

David Dances with Joy at the Ark of God's Presence

God chose David when he was young to be King of His people, Israel, because God saw David's heart. David loved God and he wanted to do what God says is right and good. While David took care of his father's sheep, he talked to God. He prayed and sang songs of praise to God. When David grew up he was a good King who did what God wanted.

God wanted the people to know how much He loved them and that He was always with them.

God had told the people to make a special box out of wood. It was so special it was covered all over with gold! Inside the box were the words that God wanted the people to remember. We call them the Ten Commandments. They are God's good rules, rules to keep us safe and happy. These rules are in our Bible today. They tell us to love God and not do anything hurtful to anyone.

The box was called an Ark, the Ark of God's Presence. Presence means here with you. You are present here today; your presence is here in this room. The Ark of God's Presence meant that God was right there with them.

King David made a special place to keep the Ark so the people would always remember that God was with them. He called all the people to come out and see the Ark as it was being brought to its' place. The priests who taught the people about God, carried the Ark very carefully on their shoulders.

There were lots of singers singing with joy and musicians blowing trumpets and playing harps and cymbals. It was like a marching band in a parade!

The Bible says King David brought the Ark with gladness and joy! He was so happy because the Ark showed the people that God loved them and wanted to be with them and would never leave them. And the Bible says King David's heart was so happy that he danced with all His might before the Lord!

After the Ark was put in its' special place the people worshipped God with prayers and thanksgiving and praise. King David blessed the people and gave all of them gifts of food to take home to their families.

We don't need an Ark of God's Presence anymore to know that God is with us. After Jesus went back to heaven to God He gave us Holy Spirit to live inside us, to be with us all the time. God's Presence is always here with us! He promised He will never leave us and He will never stop loving us. Remembering that can make us so happy that we might dance before the Lord!

I Chronicles 15:1-16:4; John 14:16-18; Romans 8:38-39