

Readings from the Word of God

Sunday, 12 March, 2023

Apocalypse Revealed §529:3

[3] Because these laws were the first elements of the church to be established by the Lord with the Israelite nation, and because they embrace in brief summary everything having to do with religion which makes possible a conjunction of the Lord with a person and of a person with the Lord, therefore they were so holy that nothing was more holy.

2 Samuel 6:1-5

Again David gathered all the choice men of Israel, thirty thousand. And David arose and went with all the people who were with him from Baale Judah to bring up from there the ark of God, whose name is called by the Name, Jehovah of Hosts, who dwells between the cherubim. So they set the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill; and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drove the new cart. And they brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill, accompanying the ark of God; and Ahio went before the ark. Then David and all the house of Israel played music before Jehovah on all kinds of instruments of fir wood, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on sistrums, and on cymbals.

2 Samuel 6:6-10

And when they came to Nachon's threshing floor, Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled. Then the anger of Jehovah was aroused against Uzzah, and God struck him there for his error; and he died there by the ark of God. And David became angry because of Jehovah's outbreak against Uzzah; and he called the name of the place Perez Uzzah to this day. David was afraid of Jehovah that day; and he said, "How can the ark of Jehovah come to me?" So David would not move the ark of Jehovah with him into the City of David; but David took it aside into the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite.

Secrets of Heaven §878

Uzzah's putting forth (his hand) to the ark, represented man's own power, or what is his own; and as this is profane, the word "hand" is understood, but is not expressed in the original, lest it should be perceived by the angels that such a profane thing had touched what is holy. And because Uzzah put it forth, he died.

Heaven and Hell §359

...it is evident that to enter upon the way to heaven is not so difficult as many believe. The sole difficulty lies in being able to resist the love of self and the world, and to prevent their becoming dominant; for this is the source of all evils. That this is not so difficult as is believed is meant by these words of the Lord:

Learn of Me, for I am meek and lowly of heart, and you shall find rest to your souls; for My yoke is easy and My burden is light (Matt. 11:29, 30).

The Lord's yoke is easy and His burden light because a man is led by the Lord and not by self just to the extent that he resists the evils that flow forth from love of self

and of the world; and because the Lord then resists these evils in man and removes them.

Matthew 19:25-26

With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

2 Samuel 6:11-15, 17-19

The ark of Jehovah remained in the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite three months. And Jehovah blessed Obed-Edom and all his household.

Now it was told King David, saying, “Jehovah has blessed the house of Obed-Edom and all that belongs to him, because of the ark of God.”

So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-Edom to the City of David with gladness. And so it was, when those bearing the ark of Jehovah had gone six paces, that he sacrificed oxen and fatted sheep. Then David danced before Jehovah with all his might; and David was wearing a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of Jehovah with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet.

...

So they brought the ark of Jehovah, and set it in its place in the midst of the tabernacle that David had erected for it. Then David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before Jehovah. And when David had finished offering burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of Jehovah of hosts. Then he distributed among all the people, among the whole multitude of Israel, both the women and the men, to everyone a loaf of bread, a piece of meat, and a cake of raisins. So all the people departed, everyone to his house.