



# *the* WONDER *of* WORSHIP

We were created to Worship God and Enjoy Him forever

## PASSIONATE PRAISE

*Interrupting Our Preoccupation With Self*



# Passion

Passion is extreme, compelling emotion. It is an energizing force that rises from deep within.

God has created every human being with a tremendous capacity for passion

In many respects, our passion is what defines us.



# People of Passion



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# Passion

God created us with a capacity for passion, not just for things, but first and foremost, with a passion for him.

*“The glory of God is a human passionately alive to him.”*

~Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons (AD 125-202)



# Passion

Our God-given capacity for passion is best exercised in our response to the presence of God in worship.

- Passionless worship is not authentic worship.
- At the heart of God-pleasing worship is passion.



# II Samuel 6

<sup>1</sup> David again brought together out of Israel chosen men, thirty thousand in all. <sup>2</sup> He and all his men set out from Baalah of Judah to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the Name, the name of the LORD Almighty, who is enthroned between the cherubim that are on the ark.



# II Samuel 6

<sup>3</sup> They set the ark of God on a new cart and brought it from the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, sons of Abinadab, were guiding the new cart <sup>4</sup> with the ark of God on it, and Ahio was walking in front of it. <sup>5</sup> David and the whole house of Israel were celebrating with all their might before the LORD, with songs and with harps, lyres, tambourines, sistrums and cymbals.



# II Samuel 6

<sup>6</sup> When they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah reached out and took hold of the ark of God, because the oxen stumbled. <sup>7</sup> The LORD's anger burned against Uzzah because of his irreverent act; therefore God struck him down and he died there beside the ark of God.



# II Samuel 6

<sup>8</sup> Then David was angry because the LORD's wrath had broken out against Uzzah, and to this day that place is called Perez Uzzah. <sup>9</sup> David was afraid of the LORD that day and said, "*How can the ark of the LORD ever come to me?*" <sup>10</sup> He was not willing to take the ark of the LORD to be with him in the City of David. Instead, he took it aside to the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite.



# II Samuel 6

<sup>11</sup> The ark of the LORD remained in the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite for three months, and the LORD blessed him and his entire household.

<sup>12</sup> Now King David was told, “*The LORD has blessed the household of Obed-Edom and everything he has, because of the ark of God.*” So David went down and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-Edom to the City of David with rejoicing.



# II Samuel 6

<sup>13</sup> When those who were carrying the ark of the LORD had taken six steps, he sacrificed a bull and a fattened calf. <sup>14</sup> David, wearing a linen ephod, danced before the LORD with all his might, <sup>15</sup> while he and the entire house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouts and the sound of trumpets.



# II Samuel 6

<sup>16</sup> As the ark of the LORD was entering the City of David, Michal daughter of Saul watched from a window. And when she saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD, she despised him in her heart.



# Questions From The Text

- Why did God kill Uzzah?
- Why did David dance?
- Why was Michal so critical of David's worship?
- What can they teach us about a passionate praise?



# David, Uzzah & Michal

## Act One: Uzzah Died

*“The Lord’s anger burned against Uzzah because of his irreverent act; therefore God struck him down and he died there beside the ark of God.”*

~I Samuel 6:7



# David, Uzzah & Michal

## Act Two: David Danced

*“David danced before the Lord with all his might.”*

~I Samuel 6:14



# David, Uzzah & Michal

## Act Three: Michal Despised

*“And when Michal saw King David leaping  
and dancing before the Lord, she despised  
him in her heart.”*

~I Samuel 6:16



# Uzzah Analyzed

1. It is always fatal to take charge of God.
2. He had an obsession with controlling the presence of God.



# Uzzah Analyzed

*“A well-designed ox-cart is undeniably more efficient for moving the Ark about than plodding Levites. But it’s also impersonal—the replacement of consecrated persons by an efficient machine...Uzzah is the patron saint of those who uncritically embrace technology without regard to the nature of God.”*

~Eugene Peterson



# Uzzah Analyzed

Whenever I move from obedience to God and recognition of his holiness to a more controlled and convenient worship, I risk the loss of the kind of passionate praise that pleases him.



# Uzzah Analyzed

1. It is always fatal to take charge of God.
2. He had a obsession with controlling the presence of God.
3. Danger: Beware of the God!



# David Diagrammed

1. He could never take care of God, he had to be taken care of by God.
2. He wasn't careful with God, he was treating God as God.
3. He had access to life that exceeded his capacity to measure or control.



# Michal Under The Microscope

1. She was more concerned with how she looked rather than whom she worshipped.
2. She resented that David was so fully alive and she wasn't.
3. She was guilty of managing other people's response to God.



# David, Uzzah & Michal

**Uzzah:** A worshipper that is indifferent, controlled and driven by convenience.

**Michal:** A worshipper that is resentful, self-conscious and barren

**David:** A worshipper that is enthusiastic, spontaneous and unashamed.



# Passionate Praise

*“We delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment...If it were possible to give our delight for God perfect expression, our soul would be in supreme blessedness.”*

~C.S. Lewis