

The Law & Its Judgment

The Ark (Part 1)

Exodus 25:9-22

1 Samuel 6

1 John 2:1-17



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Pressing Forward

- Catechism/Memory/Meditation
- **Eternal Purpose**

What We Have Learned

- Six common factors
- A walk through the Tabernacle - **details, details, details.**

The Most Holy Place and the Veil

- Its dimensions and description
- CUBE - just like in the Temple; just like the New Jerusalem.
- The Ark and the Mercy Seat
- The Shekinah glory of God
- The Veil BARRED people from approaching the Holy God.

Christ Is the Veil (Hebrews 10:20; Matthew 27:51) - "Therefore, **let us . . .**"

Three Arks - Protection from Judgment

- Ark of Noah - Noah's family saved from God's judgment of death on the earth. (Genesis 6-8)
- Ark of Infant Moses - This little ark saved Moses from the judgment of death Pharaoh pronounced on all male children born to God's people in Egypt.
- Ark of the Testimony - contained God's Law that mark all men with death and condemnation of God.

The Ark - Its Construction & Purpose

- ★ **Details, details, details**
- ★ First vessel God instructed Moses to make! All the other vessels were of no value apart from the Ark - the symbol of God's presence *with His People - Immanuel!*
- ★ Everything centered around the Ark! See Numbers 10:33.

- Wood and Gold
 - “Shittim”- wood that never rotted - LXX translated it as “incorruptible wood”
 - Two natures of Christ - God in the flesh - (1 Timothy 3:16; John 1:1, 14)
- Gold “**inside and outside**”; golden “crown” (royalty; majesty)
- “rings and poles” - to be carried!
- **Purpose:** “There I will commune with you and command you . . .” (Exodus 25:22)

The Anointing of the Ark (Exodus 30:25-26)

- The rest of the Tabernacle had no value apart from the Ark.
- The oil - Exodus 30:31-32 - not to be poured on man.
- To anoint is to set the anointed apart for a specific mission.

DEATH at a Look (1 Samuel 6:19)

- The Ark: Symbol of God’s presence.
- GRACE: Though God’s people sinned against Him “HE” returns to them *again and again!*
 - BUT be warned of presuming on God’s grace - grace does not give us permission to ignore God’s word/Law/commandments!
- **Details, Details, Details.**
 - A burnt offering required a male - not a female!
 - The Levites should have covered the ark as prescribed in Numbers 4:5, 19-20.
 - The people approached the Ark in curiosity rather than reverence and fear. (Hebrews 12:28-29; Leviticus 10:3)
 - They removed the Mercy Seat and GOD STRUCK 50,700 dead!
 - (1 Samuel 6:20) “Who is able to stand before this holy LORD God?”
 - Instead of repenting - “And to whom shall it go up from us?” - see Isaiah 30:10-11.
 - Consider how differently God dealt with the Philistines and His people. READ Luke 12:48.

DEATH at a Touch (2 Samuel 6:6-7; Numbers 4:15)

- **Details, details, details.**
- God’s commands were to same 500 years after they were given. The same is true about God’s commands given in the New Testament.
- Man, traditions, cultures, etc. change - **GOD does not change.**
- The Ark, by Law, was to be carried NEVER to be put on a cart.
 - The Kohathites were not given carts! (Numbers 7:1-9)
 - The Ark was to be carried - NOT carted! (Numbers 4:15; 7:9)
 - The Ark was to be carried by poles. (Exodus 25:14-15)
 - The Ark was never to be touched EXCEPT by the priests! (Numbers 4:15) A touch meant DEATH!

- God judged Uzzah according to His holy, just, and perfect Law!

