

An aerial photograph of a dense city skyline, likely Chicago, with numerous skyscrapers and buildings. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. A white horizontal line runs across the middle of the image, framing the title text.

THE BEST DECISION

CHICAGO TABERNACLE

Let us bring the ark of our God back to us, for we did not inquire of it during the reign of Saul.” The whole assembly agreed to do this, because it seemed right to all the people. So David assembled all Israel, from the Shihor River in Egypt to Lebo Hamath, to bring the ark of God from Kiriath Jearim. David and all Israel went to Baalah of Judah (Kiriath Jearim) to bring up from there the ark of God the Lord, who is enthroned between the cherubim—the ark that is called by the Name. They moved the ark of God from Abinadab’s house on a new cart, with Uzzah and Ahio guiding it. David and all the Israelites were celebrating with all their might before God, with songs and with harps, lyres, timbrels, cymbals and trumpets.

1 Chronicles 13:3-8

CHICAGO TABERNACLE

When they came to the threshing floor of Kidon, Uzzah reached out his hand to steady the ark, because the oxen stumbled. The Lord's anger burned against Uzzah, and he struck him down because he had put his hand on the ark. So he died there before God. Then David was angry because the Lord's wrath had broken out against Uzzah, and to this day that place is called Perez Uzzah. David was afraid of God that day and asked, "How can I ever bring the ark of God to me?" He did not take the ark to be with him in the City of David. Instead, he took it to the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite. The ark of God remained with the family of Obed-Edom in his house for three months, and the Lord blessed his household and everything he had.

1 Chronicles 13:9-14

CHICAGO TABERNACLE

It was because you, the Levites, did not bring it up the first time that the Lord our God broke out in anger against us. We did not inquire of him about how to do it in the prescribed way.” So the priests and Levites consecrated themselves in order to bring up the ark of the Lord, the God of Israel. And the Levites carried the ark of God with the poles on their shoulders, as Moses had commanded in accordance with the word of the Lord. David told the leaders of the Levites to appoint their fellow Levites as musicians to make a joyful sound with musical instruments: lyres, harps and cymbals.

1 Chronicles 15:13-16

CHICAGO TABERNACLE

Shebaniah, Joshaphat, Nethanel, Amasai, Zechariah, Benaiah and Eliezer the priests were to blow trumpets before the ark of God. Obed-Edom and Jehiah were also to be doorkeepers for the ark.

1 Chronicles 15:24

So all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the Lord with shouts, with the sounding of rams' horns and trumpets, and of cymbals, and the playing of lyres and harps

1 Chronicles 15:28

The Best decision is securing the Presence of God.

CHICAGO TABERNACLE

You can lose the Blessed position if you don't make
the Best decision.

CHICAGO TABERNACLE

Find the Prescribed Way

It was because you, the Levites, did not bring it up the first time that the Lord our God broke out in anger against us. We did not inquire of him about how to do it in the prescribed way.”

1 Chronicles 15:13

For there is a proper time and procedure for every matter,
though a person may be weighed down by misery.
Ecclesiastes 8:6

CHICAGO TABERNACLE

Lot looked around and saw that the whole plain of the Jordan toward Zoar was well watered, like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt...
Genesis 13:10

CHICAGO TABERNACLE

Prepare Through Consecration

So the priests and Levites consecrated themselves in order to bring up the ark of the Lord, the God of Israel.

1 Chronicles 15:14

Definition of Consecration

Consecration is to separate yourself from those things that are incompatible with His nature and His word.

Walk in Celebration

And the Levites carried the ark of God with the poles on their shoulders, as Moses had commanded in accordance with the word of the Lord. David told the leaders of the Levites to appoint their fellow Levites as musicians to make a joyful sound with musical instruments: lyres, harps and cymbals.

1 Chronicles 15:15-16

Many celebrate when they get the material blessing.
David celebrated when he secured the Presence.

CHICAGO TABERNACLE