

Ark of the Covenant

The Three Items

Introduction

- Ark Specifications – Exodus 25:10-22
- ¹⁰ They shall construct an ark of acacia wood two and a half cubits long, and one and a half cubits wide, and one and a half cubits high. ¹¹ You shall overlay it with pure gold, inside and out you shall overlay it, and you shall make a gold molding around it. ¹² You shall cast four gold rings for it and fasten them on its four feet, and two rings shall be on one side of it and two rings on the other side of it.

Introduction

- Ark Specifications – Exodus 25:10-22
- ¹³ You shall make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold. ¹⁴ You shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, to carry the ark with them. ¹⁵ The poles shall remain in the rings of the ark; they shall not be removed from it. ¹⁶ You shall put into the ark the testimony which I shall give you. ¹⁷ You shall make a mercy seat of pure gold, two and a half cubits long and one and a half cubits wide.

Introduction

- Ark Specifications – Exodus 25:10-22
- ¹⁸ You shall make two cherubim of gold, make them of hammered work at the two ends of the mercy seat. ¹⁹ Make one cherub at one end and one cherub at the other end; you shall make the cherubim *of one piece* with the mercy seat at its two ends. ²⁰ The cherubim shall have *their* wings spread upward, covering the mercy seat with their wings and facing one another; the faces of the cherubim are to be *turned* toward the mercy seat.

Introduction

- Ark Specifications – Exodus 25:10-22
- ²¹ You shall put the mercy seat on top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the testimony which I will give to you. ²² There I will meet with you; and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are upon the ark of the testimony, I will speak to you about all that I will give you in commandment for the sons of Israel.

Introduction

- What items did it hold? – Hebrews 9:3-4
- ³ Behind the second veil there was a tabernacle which is called the Holy of Holies, ⁴ having a golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which was a **golden jar holding the manna, and Aaron's rod which budded, and the tables of the covenant;**

Golden Jar of Manna

- Why was it provided? – Exodus 16:2-5
- ²The whole congregation of the sons of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The sons of Israel said to them, “Would that we had died by the LORD’s hand in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat, when we ate bread to the full; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Golden Jar of Manna

- Why was it provided? – Exodus 16:2-5
- ⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day, that I may test them, whether or not they will walk in My instruction. ⁵ On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily.”

Golden Jar of Manna

- Commanded to keep some – Exodus 16:32-34
- ³² Then Moses said, “This is what the LORD has commanded, **‘Let an omerful of it be kept throughout your generations, that they may see the bread that I fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you out of the land of Egypt.’**” ³³ Moses said to Aaron, “Take a jar and put an omerful of manna in it, and place it before the LORD to be kept throughout your generations.”³⁴ As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron placed it before the Testimony, to be kept.

Golden Jar of Manna

- God provides for us – Matthew 6:30-33
- ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is *alive* today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, *will He* not much more *clothe* you? You of little faith! ³¹ Do not worry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’ ³² For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Golden Jar of Manna

- Don't be a loafer – 2 Thessalonians 3:10-11
- ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. ¹¹ For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies.

Aaron's Rod

- First miraculous use on Pharaoh – Exodus 7:8-12
- ⁸ Now the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, ⁹ “When Pharaoh speaks to you, saying, ‘Work a miracle,’ then you shall say to Aaron, ‘Take your staff and throw *it* down before Pharaoh, *that* it may become a serpent.’” ¹⁰ So Moses and Aaron came to Pharaoh, and thus they did just as the LORD had commanded; and Aaron threw his staff down before Pharaoh and his servants, and it became a serpent.

Aaron's Rod

- First miraculous use on Pharaoh – Exodus 7:8-12
- ¹¹ Then Pharaoh also called for *the* wise men and *the* sorcerers, and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did the same with their secret arts. ¹² For each one threw down his staff and they turned into serpents. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs.

Aaron's Rod

- God's rod selection – Numbers 17:6-10
- ⁶ Moses therefore spoke to the sons of Israel, and all their leaders gave him a rod apiece, for each leader according to their fathers' households, twelve rods, with the rod of Aaron among their rods. ⁷ So Moses deposited the rods before the LORD in the tent of the testimony. ⁸ Now on the next day Moses went into the tent of the testimony; and behold, the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi had sprouted and put forth buds and produced blossoms, and it bore ripe almonds.

Aaron's Rod

- God's rod selection – Numbers 17:6-10
- ⁹ Moses then brought out all the rods from the presence of the LORD to all the sons of Israel; and they looked, and each man took his rod. ¹⁰ But the LORD said to Moses, **“Put back the rod of Aaron before the testimony to be kept as a sign against the rebels, that you may put an end to their grumblings against Me, so that they will not die.”**

Aaron's Rod

- God has all authority – Matthew 28:18-20
- ¹⁸ And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Ten Commandments

- Given to Moses – Exodus 31:18
- ¹⁸ When He had finished speaking with him upon Mount Sinai, He gave Moses the two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written by the finger of God.

Ten Commandments

- Broken by Moses – Exodus 32:19
- ¹⁹ It came about, as soon as Moses came near the camp, that he saw the calf and *the* dancing; and Moses' anger burned, and he threw the tablets from his hands and shattered them at the foot of the mountain.

Ten Commandments

- Replaced by God – Exodus 34:1
- ¹ Now the LORD said to Moses, “Cut out for yourself two stone tablets like the former ones, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the former tablets which you shattered.

Ten Commandments

- Put in ark when tabernacle built – Exodus 40:19-20
- ¹⁹ He spread the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering of the tent on top of it, just as the LORD had commanded Moses. ²⁰ **Then he took the testimony and put *it* into the ark,** and attached the poles to the ark, and put the mercy seat on top of the ark.

Ten Commandments

- New covenant – Hebrews 10:19-22
- ¹⁹ Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, ²¹ and since *we have* a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled *clean* from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Conclusion

- Golden jar of manna
 - We see that God provides for his people
- Aaron's budded rod
 - Do not complain about God's choices
- Ten commandments
 - Instructions have been given by God