

# David, Man of Worship

Brynmawr Family Church Sermon (Family Meeting)  
Stuart Wheatman, Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2012

## Intro-

- David's life was summarised by God in the Bible as 'a man after my own heart'- Acts 13:22; 1Sam 13:13-14.
- One of the characteristics we can't fail to notice about David as we read the Bible was that he loved to worship God. He wrote at least 73 of the Psalms we have in our Bibles today- the most famous being Psalm 23. He played the harp and was called to play for King Saul to soothe his nerves. Later David himself became king after Saul had rebelled against the Lord.
- David never lost his passion to worship God. This is seen in his reaction to the Ark of God. The Ark was a golden box God asked Israel to make (just like the box on Raiders of the lost Ark). It was a symbol of God's throne and signified the very presence of God- where the Ark went, God went. David had the chance to bring this Ark to the capital city of his kingdom- Jerusalem.
- As the Ark is brought to Jerusalem David worshipped God. Today we will look at this story and notice 5 characteristics about David's worship of God.

## Read 2Sam 6:1-23

5 Characteristics of David's worship from this passage. David's worship of God was:

### Respectful- v9 'David was afraid of the LORD that day'

- Awe, fear of God. Uzzah steps over the line and tries to stabilise the ark- God strikes him dead on the spot. N.T-Ananias & Sapphira. Boundaries are there to protect us. Electricity, fire, dynamite. Holiness=important part of our worship, set ourselves aside from worldliness. Fear of the Lord beginning of wisdom. Perfect love casts out fear. Respect for authority. Police- we have no fear of them (they are there to protect us) unless we have broken the law.
- Repentance is key. Honour God's name & God's presence amongst us. Give Him our full attention.

### Passionate- v12 'The LORD has blessed the house of Obed Edom..because of the ark of God..so David..brought up the ark'

- Hunger, desire for God's presence, symbolised by the Ark. Intimacy- wanting to be with someone you love- to be in their presence- time with God. Obed Edom's whole household had been blessed when the Ark was there for 3 months- God presence means fruitfulness, blessings. We are living temples for God's presence- He does not live in the Ark or in the temple at Jerusalem but in His people. Be filled with His Spirit.

### Sacrificial- v13 every 'six steps he sacrificed a bull and a fattened calf'

- David sacrifices a bull & fattened calf to God every 6 steps the priests make carrying the Ark. This costs him! A sacrifice is something that costs us much. The pig said to the chicken 'It's alright for you. For the farmer's breakfast you only have to give a contribution, for me it's a sacrifice'.
- David would not give to God that which cost him nothing- when purchasing the spot where the future temple would be built he insisted on paying the full price for the land even though he was offered it for free.

- Do we know what it is to give a costly sacrifice to God? How costly is our worship to Him on a Sunday, or during the week? Do we invest time into our relationship with God? Romans 12 says that true worship is to be a living sacrifice- living our whole lives for God's glory- more than just singing songs.
- Our sacrifice in worship is in response to the sacrifice of Christ for us- He gave His all so that we could be saved and restored to God.
- Mary, Martha's sister poured a pint of expensive nard on Jesus' feet (worth a whole year's wages). This showed she understood His coming sacrifice.
- In v17 David sacrificed burnt and fellowship offerings to God once the Ark was brought into its tent, and then he gave a free meal to the crowd- a loaf of bread, a cake of dates and a cake of raisins for everyone. Our generosity to God is also shown in our generous attitude to people.

**Creative-** v14 David 'danced before the LORD with all his might' whilst Israel shouted and played trumpets

- Freedom and creativity in worship. Expressive thanks to God. Extravagant worship.
- Leaping and dancing before the Lord. Use our whole bodies. Bible full of creative worship. Clap hands, shout, sing aloud etc- Ps. 47:1; Eph. 5:19; Ps. 95:6; Ps. 134:2; Ps. 33:1; Rev. 15:2; Ps. 149:3; Ps. 22:23).
- Be expressive. Be spontaneous. When was the last time you did something for the first time?
- Have you ever: danced like David danced (with all his might)? Bowed down in worship? Lay prostrate? Raised your hands? Span around? Clapped? Waved a flag? Prayed out? Read a scripture aloud? Given a prophecy? Given a tongue?

**Courageous-** v22 'I will become even more undignified than this'

- Michal was jealous of David as her father was Saul and he had messed up and lost the kingdom when God took it from him and gave it instead to David. David was given Michal's hand in marriage when he was set the task of killing a number of Philistines by Saul. Saul thought David would never achieve it and would be killed in battle- he gave the task to him to get rid of him because he was jealous of him. However, David was victorious and married Michal, however Michal grew to despise him.
- Michal ridicules David for dancing before the Lord, and also for behaving like a common person by taking off his robe. As a result she becomes childless- that does not mean that if we are unable to have kids it is because we are like Michal (most of the greatest people in the bible had trouble having kids), but for her, in this instance there was a connection with her despising David's worship and a lack of fruitfulness. Just as delighting in God's presence brings blessings, so too despising his presence brings fruitlessness. Jesus said that we have to remain in the vine- we have to remain in Him. He said that apart from Him we can do nothing.
- We all probably have someone who is like Michal who gives us a hard time for worshipping God. We need courage like David to worship God regardless of the trouble it may cause us. We are not to be ashamed of being Christians, or ashamed of Jesus. Jesus promised us a wonderful reward if we confess Him before men, but He also says if we are ashamed of Him and His words He will also be ashamed of us one day- we have a responsibility towards courageous worship of our wonderful God. He will give us courage by His Spirit.

## Summary

Like David, our worship is to be:

- Respectful
- Passionate
- Sacrificial
- Creative
- Courageous

**Song**

*I will dance, I will sing*