

SERIES TITLE: Acceptable Worship

PART 2: PASSIONATE

TEXT: 2 SAMUEL 6

INTRODUCTION.

When is worship acceptable? The only way we can discover this is to see how Scripture defines it. As David Peterson writes, “We cannot simply determine for ourselves what is honoring to God.” We need a biblical and theological perspective. Of the ways God has revealed himself—creation, Conscience, Christ—he has given us objective truth in the written Word. Through these 7 weeks, we will consider a minute portion of what the Bible declares or demonstrates about worship. This is a crucial subject for every single follower of Jesus. Why? As Erwin Lutzer stated: “If we haven’t learned to be worshippers, it really doesn’t matter how well we do anything else.” May we become the kind of worshippers that God the Father seeks.

DISCUSSION.

What would have to happen to get you “dancing in the streets”?

EXAMINATION.

Vv.1-5 Why was the return of the ark such a big deal?

Vv.6-8 Why would God react so severely?

Vv.9-15 What was different from the first time David moved the ark, and what was the same?

Vv.16-23 How do you explain Michal’s reaction?

APPLICATION.

- David and Michal display two wrong extremes: too casual and careless versus too detached and disapproving. Which one of these do you most easily fall into? Why?
- If you can identify times you have been critical of other worshipers, what prompted that criticism?
- Are there any biblical ways you could express worship to God that might appear “undignified”? Share one of those ways.

- How could you personally worship God more reverently?
- How could you personally worship God with more celebration?
- React to this statement: Worship spectators and critics risk spiritual barrenness.
- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?