

## “The Ark of the Covenant and Our Hope of Atonement”

How can we connect with God; how can we come close to Him? What essential truth does this passage teach us about God and the way of salvation? How does the Ark of the Testimony point *both* backward *and* forward?

### Exodus 25-40

The Instructions given for the Tabernacle by God (chs. 25-31)

The Covenant Broken, then in Mercy Renewed (32-34)

The Construction of the Tabernacle according to God’s plan (35-40)

### + *How do we dare approach a Holy God?*

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#### The Lord reveals to Moses instructions for His dwelling among His people (25-31)

- + Comprehensive
- + Detailed
- + To be followed Exactly

† What love and mercy for the Lord God to call a people to Himself, redeem them and dwell among them!

- + God begins with the most holy things, from the inside out

#### The Ark of the Covenant (25:10-16)

- A. The Ark itself (vv. 10-15)
  - the dimensions
  - No ordinary box or chest
  - why poles?
- B. What does the Ark hold? (v. 16)
  - what is “the testimony”?
  - (two other items included later)
  - ▶ *WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT?*
  - ▶ Do we grasp that God’s revealed and holy law is a direct testimony against us in our sin?

† Do we hold God’s covenant with us as a great treasure?

† Do we see and praise God for the glory of His Law?

† Do we exalt the Lord for His Justice and Righteousness?

### The Atonement Cover or “Mercy Seat” (vv. 17-21)

- made of pure gold to precise dimensions
- two cherubim to adorn either end
- ▶ *WHAT IS BEING COMMUNICATED HERE?*

- † How precious is God’s Mercy!
- † Are we helped here to understand the importance of the Day of Atonement?
- † Do we see Jesus Christ pictured here so clearly?

### God meets with and speaks to His people (v. 22)

- ✦ Does God still meet with and speak to His people?
- † Can you trace God’s plan and purpose backward and forward?
- † Do you see how Jesus perfectly fulfills what the Ark of the Covenant points forward to?
- † **Do you understand how much we need the covering of Christ’s Atonement?!**

### Ex. 37:1-9 The blueprint followed exactly

*Have you found the way of reconciliation through Jesus Christ?*

*Have you experienced God’s grace (His undeserved favor) in the forgiveness of your sins?*

*What difference does it make that you can now draw near to God?*