bookmark the tragedies that happen in our lives than the good things?
- When Uzza died David's first reaction was to blame the Lord. He does not get angry at Uzza for displeasing God, nor does he reflect on how his actions led to this tragedy. What is an example of this in your life?
- Blaming the Lord was detrimental to David in that it caused a loss of fellowship and a loss of blessings in his life for three months. Can you give us some examples of what is lost when we blame God?

2. Problematic Philosophies

We find many mistakes that were made leading to Uzza's death and then to David's displeasure with the Lord. These mistakes were made because David must have made certain assumptions about God. We will explore the philosophies (way of thinking) that led to these mistakes below.

- God approves our well-intentioned plan

Ask a volunteer to read: 1 Chronicles 13:1-2, 4

1- And David consulted with the captains of thousands and hundreds, and with every leader.

2- And David said unto all the congregation of Israel.....

4 And all the congregation said that they would do so: for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people.

David was in the habit of asking the Lord about everything. Nine times in the Bible we find David enquired of the Lord about what action he should take.

Example: 2 Samuel 5:19- And David enquired 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.

Here he did not stop for directions.

Discussion Questions:

- Why do you believe he did not inquire of the Lord on this momentous occasion?
- What is an example of harm that comes in our lives by not asking God for direction?

Problematic Philosophy #2

- God doesn't care how we worship as long as we are sincere.

Ask a volunteer to read:

1 Chronicles 13:7 And they carried the ark of God in a new cart out of the house of Abinadab: and Uzza and Ahio drove the cart.

This is how they decided to take the ark to Jerusalem. Below are God's instructions given four hundred years before on how it was to be done.

Numbers 7:6 And Moses took the wagons and the oxen, and gave them unto the Levites.

Numbers 7:9 But unto the sons of Kohath he gave none: because the service of the sanctuary belonging unto them was that they should bear upon their shoulders.

David assumed God would not care that he was doing things in a different way than the scriptures laid out. The Bible made it clear that the ark was to be carried upon the Levites shoulders and not on a cart.

If David believed it was important to put the ark on a cart, he would not have done it. When Uzza died he found out the Lord did care a great deal. The popular philosophy of our day is God does not care what you do if your heart is pure. This is proven false in these passages.

Discussion Questions:

- Why is this philosophy so popular?
- Can you give us an example of how this philosophy has hurt you the Church?
- What is an example of how you have been deceived by this philosophy?

Ask a volunteer to read:

1 Chronicles 13:8 And David and all Israel played before God with all their might, and with singing, and with harps, and with psalteries, and with timbrels, and with cymbals, and with trumpets.

- What stands out about this verse to you?

We want them to see that you can do something with all your might sincere and God not be pleased.

Problematic Philosophy #3

- God is not discriminating

Ask a volunteer to read:

1 Chronicles 13:7 And they carried the ark of God in a new cart out of the house of Abinadab: and Uzza and Ahio drave the cart.

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 bear 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.

These men Uzza and Ahio the sons of Abinadab were chosen to bring the ark. But they were not the ones who God choose. David must have believed that God would not mind even though they were not the people God choose to carry the ark. They were chosen because of their proximity to the ark and because they were familiar with it. They grew up with the ark in the house.

The Bible made it clear, in Numbers 4:15, that these men were not qualified. Many times, people are chosen because of their abilities or the fact they are familiar with something, they just play a role and end up hurting themselves by being in the wrong place.

Discussion Questions:

- Can you think of an example where putting the wrong person in place was bad for that person?
- Why do you think Uzza was willing to take the job?

3. Profitable Perspectives

- He saw the truth.

Ask a volunteer to read:

1 Chronicles 13:14- And the ark of God remained with the family of Obededom in his house three months. And the LORD blessed the house of Obededom, and all that he had.

God was good

After three months of being displeased with and afraid of the Lord. David saw there was nothing to fear. He saw that the result of the ark being in the house of Obededom was that God blessed him. After witnessing this David decides to bring the ark home to him. David was able to see the lovingkindness of the Lord in the life of Obededom. And he was able to see there was nothing to fear if you approached the Lord in the way He set forth.

Discussion Questions:

Although David was displeased with the Lord, he was able to see the goodness of the Lord in the life of someone else. The evidence of God's goodness abounds.

- Why is this so difficult for us to see when we are angry with the Lord?

- The ark being in his home brought Obededom great blessings.
- What is one of the greatest blessings you have received from a right relationship with the Lord?

Profitable Perspective #2

- He confirmed the truth.

Ask a volunteer to read: 1 Chronicles 15:2, 12-13

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.

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- 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.

David now lays out in the scripture what expectations the Lord gave for the moving of the ark. Following these guidelines, he took courage and brought the ark home. When the Lord first killed Uzza David was afraid of God that day, saying, how shall I bring the ark of God home to me?

Now he knows how, and he uses the scripture to teach the others. No longer does he lay the blame on God. He admitted it was not the fault of God, but their own fault that led to the death of Uzza.

Discussion Questions:

David in verse two and verse thirteen accepts responsibility for what happened to Uzza.

- Why is this important?
- When he accepted responsibility for what happened he was able to move forward. Why is it that we are so resistant to taking responsibility?

In our culture being a victim is a desirable thing. So much so that people will fake crimes against themselves to try to get ahead. If one maintains a victim mentality, he loses the ability to progress.

- How can we as brothers and sisters in Christ, do our part to encourage a culture of taking accountability?

Profitable Perspective #3

- He experienced the truth.

1 Ch 16:- So they brought the ark of God, and set it in the midst of the tent that David had pitched for it: and they offered burnt sacrifices and peace offerings before God.

1 Ch 16:2- And when David had made an end of offering the burnt offerings and the peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD.

In this chapter David is again worshiping, now it is before the ark. He is testifying for the Lord with a renewed sense of awe. He is now experiencing what Obbedom experienced when the Ark was in his house. You cannot have a right relationship with the Lord and be angry at Him. When you let go of your anger and your relationship with the Lord is restored it is such a wonderful thing.

Discussion Questions:

- Why is it when we are angry, we do not consider what we are missing?
- If you were angry at the Lord and are now in a right relationship with Him, what advice would you give a person who is still displeased?

Taking It Home

The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage members to consider how they felt and what they can do because of hearing the message:

1. What point in this message was most impactful for you?
2. How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?
3. How will you put into practice what you have learned today?