

April 23 Answers

- 1) David brings the ark to Jerusalem. David asked the Levites to prepare a musical procession that would be a worthy accompaniment to this great occasion. The cymbals, harps, lyres, trumpets and singing **elevated** the people's hearts and minds, **focused** their attention on God, and helped them **express** their feelings of joy and praise. It also helped seal this moment in their **memory** for years to come. This teaches us that it's good to begin a task by **praising** God, for it will inspire us to give Him our best. David was right there in the middle of the procession, "dancing before the LORD with all his **might**" (2 Sam 6:14). He was not **worried** about what people would think of him, and he did not allow his position as king to keep him from whole-hearted celebration. In contrast, Michal was so disgusted by his undignified behavior that she could not rejoice in the ark's return. She looked out the window and saw David, but she did not see **God**. How tragic that her pride caused her to miss out on God's glorious presence. One of the songs that was sung at this joyous event was Psalm 105. This psalm is a celebration of God's "wondrous **works**" for Israel, from the sojourn in Egypt to the conquest. It teaches us that true praise delights to **remember** what God has done and rejoices to **tell** others of His mighty deeds. The psalm ends with a call for obedience: "And he gave them the lands of the nations, and they took possession of the fruit of the people's toil, that they might **keep** his statutes and **observe** his laws" (Ps 105:44-45). This reminds us that we serve God out of **gratitude** for all that He has done for us!