



THE BOOK OF

2 SAMUEL



Sermon Series Notes

“Uninhibited Worship” (II Samuel 6:14-23)

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For years Israel’s most sacred and significant religious object has been in enemy hands, but when David becomes king, he leads the Israelites in recapturing the ark of the covenant and brings it back to Jerusalem. The first attempt to do so was not in the way the Lord had prescribed the ark to be moved, and as a result a man named Uzzah dies when he reaches to steady the ark as the oxen pulling the cart carrying the ark stumbled. David later realizes that the ark is to be carried, and only by the Levites. So the second attempt to bring the ark back into Jerusalem is done with extreme reverence (v.13).

vv.14-15 Done with reverence, and this time in the prescribed way, this is a very festive procession. And David takes this opportunity to express himself in worship, and he does so in a very radical manner.

Show pics of David dancing before the Lord

v.16 Saul told David that he would give Michal his daughter to him in marriage at the price of 100 Philistine foreskins, so David went out and obtained 200. Michal was in love with David (I Sam.18:19), but here she despises him for what she considers a foolish and unnecessary public display.

vv.17-19 Why is Michal not part of the assembly of worshippers during this joyous occasion? The same reason some are not with us tonight for this joyous occasion.

vv.20-23 Michal not only did not participate in the assembly gathered to worship the Lord, she despised and now criticized her own husband for what she considered a carnal act to gain the attention of the ladies. David not only defends his actions, but states that he is willing to become even more undignified, even to the point of embarrassing himself in public, as long as the motive is to worship in a way that pleases the Lord.

If we are going to express ourselves to the Lord in an uninhibited manner, it is very likely that we will be criticized for our actions, possibly even by those closest to us.

The apostles criticized the anointing of Jesus with the very expensive perfume.

Simon the Pharisee criticized the sinful woman who interrupted the dinner party, as well as Jesus for allowing her actions.

Michal's barrenness no doubt should send a message to those who choose to not express themselves in worship, and even criticize radical worshippers.

God has created us in such a way that we express ourselves, and our expression should reflect the situation we find ourselves in. For example:

Show video of TB Lightning winning the Stanley Cup.

I began expressing myself in worship during my first years of pastoring here at CCSP. It was motivated by simply reading Scripture and noticing the various ways people in the Scriptures expressed themselves in worship, as well as the many Scriptures that encouraged expression in worship, especially the Psalms.

DANCING

Exodus 15:20 (Miriam leading Israel after the red Sea crossing); I Sam.18:6-7 (The Israelite women after David killed Goliath).

Psalms 30:11 You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

Psalms 149:3 Let them (Israel) praise his name with dancing and make music to him with tambourine and harp.

Psalms 150:4 Praise him with tambourine and dancing...

Ecclesiastes 3:4...a time to mourn and a time to dance...

Jeremiah 31:13 Then maidens will dance and be glad, young men and old men as well. I will turn their mourning into gladness...

Luke 15:25 (When the prodigal son comes home).

Culture tends to dictate the practice of dancing, in the world and in the church. The culture of Calvary Chapel is not one that practices this form of worship. And of course you know our policy on dancing overall here at CCSP – Some can and some can't.

SHOUTING

See II Sam.6:15

Psalms 20: 4-5 May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed. We will shout for joy when you are victorious...

Psalms 47:1-2 For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah. A psalm. Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. How awesome is the LORD Most High, the great King over all the earth!

Psalms 33: 3-4 Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy. For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.

Psalms 66:1-2 For the director of music. A song. A psalm. Shout with joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious!

Psalms 71:23 My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to you – I whom you have delivered.

Psalms 81:1 Sing for joy to God our strength; shout aloud to the God of Jacob!

Psalms 95:1 Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Psalms 98:4,6; 100:1; Isaiah 12:6; 24:14; 26:19; 35:2; Zechariah 2:10; 9:9.

Motivation/Meaning: An expression of joy, triumph, or exaltation (shout).

Illustration: Sports team victory, military victory, etc.

CLAPPING

II Kings 11: 12 Jehoiada brought out the king's son (Joash) and put the crown on him; he presented him with a copy of the covenant and proclaimed him king. They anointed him, and the people clapped their hands and shouted, "Long live the king!"

