

Series: Striving Together As a Family

THE LORD BLESSED OBEDEDOM AND ALL HIS HOUSEHOLD 2 SAMUEL 6:1-23

Text: 2 Samuel 6:11; 1 Chronicles 13:14

2 Samuel 6:11

¹¹ *And the ark of the LORD continued in the house of Obededom the Gittite three months: and the LORD blessed Obededom, and all his household.*

1 Chronicles 13:14

¹⁴ *And the ark of God remained with the family of Obededom in his house three months. And the LORD blessed the house of Obededom, and all that he had.*

Introduction:

We considered a couple weeks ago the danger of getting used to God.

M.R. DeHaan once wrote, "The nearest thing to heaven on earth is the Christian family and the home where husband and wife and parents and children live in love and peace together for the Lord and for each other. The nearest thing to hell on earth is an ungodly home, broken by sin and iniquity, and separate, and children

are abandoned to the devil and all the forces of wickedness."

A strong and happy marriage requires a spiritual commitment.

It is not just enough to call yourself a Christian and go to Church on Sunday.

You can be a Christian and go to Church on Sunday and not have a strong home.

That is evident in the number of divorces that occur among Christian families.

It is much more than just two Christians in the home.

It must be two Christians with a spiritual commitment to God!

This morning we'll consider a home that God greatly blessed. No doubt everyone in this room desires to have a home with God's blessing upon it.

The home is the home of Obededom.

Obededom opened his home to the Ark of the Covenant.

For three months the Ark of God resided in his home.

Originally the home of the Ark was first the Tabernacle and then later the Temple.

But there was a transition period between the two.

And for a short period of time, its home was the house of Obededom.

Notice:

1. THE DEATH ATTRIBUTED TO THE ARK

To set the background to our study we find a death attributed to the Ark.

2 Samuel 6:6-7

⁶ And when they came to Nachon's threshingfloor, Uzzah put forth his hand to the ark of God, and took hold of it; for the oxen shook it. ⁷ And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his error; and there he died by the ark of God.

- The Ark was a sacred piece of furniture.
- Its creation was called for by God.
- The Ark was a chest made of wood
- It was overlaid within and without with pure gold

- Inside were four items: the two tables of the law, the book of the covenant, a pot of manna, and Aaron's rod that budded
- Two rings were on each side, near the feet, through which they ran staves to transport the Ark

One of the darkest hours in Israel's history was when the Ark was taken by the Philistines and placed in the temple of their god, Dagon (I Samuel 5).

We read in I Samuel 4:21 that the daughter-in-law of Eli the priest, gave birth to a son at the same time the Ark was taken and she named the son Ichabod which means, "The glory has departed"

The Ark represented the earthly presence of God

Phinehas' wife knew that when the Ark was taken from Jerusalem, the glory of God had departed from Israel.

In the attempt to bring the Ark back to Jerusalem a strange thing happened.

The Ark was being carried on a cart and for some reason the Ark was shaken and Uzzah reached out to stabilize the ark, putting his hand on the ark, and when he did he died.

His death, says something about God?

God's Person Is to Be Reverenced

God's Precepts Are to Be Respected

Notice not only "The Death Attributed To the Ark" but also:

2. THE DWELLING ALLOWED FOR THE ARK

2 Samuel 6:9-11

⁹ And David was afraid of the LORD that day, and said, How shall the ark of the LORD come to me? ¹⁰ So David would not remove the ark of the LORD unto him into the city of David: but David carried it aside into the house of Obededom the Gittite. ¹¹ And the ark of the LORD continued in the house of Obededom the Gittite three months: and the LORD blessed Obededom, and all his household.

Because of what happened, David was afraid to transport the Ark any further so he found a place where the Ark could be kept.

The place was the house of Obededom.

For three months the ark would sit in his house.

For three months the glory of God rested upon the dwelling of Obededom.

When I think of Obededom and the Ark resting in his house I think of:

A. A Home Offered to God (vs. 10)

2 Samuel 6:10

¹⁰ So David would not remove the ark of the LORD unto him into the city of David: but David carried it aside into the house of Obededom the Gittite.

With what happened to Uzzah no doubt most people would have been terrified to have the Ark in their house.

Obededom offered his house as a resting place for the Ark.

The question we should consider is the presence of the Lord welcome in our home?

Have we made a special place for the Lord to dwell?

As Christians, our homes ought to be sanctuaries in which God dwells.

Furthermore, we not only see “A Home Offered to God but also:

B. A Heart Opened to God

2 Samuel 6:10

¹⁰ *So David would not remove the ark of the LORD unto him into the city of David: but David carried it aside into the house of Obededom the Gittite.*

Notice Obededom is identified as a “Gittite”

His identification as a Gittite indicates he was a resident of Gath, a Philistine town.

The Philistines were bitter enemies of Israel.

The citizens of Gath were worshippers of idols and viewed Dagon as the greatest of all gods.

Apparently there had been a change in Obededom's life at some point.

Somewhere he had turned from the false gods of the Philistines to the One True and Living God.

The reason he had Offered his Home to God is that he had Opened his Heart to God.

I doubt seriously if Obededom would have Offered his Home had he not Opened his Heart, first.

If God is to dwell in our Homes, He must first dwell in our Hearts.

Notice “The Death Attributed to the Ark”, and the “Dwelling Allowed For the Ark” but lastly:

3. THE DIVIDENDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ARK

2 Samuel 6:11

¹¹ And the ark of the LORD continued in the house of Obededom the Gittite three months: and the LORD blessed Obededom, and all his household.

What a blessed three months in the life of Obededom.

We read that because Obededom had Opened his Heart and Offered his Home to the Lord, “... the LORD blessed Obededom, and all his household”

What did the Ark in his home mean?

First, it said that:

A. He Had a “Special Home”

In the days that would follow, people would talk about the Ark resting once again in Jerusalem but Obededom would smile and remember the days when that sacred piece of furniture had rested in his house.

Not only was the home of Obededom “A Special Home” but we also see:

B. He Had a Spiritual Home

God was in his home.

The presence of the Ark made it a ‘Special’ Home.

We not only want to have good homes but genuine Christian homes.

We want homes where God is Real, God is Worshipped, God is Honored, and God is Loved.

May God give us Christian homes!

- I ask you, what kind of home do you have?
- Is it a ‘Special’ Home? Is it a ‘Spiritual’ Home?
- Have you Offered your Home to the Lord?
- Have you Opened your Heart to the Lord?

Like Obededom, we can have a Special Home and a Spiritual Home.