

# A Dangerous [Holy] God

January 5, 2024  
2 Samuel 5:17-6:23

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## So Many Views of God

- a domesticated god – often angel focused - god is manageable
- Americans – god is benign, tame or even indulgent grandparent
- C.S.Lewis - *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* - Not safe, but good
- this text shows us the True God

## The World Battles Against Believers

- Israel has been fighting civil war – enemies were happy
- David crowned king, uniting a strong Israel - enemies not happy
- David inquires of the Lord<sup>19</sup> : what believers should do!
- God tells David to fight - the battle was quite decisive<sup>20</sup>
- The place is then called “*the Lord of breaking through*”<sup>20</sup>
- What a reversal of 1 Sam 4 then ark of God in Dagon’s temple<sup>155:2</sup>

## The Enemies in this World Never Stop

- Philistines regrouped for 2<sup>nd</sup> battle<sup>22</sup>
- David AGAIN inquired of the Lord - God very specific on details
- God seems to have fought this battle: *sound of marching in balsam trees*<sup>24</sup>
- All David/Israel had to do was ‘clean up’
- *that our king may go out before us*<sup>158:20</sup> = *the Lord has gone out before you*<sup>24</sup>
- God provides what we need – no mere man can do that!
- Israel’s enemies have just learned that God is dangerous!
- Israel should’ve learned that God will fight for and protect His own

## God is Not Safe, God is God

- Narrator has put these stories together purposely
- Philistines learned God is dangerous... what about God’s people?
- David decides to return the ark to the place of the tabernacle
- Previous ark of God encounters:
  - 1S4:1 Samuel spoke, Israel ignored God’s Word
  - 1S4:3 decided to use ark of God as ‘talisman’
  - Disaster: captured<sup>154:11</sup>; Dagon falls on face<sup>155:4</sup>, returned<sup>155:6-12</sup>
  - ark setup in Beth-shemesh as spectacle-70 die<sup>156:19</sup>
  - ark then sent to Kirath-jearim (gentile city<sup>10sh9:15</sup>) stays 20yrs
- now the attempt is to return the ark to the tabernacle
- contrast Saul lost 30K men<sup>156:1</sup>; David sends 30K men to retrieve<sup>6:1</sup>
- David had good intentions, but didn’t follow God’s Word!
- Disaster strikes – Uzzah steadies ark & dies!
- Why was Uzzah struck down?
  - Ark not moved according to God’s law
  - Kohathites were to move ark<sup>Num4:15</sup> but couldn’t touch!
  - From Numb4 we learn items 1<sup>st</sup> to be covered, carried by poles
  - David did do that the next time he moved<sup>1Chr15:1-13</sup> the ark
- David had forgotten to inquire of the Lord on a simple thing
- How often do we forget to inquire of God’s Word on simple things?

## David Learns About the True God

- David learned to properly fear the Lord<sup>2Sam6:9</sup>
- David 1<sup>st</sup> reacted in fear<sup>6:10</sup> *not willing to take...*
- Sent it to Obed-edom the Gittite<sup>6:10</sup> - who was richly blessed<sup>6:11-12</sup>!
- David realized that it wasn’t the ark, but handling & attitude<sup>6:12</sup>
- David brought the ark to the City of David<sup>6:16</sup>
  - Michal is ashamed of David’s joy before the Lord<sup>6:16</sup>
  - Michal’s attitude was wrong – no children<sup>6:23</sup>

## So What?

- What must ask: *How can God ever come to us? How can God ever live with us?*
- Sacrifice is necessary – Christ is our sacrifice<sup>Jn1:29; 1Pt1:18-19</sup>
- We can come to a Holy God through God’s sacrifice: Christ<sup>Heb12:18-24</sup>