

# >>> Fall Bible Study - Ark of the Covenant

## >>> Week 9 - "The Most Holy Place"

1 Kings 5, 6, 8 & 14; also 2 Chronicles 3, 4, 5, 6 & 12

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A. Last week with King David's help, we discovered "the ark is called by the Name, the name of the Lord of Hosts who dwells between the cheribum." (2 Samuel 6:2) King David was the anointed leader of the single nation who God made covenant

with to make him an "everlasting kingdom." The joy for us is, through David's seed (or offspring), the Messiah would come and God's glory would never again depart from Him. David had many characteristics and attributes that elude to Christ, namely being born in Bethlehem, of the tribe of Judah, anointed King, age 30 when ministry begins and crowning achievement is to get the Ark called by the Name into the City of Zion, a city of Shalom (His peace). Jesus

fulfilled all these things in His birth, earthly ministry, sacramental death on the cross, resurrection, appearance 40 days and ascension into heaven. He now sits in the Holy of holies at the right hand of God, interceding for those He came to save.

B. Our final lesson will trace the last OT scriptures that speak on the Ark and a few others that will give us a clue as to what became of it after the single nation (Israel) split into two

(Israel & Judah) and ultimately went into exile in both Assyria and Babylon. The nation Judah ended up (after Babylonian exile and Medo-Persian reign) returning to Jerusalem and rebuilding the temple (Ezra), wall (Nehemiah) and nation state. Sadly, the coveted Ark was not part of this rebuild and the nation went some 400 years before the covenant promise to David was realized in the birth of Christ. The world had changed drastically of course, and Rome became the

dominant national force in the area. The New Testament began and the words reminding us of the two sacred covenants are telling in Matthew 1:1—  
“The historical record of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham.”

**1. Read 1 Kings 5:1-5 and 6:1-28, 37, 38**

a. Who becomes king of the single nation after King David?

*Solomon, mother is Bathsheba—  
(2 Samuel 12:24)*

*first child died; sword will not leave David's house;*

*kingdom will split (2 Samuel 12:11-15)*

b. What new thing do we learn about why David was not allowed to build God an earthly house? *warfare always around*

c. Note some differences between the temple and the Tent of Meeting? *no veil, doors; not mobile; materials (Acacia vs cedar) much larger*

*Holy of holies, versus Inner Sanctuary, The Most Holy Place — 7 years to build*

*cherubim on top of mercy seat versus two huge cherubs; seraphs (6 winged-creature)*

*limitations were same*

d. Is there a place in the temple called the Holy of holies? *The Most Holy Place*

What is it called and what does it look like?

e. [\*How long does it take to build

the temple?] *Seven years*

## 2. **Read 1 Kings 8:1-13**

a. [\*When does the dedication of the temple take place?]

*Festival of Shelter; Feast of Tabernacles or Booths (September-October)*

b. What is inside the Ark? How many animal are sacrificed?

*just the two tablets — no pot of manna, no Aaron's rod that budded*

c. Read verse 7 -- Can you draw a picture of this?

d. What comes to mind when you read verses 10-11?

*The Lord's glory in the Tent of Meeting; Isaiah chapter 6*

e. (Extra credit: Pray Solomon's prayer **8:23-30** over

yourself once a day until Sunday, Nov 14)

### **3. Read 1 Kings 14:21-31**

a. In this text, the kingdom is now divided:

*Jeroboam is Israel's king (Northern Kingdom) and Rehoboam is Judah's (Southern)*

What event do you recall concerning David is the reason for the divided kingdom? *his adultery with Bathsheba*

b. Name the grievous sins the Kingdom of Judah commit?

*worshipped idols; built high places; put up shrines as Asheroth poles;*

*employed male prostitutes at the sacrificial centers;*

c. Who does the Lord raise up to attack Judah as punishment?

*Shishak, king of Egypt; In 1 Kings 11, he harbors the enemy of*



*Solomon, Jeroboam.*

*Shishak arrives with 60,000+ army from Egypt (Libyans Sukkiim, Ethiopians)*

*see 2 Chronicles 12:1-4*

d. In addition to the Ark, what do we learn is kept in the temple

as "treasuries?" (see 1 Kings 7:48-51) *gold altar, lamp stands, flowers, lamps,*

*tongs, bowls, wick trimmers, basins, ladles, fire pans (all gold); David's utensils*

e. [\* What does 1 Kings 14:25-26 tell us Shishak takes from Jerusalem?]

f. Given what he took, do you think Shishak would leave anything

as beautiful and mobile as the ark?

g. One location for the Ark today is a small church in Ethiopia.

Is this plausible based on what we read?

But, if Shishak and the Egyptians touch the Ark, won't they will die???

This may not be true if the glory of the Lord had again departed, as with the Philistines.

(see 1 Samuel chapters 4 & 5)