Psalms 47:1...Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.

Motivation/Meaning: Express approval or praise (applaud).

We got this one down, because we do it pretty much after every song we sing here at Calvary Chapel! I'm not complaining, but I will say that sometimes I like it after a more mellow song that we do not clap. Sometimes silence is the correct worship expression.

THE LIFTING OF HANDS

I Timothy 2:8

Psalm 141:2 May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice.

Ex.9:27-29 (Moses to Pharaoh)...I will spread out my hands in prayer to the Lord...

Psalm 63:4 I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands.

Psalm 134:2 lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the Lord.

Psalm 143:6 I spread out my hands to you; I thirst for you like a parched land.

Psalm 106:26 So he swore to them with uplifted hand...

See Rev.10:5-6a

Illus: Court, "I solemnly swear to tell the truth..."

Motivation/Meaning: Expression of need/dependency, surrender; Need the Lord to carry you; Illustration: A child reaching out his hands to be lifted up and carried; Illus: When an enemy surrenders they hold up their hands; Vow/Promise; to bless the Lord.

BOWING

There are lots of examples in the Scripture for this expression of worship.

Abraham's chief servant after finding Rebekah as a bride for Isaac (Gen.24:12-19, 26-27, 50-52).

The Israelites after Moses and Aaron communicated the Lord's concern for their misery (Ex.4:29-31)

Passover (Ex.12:26-27)

Moses from the cleft of the rock (Ex.34:5-8)

David and the Israelites at the dedication of the Temple (I Chron.29: 20 Then David said to the whole assembly, "Praise the LORD your God." So they all praised the LORD, the God of their fathers; they bowed low and fell prostrate before the LORD and the king.

Ezra at the rebuilding of the Temple; Neh.8: 5 Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. 6 Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

The Magi (truth seekers) before the baby Jesus; Matt.2: 11 On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.

Psalm 95:6 Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.

Neh.8:6; Rev.4:11; 5:14; 11:16;

Motivation/Meaning: Bowing is the most common universal sign of respect and submission in the presence of a king or powerful ruler (Gen.41:42-43; II Sam.14:22). Bowing before a king is saying with your body that he is more powerful than you and your life is in his hands and under his power.

I Kings 8:54 When Solomon had finished all these prayers and supplications to the Lord, he rose from before the altar of the Lord, where he had been kneeling with his hands spread out toward heaven.

Solomon was a great king bowing before a greater king (See Matt.12:42). No matter how great someone is in this life, God/Jesus is greater. So everyone should bow before Him. One day everyone will (Phil.2:9-10; Rom.14:11).

PROSTRATING OURSELVES

See Rev.4:9-11; Rev.11: 16 And the twenty-four elders, who were seated on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God...

Motivation/Meaning:

- Worship

- Joyous faith response
 - Gen.17:17 Abraham fell facedown...(after God told him he and Sarah would have a son; he's 99 years old!).
- Need for mercy
 - Luke 5:12...a man came along who was covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he fell facedown and begged him, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."
- Desperate prayer
 - Num.20:6 Moses and Aaron went from the assembly to the entrance to the tent of meeting and fell facedown (in response to the grumbling Israelites).
- Tragedy or crisis
 - Joshua 7:1-6 (in response to the men killed at Ai)
 - Job after the initial tragedies struck his life (Job 1:20-21).

SILENCE

Rev. 8:1 When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

This is of course a prophecy related to the most solemn, reverent moment in all of history, when God unleashes his wrath upon the world just prior to the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Motivation/Meaning: Reverence

LOOKING TOWARD HEAVEN (UP)

Psalm 121:1-2 I will lift up my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

John 11:41-42 (Displays confident faith); Also Jesus' prayer before multiplying the bread and fish.

John 17:1-2 (Indicates intimate fellowship)

CONCLUSION

Uninhibited: Expressing one's feelings or thoughts unselfconsciously and without restraint.

Age and physical ability may limit how we express ourselves in worship, and when that is the case, be thankful that God evaluates our worship based on the attitude of our heart.

Heb.11:21 By faith Jacob, **when he was a dying**, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff.

You can worship holding on to a walker, in a wheelchair, from a sickbed, etc.