



- God gave instructions for constructing the Ark of the Covenant
 - 4 feet long, 2.5 feet wide
 - To be placed in the Most Holy Place
 - Sacred object that contained the mercy seat
 - Instructions detailed – Exodus 25
 - Construction retold – Exodus 27



- Hundreds of years later during time of judges, Israelites foolishly carried the ark into battle
- Philistines captured and took the ark (I Samuel 4)
- God plagued the Philistines so severely, they put it on a cart and returned it, leaving it in the house of Abinadab (I Samuel 5-7)
- Decades later, David became king and determined to move the ark to Jerusalem

I Chronicles 13:1-4

David consulted with the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, with every leader. And David said to all the assembly of Israel, "If it seems good to you and from the Lord our God, let us send abroad to our brothers who remain in all the lands of Israel, as well as to the priests and Levites in the cities that have pasturelands, that they may be gathered to us. Then let us bring again the ark of our God to us, for we did not seek it in the days of Saul." All the assembly agreed to do so, for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people.

I Chronicles 13:5-8

So David assembled all Israel from the Nile of Egypt to Lebohamath, to bring the ark of God from Kiriath-jearim. And David and all Israel went up to Baalah, that is, to Kiriath-jearim that belongs to Judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the Lord who sits enthroned above the cherubim. And they carried the ark of God on a new cart, from the house of Abinadab, and Uzzah and Ahio were driving the cart. And David and all Israel were celebrating before God with all their might, with song and lyres and harps and tambourines and cymbals and trumpets.

I Chronicles 13:9-10

And when they came to the threshing floor of Chidon, Uzzah put out his hand to take hold of the ark, for the oxen stumbled. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah, and He struck him down because he put out his hand to the ark, and he died there before God.

Moving the Ark

You shall cast four rings of gold for it and put them on its four feet, two rings on the one side of it, and two rings on the other side of it. You shall make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold. And you shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark to carry the ark by them. The poles shall remain in the rings of the ark; they shall not be taken from it.

Exodus 25:12-15

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Exodus 25:12-15

Moving the Ark

- **Manually with Poles**

Moving the Ark

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The clans of the sons of Kohath were to camp on the south side of the tabernacle, with Elizaphan the son of Uzziel as chief of the fathers' house of the clans of the Kohathites. And their guard duty involved the ark, the table, the lampstand, the altars, the vessels of the sanctuary with which the priests minister, and the screen; all the service connected with these.

Numbers 3:29-31

So Moses took the wagons and the oxen and gave them to the Levites. Two wagons and four oxen he gave to the sons of Gershon, according to their service. And four wagons and eight oxen he gave to the sons of Merari, according to their service, under the direction of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest. But to the sons of Kohath he gave none, because they were charged with the service of the holy things that had to be carried on the shoulder.

Numbers 7:6-9

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Numbers 7:6-9

Moving the Ark

- Manually with Poles
- By the Kohathites

And when Aaron and his sons have finished covering the sanctuary and all the furnishings of the sanctuary, as the camp sets out, after that the sons of Kohath shall come to carry these, but they must not touch the holy things, lest they die. These are the things of the tent of meeting that the sons of Kohath are to carry.

Numbers 4:15

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Numbers 4:15

Moving the Ark

- Manually with Poles
- By the Kohathites
- DO NOT TOUCH IT

**What is your reaction to
Uzzah's death?**

Consider David's reaction:

And David was angry because the Lord had broken out against Uzzah. And that place is called Perez-uzza to this day. And David was afraid of God that day, and he said, "How can I bring the ark of God home to me?" So David did not take the ark home into the city of David, but took it aside to the house of Obed-edom the Gittite. And the ark of God remained with the household of Obed-edom in his house three months. And the Lord blessed the household of Obed-edom and all that he had.

I Chronicles 13:9-14

**What is your reaction to
Uzzah's death?**

Uzzah's Death May Seem Unfair Because

1. David and the people were ignorant of God's instruction
2. They acted with zeal and sincerity
3. They showed reverence in their actions (new cart)
4. It demonstrated progressive thinking
5. It made good sense
6. There was precedent
7. **It wasn't Uzzah's idea, but he suffered the consequences**

BUT NONE OF THAT MATTERED

Because you did not carry it the first time, the Lord our God broke out against us, **because we did not seek him according to the rule.**” So the priests and the Levites consecrated themselves to bring up the ark of the Lord, the God of Israel. And the Levites carried the ark of God on their shoulders with the poles, as Moses had commanded according to the word of the Lord.

I Chronicles 13:9-14

“we sought him not after the due order” – KJV

“we did not consult Him about the proper order” – NKJV

“we did not seek Him according to the ordinance” – NASB

“we did not inquire of Him about how to do it in the prescribed way” – NIV

**“The anger of the Lord was
kindled against Uzzah”**

because

**“they did not do it in the
prescribed way.”**

II John 9 (NASB)

Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son.

“transgresses” – NKJV

“goes on ahead” – ESV

Strong’s G4254 – προάγω (proago)

lit. “I lead forth”

Nothing can change the clear statements of God

If we reject what God says, we (and others) will suffer consequences

- How to be saved
- How to worship God
- The work of the church
- Extending/Withdrawing Fellowship
- Divorce & Remarriage

Ignorance • Zeal • Sincerity • Reverence • Progressivism
Sensibility • Common Agreement • “Fairness”

“Thy Will Be Done”

In all I believe

In all I teach

In all I practice

Lest the anger of the Lord be kindled against me

