Introduction:
A. We all make our share of mistakes and some of the lessons we learn, we have to learn the hard way.
B. The lesson we want to learn today is one that God’s people have to learn in every generation, including our own.

I. The Story
A. David became the king of all Israel in God’s good time.
B. The people of God at the time had become more and more pagan.
C. David decided that the Ark of the Lord should be brought up to Jerusalem.
D. The Ark of the Lord was Israel’s national treasure and most sacred object.
E. The Ark denoted the very presence of the Lord.
F. The Ark was so important to the Lord that He gave Moses very specific details of how to build it, what was to be in it, where it was to sit, and how it was to be transported.
G. The word “ark” simply means a box or a chest.
H. Inside the Ark were three important objects: a golden jar of manna, Aaron’s rod, and the stone tablets of the Law.
I. David decided to transport the Ark on a cart.
J. By impulse Uzzah reached out to steady the Ark and instantly he fell dead.
K. David went home and did his homework. (1 Chron. 15:11-15)
L. David had the Levites carry the Ark with the poles on their shoulders as commanded by the Word of God.

II. The Application
A. One Lesson: The commands of the Lord are to be obeyed.
   1. Matthew 15:9
   2. The best proof of our love for the Lord is obedience to His Word (1 Jn. 5:2,3; Jn. 14:15; Jn. 8:31,32)
   3. The importance of the Word (2 Tim. 2:15; 3:14-4:4)