"And when they came to Nachon's threshingfloor, Uzzah put forth his hand to <u>The Ark Of God</u>, and took hold of it; for the oxen shook it. And the Anger of the LORD Was Kindled Against Uzzah; and God Smote him there for his error; and there he died by the Ark of God." 2 Samuel 6:6-7 KJV

You don't guard a gun with your life; you guard your life with a gun! Uzzah forgot the Power of Whom the Ark represented, and thought the Ark more important than God of the Ark! He reached to steady the Ark because "the oxen shook it;" as if God needed his help. We are God's Children by His Choice to Redeem us "with His Own Blood," and we "are not our own." God Word Tells us, "For Mine Own Sake, Even For Mine Own Sake, Will I Do It...I Will Not Give My Glory unto another." I'm sure Uzzah meant well, but he had slipped into the idolatry of Ark worship instead of the God of the Ark. How often are we guilty of



worshipping the ritual of our Faith instead of the Redeemer of our faith? Bible reading, Church attendance, and obedience become duties rather than remaining the delight they were in the beginning of our relationship with Christ. When we leave our "First Love," delight turns to duty and then to drudgery. Uzzah forgot God's Commands. "Aaron shall come, and his sons, and they shall take down the covering veil, and cover the Ark of Testimony with it...The sons of Kohath shall come to bear it: but they shall not touch any Holy Thing, lest they die." He became impulsively caught up in the moment and it cost him his life! How often do your emotions dictate your Faith rather than your Faith dictating your emotions and your life goes to ruin? Fret and worry are doubt and are therefore sin "for whatsoever is not of Faith is sin" We must never forget the "Terrible" Majesty of Jehovah, even though, as His Children, we are on a first name basis! For many, the Bible is like a rabbit's foot or a lucky penny; merely a good luck talisman. Many believers tuck it under their arm, take it to church, open it to the day's text, close it, and promptly put it back under their arm as they talk about the latest game, news, weather, or gossip. If they really worshipped the God of the Bible, it would command their reverence and conversation, because they love and know the God That Speaks from between its pages. It is the "Sword of the Lord" and needs no defense or help. Believers are not to defend it, but to use it. "It Is The Power of God unto Salvation to every one that believeth." When bovine mentalities of evil men attempt to shake its Truth, it needs no help from us! Like the Philistines, their gods will fall before it and Judgment Will Befall them! Ambassadors are highest rank diplomats who represent a nation, the person, and dignity of a sovereign, and also have personal access to the sovereign whom they represent. Believers may directly access God Himself. "We are Ambassadors for Christ." Our duty; proclaim His Message; "Be ye reconciled to God!" If we "walk in the Light, we have fellowship" with God, Himself, which nothing will replace!

> God's Holy Truth needs no defense, Evil will know its recompense, The faithful must the Truth proclaim, Salvation's grace in Jesus' name! –CGP

We do not need to defend or protect God. We are as duty bound to proclaim God's Sovereignty as men are to repent before it. We must faithfully tell men, like Rahab was told; to bind the "Scarlet Cord" of Calvary's Crimson Flow plainly in their soul's window before the Avenging LORD Descends in Judgment! ALL human defenses will fall at the Last Trump! Only The Crimson Seal of Christ's Blood will protect the faithful!

"For God, Who Commanded The Light to Shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to Give The Light of The Knowledge of The Glory of God in The Face of Jesus Christ. But we have This Treasure in earthen vessels, that The Excellency of The Power may be of God, and not of us." 2 Corinthians 4:6-7 KJV