

## THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

*And it shall come to pass, when ye be multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, saith the LORD, they shall say no more, The Ark of the Covenant of the LORD: neither shall it come to mind: neither shall they remember it; neither shall they visit it; neither shall that be done any more.*

*17 At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the LORD; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the Name of the LORD, to Jerusalem: neither shall they walk any more after the imagination of their evil heart.*

*18 In those days the house of Judah shall walk with the house of Israel, and they shall come together out of the land of the north to the land that I have given for an inheritance unto your fathers.*

*19 But I said, How shall I put thee among the children, and give thee a pleasant land, a goodly heritage of the hosts of nations? and I said, Thou shalt call Me, My Father; and shalt not turn away from Me.*

*Jeremiah 3:16-19 The BIBLE*

**T**HE ARK OF THE COVENANT was replaced by the actual presence of God, in the form of Jesus the Christ!

The Ark held the presence of God on the Mercy Seat, between the two golden figures of angels on the lid. So in order to approach near to the presence of God on earth the worshipper had to travel to wherever the Ark was being stored, and left the nearness of the presence of God when they returned home. And they were never able to get into the actual presence of God with the Ark itself. The High Priest was the only person ever allowed into the actual presence of God where the Ark was stored behind the great veil, in the Holy of Holies, and he did so only once a year, in terror of dying if not being at that moment pure and holy enough.

But when Jesus arrived (Greek: *Immanuel* "God With Us") we no longer needed the Ark; we had the actual presence of God Himself, and when Jesus returned to heaven He left with us the Holy Spirit, our Comforter. We now no longer need to travel somewhere to be near the presence of God; He is with us always.

15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments.

16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever

17 The Spirit of truth, Whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

18 I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

**John 14:15-17 The BIBLE**

28 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I Am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

**Matthew 28:20 The BIBLE**

The Ark had been a mere very poor replacement for God Himself, temporary until Jesus arrived. And, because Jesus forgave our sins when we repented of them and were Born Again, we no longer have to fear; we are even now in the very presence of God, holy and accepted because of His forgiveness, and safe within His protecting arms! With Immanuel now with us in Person, why even concern ourselves with what was temporary, partial, invisible to the average man, and even terrifying?

Why even concern ourselves with the old, partial revelation of God that the Jews laboured under? Why concern ourselves with the old, Jewish laws and mere symbolism and **artifacts** that kept us **apart** from God Himself, when we have the fullness of God in Jesus Christ living **within** us? We no longer have to be afraid! It is Jesus, God Himself, we seek after, not the temporary, incomplete Jewish religion of ignorance of the fullness of God. Why seek mere artifacts when we have the Source of them, God Himself?

Those two angels on the lid of the Ark now guide us to seek the living Jesus, not the mere ark!

4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments:

5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they *(the angels)* said unto them, **WHY SEEK YE THE LIVING AMONG THE DEAD?**

6 He Is not here, but Is risen: remember how He spake unto you when He was yet in Galilee,

...

49 **And, behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.**

**Luke 24:4-6, 49 The BIBLE**

1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, **let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from DEAD WORKS**, and of faith toward God,

**Hebrews 6:1 The BIBLE**

11 But **Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle**, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;

12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:

14 **How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from DEAD WORKS to serve the LIVING GOD?**

**Hebrews 9:11-14 The BIBLE**

19 Having therefore, brethren, **boldness** to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,

20 By a new and **LIVING** way, which He hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, His flesh;

21 And having an High Priest over the house of God;

22 **Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith**, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

**23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for He Is faithful that promised;)**

**Hebrews 10:19-23 The BIBLE**

**55 O DEATH, WHERE IS THY STING? O GRAVE, WHERE IS THY VICTORY?**

**56 THE STING OF DEATH IS SIN; AND THE STRENGTH OF SIN IS THE LAW.**

**57 But thanks be to God, Which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.**

**I Corinthians 15:55-58 The BIBLE**