Inside the Ark (Hebrews 9:4)

- The Law (Deuteronomy 31:25-27) - This was God's Law. God is the ONLY Lawgiver, Judge, and King. (Isaiah 33:22)
 - This is God's world (universe) and He decides what is right and what is wrong!
 - God is the "Judge of all the earth" and He will judge by His Law. (Gen 18:25; Psalm 98:9 - His entire Word is truth - Psalm 119:142, 151, 160)
 - God is King and He rules by His Law. (Psalm 22:28; 103:19)
 - This was the second set of tablets - UNBROKEN!!!!
 - The first set was broken when Moses came down from Sinai and saw the golden calf. (Exodus 32:19)
 - The second set was NOT BROKEN! (Deuteronomy 10:1-5)
- Manna (Exodus 16)
- Aaron's Rod (Numbers 16-17)

Inside the Ark: Christ and the Law (Isaiah 42:21)

- Christ came into the world to "exalt (magnify) and make God's Law honorable (glorious) again. He did this by honoring (obeying) His Father in all things! He always did what pleased God! (John 8:29; Matthew 3:17; 12:18; 17:5)
- Christ came to FULFILL the Law. (Matthew 5:17-18)
- Christ delighted in doing the will (Law) of the Father. (Psa 40:8; Heb 10:7; John 4:34)
- Christ kept the Law! (John 15:10)
- Christ was without sin which means that every word He spoke, every thought He thought, and every deed He did was in accordance with God's perfect Law. (1 John 3:5; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 4:15)
- God has given all judgment to Christ and Christ will judge all by God's Law! (John 5:22-23; Acts 17:30-31; Romans 2:16; 2 Timothy 4:1)

Inside the Ark: Christ, the Bread from Heaven

- (Exodus 16) God's gift in the Wilderness of Sin. **A gift of mercy from God** to a people who did not deserve it.
- (John 6:31-58) The manna was a picture of Christ coming down from heaven (from God) to bring eternal life to all who would "eat" His flesh - the Bread of God.
- The manna was a reminder of God's provision for His people, just as Christ is God's provision for His people. (John 3:16; Genesis 22:8)

Inside the Ark: Christ, the Resurrected One

- (Numbers 17) Like Aaron, Christ is our High Priest; like Aaron, Christ was

- common in appearance (He came in the likeness of man); like Aaron's rod, Christ was laid up with others (criminals); and like Aaron's budding rod, Christ rose from the dead and brought forth fruit; like Aaron's rod placed laid up before the Ark, Christ now is in the presence of God in Heaven.
- Christ was risen from the dead for our justification. (Romans 4:25; 6:4)

Christ Is the Ark

- The Church without Christ is of no value.
- (John 1:31-34; Matthew 3:16) The Anointing of Christ - set apart for God's purpose. (Psalm 2:2, 6; Acts 4:27; 10:38) (Luke 4:18-19; Isaiah 11:2-5) "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me."
- (Psalm 40:8) "I delight to do Your will, O my God, and Your Law is within my heart." (1 Samuel 16:7; Matt 12:34-35; 15:18-19; see also John 7:38)
- (Matthew 5:17) Christ came to fulfill God's Law - not to destroy it.

On Top of the Ark - A LID - the Mercy Seat

The Ark and Me

- (1 Samuel 5:8) "What shall we do with the Ark?" Send it away!
- (John 11:47-53) "What shall we do? For this Man ("the Ark") works many signs . . . From that day on they plotted to put Him away."
- (Matthew 27:22-23) "What then shall I do with Jesus ("the Ark") who is called Christ? . . . Crucify Him - put Him away?"
- Are the details of God's Word important to me? Am I living my life on **every word** that proceeds from the mouth of God? (Matthew 4:4; Luke 4:4) **Details, details, details.**
- (Hebrews 10:16) Is **God's Law** written on my heart? (Jeremiah 31:33) What is the evidence?
 - (1 John 2:3-4) Do I **do** God's commandments? (James 1:22; Hebrews 5:9)
 - (John 14:21, 23-24) **Do I love Christ?** (John 14:15; 15:10, 13-14)
 - ✘ Anyone who does not love Christ is accursed! (1 Corinthians 16:22)
 - (Matthew 11:28-30; 7:24; John 10:27-28; 2 Corinthians 10:5) Have I taken Christ's yoke and am I following Him by keeping His Word?
 - (1 John 2:6) Am I walking **as** Christ walked in obedience to God's commandments?
- (Psalm 1:1-3) Do I delight in **doing** God's commandments? (Psalm 112:1; 119:16, 24, 35, 47, 70, 77, 92, 143, 174)
- (Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 6:23) Am I using God's commandments as a light to guide me through each day in this "wilderness"?
- (Matthew 7:21) Do I delight in **doing God's will** - not mine! (1 John 2:17)

What shall we do with Christ?