

# They Set the Ark of God Upon a New Cart.

by F.B. Meyer

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*God desires obedience and the living shoulders of consecrated men, rather than our attempts to impose our own terms and bring new carts to Him.*

**Scripture:** 2 Samuel 6:3

**Topics:** "Surrender to God", "Obedience"

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## Description

F.B. Meyer emphasizes the importance of obedience to God's commands, using the example of the Ark of God being placed on a new cart instead of being carried by the Levites as instructed. He highlights that disobedience leads to dire consequences, as seen with Uzzah's tragic fate. Meyer warns against relying on our own efforts and resolutions, symbolized by the 'new cart,' and instead calls for a life of surrender and service to God. True service involves being led by God rather than attempting to control our relationship with Him. By obeying God's laws, we can harness His power for our faith and accomplish great things.

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## Transcript

They set the Ark of God upon a new cart. 2 Sam. vi. 3.

THIS was their mistake. The Divine directions were explicit that the Ark of the living God must be carried on the shoulders of living men. There would have been no stumbling of oxen, no swaying of the Ark to falling, no need for Uzzah to reach out his hand, if only this simple direction had been obeyed. This breaking forth of God was to recall men to simple absolute obedience to the rules and regulations that had been so explicitly laid down in the Levitical code. It could not fall into disuse without grave loss to the entire people. Better that one life should be sacrificed for disobedience than that the whole nation should be impoverished for the relaxation of that ancient law.

We are fond of bringing new carts to God. At every birthday we build the new cart of good resolution, and place thereon the Ark of God. We will be different, and on our fresh endeavours the Lord of Hosts shall ride; but we must drive, and if needs be, steady the Ark. Ah! it is not long before the oxen stumble, and Uzzah who drives is smitten to the dust of death.

God wants, not new carts, but the living shoulders of consecrated men. We must live for Him, surrendering ourselves to his service; not driving, but being driven; not conducting, but being impelled; not imposing our thoughts on Him, but being willing to submit ourselves absolutely to Him. There is no need to fear God, if

only we will obey Him, and in obedience discover the laws by which we may approach and serve Him. Then the power which otherwise flames forth to destroy will become the useful servant of our faith, and we shall be able to undertake great things for God.

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