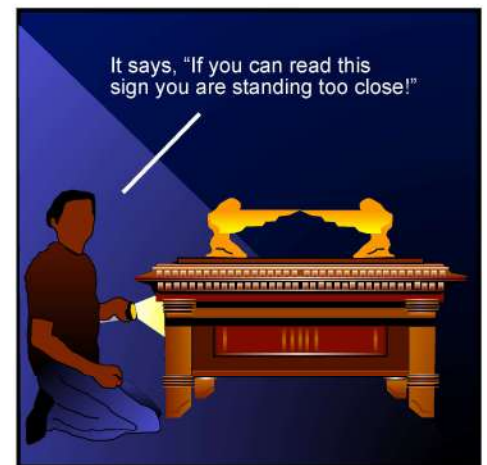


The Ark

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, and tambourines, cymbals and trumpets.

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.

1 Chronicles 13:7-10



Too close for comfort. Even though touching the ark was instant death I imagine there were those who experimented with how close they could get to the fire without getting burned. We tend to do that with sin. It's not that we are confused about right and wrong. What happens is that we try to see how close we can get to sin without actually sinning. First we entertain a sin by giving it room in our thoughts. Then we start making plans for carrying out the sin, rationalizing that it is still a figment of our imagination. Finally we commit the sin. Our goal should be to place as much distance as possible between ourselves and sin. Too close for comfort is too far from God.

