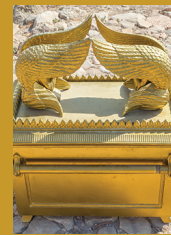


# ESSENTIAL GUIDE

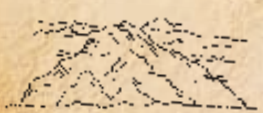
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# TABERNACLE





# The Journey of the Ark



Exodus 16:33-34—  
Manna laid before  
the Testimony.

1. Exodus 25—God gives Moses directions to build the ark of the covenant.
2. Exodus 26:31-33—The veil is woven.
3. Exodus 40:1-21—The ark in the Tabernacle.
4. Leviticus 16; Numbers 4, 10, 14; Deuteronomy 10—  
The ark is carried for 40 years in wilderness.



Numbers 17:8,  
10—Aaron's rod laid  
before the Testimony.

5. Joshua 3—Priests carry the  
ark across the Jordan River.



8. Joshua 8—After conquering  
the town of Ai, the covenant  
was remembered at Mt. Ebal.



7. Joshua 6—  
The ark is carried  
around Jericho.

6. Joshua 4—  
People build a  
memorial after the  
Jordan River parts.

9. Joshua 18:1—Tabernacle at Shiloh.

10. Judges 20:27—Ark taken  
to Bethel.



14. 1 Samuel 6:19-21—  
Men struck dead by  
the LORD for looking  
into the ark.

13. 1 Samuel 6—The  
Philistines return the  
ark to Beth Shemesh.

11. 1 Samuel 1:3, 3:3—The LORD  
speaks to the child Samuel who is  
sleeping near the ark at Shiloh.

12. 1 Samuel 4—Philistines take the ark of God.

15. 1 Samuel 7—Ark  
brought to the house of  
Abinadab in Kiriath Jearim.  
It stays there 20 years.

16. 1 Samuel 14:18—  
Saul brings the ark to  
war camp temporarily.

17. 2 Samuel 6—Ark  
moved on a cart to the  
house of Obed-Edom  
for three months.  
Uzzah is struck dead.

19. 2 Samuel 15—David flees  
Jerusalem with the ark but  
sends it back to Jerusalem.



18. 2 Samuel 6:12-17—David brings  
the ark to Jerusalem and places it in a  
tent that is set up for it.



20. 1 Kings 8—Solomon has  
ark brought into Most Holy  
Place in the Temple.

21. 2 Chronicles 34:14-35:3—  
Josiah recovers book of the Law  
and puts ark in Temple.

Scholars believe that when the Babylonians  
destroyed Jerusalem (586 BC), and plundered  
the Temple, the ark was probably taken by  
Nebuchadnezzar and destroyed.



22. Jeremiah 3:16,17—Prophecy of  
Jeremiah that the ark would not be thought  
of or missed nor will another be made. It  
will be replaced by the LORD's presence.






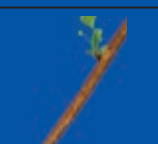

Hebrews 9:11-12—When Christ came as high  
priest of the good things that are already here,  
he went through the greater and more perfect  
Tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say,  
not a part of this creation. He did not enter by  
means of the blood of goats and calves; but he  
entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his  
own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.



Revelation 11:19—Then God's  
temple in heaven was opened,  
and within his temple was  
seen the ark of his covenant.  
And there came flashes of  
lightning, rumblings, peals of  
thunder, an earthquake and a  
great hailstorm.



## Jesus and the Ark of the Covenant

SHADOW (TYPE)		OLD TESTAMENT	NEW TESTAMENT	BIBLE REFERENCES
THE TABERNACLE		The place where God as spirit dwelled among his people.	Jesus is God in the flesh dwelling among his people.	Exodus 25; Isaiah 9:6 Matthew 1:22–23 John 1:14, 14:8–10
THE HIGH PRIEST		The high priest offered gifts and sacrifices for sins in the Most Holy Place.	Jesus is our high priest of the true Tabernacle made by God, not by man.	Exodus 28:1; 29:9; Leviticus 16:30 Hebrews 4:14–15; 8:1–3; 9:11
THE SACRIFICE		Each year, the high priest offered a blood sacrifice for the sin of the people.	Jesus was the perfect and final sacrifice for all time.	Exodus 30:10 Romans 3:21–26; 5:8–10 Hebrews 9:12–15; 10:1–14
THE ARK		Place of God's presence.	Jesus is God in human form.	Exodus 25:22 John 1:14
ARK CONTENTS: TABLE OF THE LAW		The Law given by God.	Jesus said that he came to "fulfill the Law."	Exodus 20:1–17 Matthew 5:17–18; 22:36–40 Luke 16:16–17
ARK CONTENTS: AARON'S ROD		Represented God's choice.	Jesus is God's choice.	Numbers 17:5, 8, 10 Matthew 3:17 Hebrews 3:1–2; 9:4
ARK CONTENTS: MANNA		Given by God as food to the people in the wilderness.	Jesus called himself the "bread of life."	Exodus 16 John 6:35, 48–51



## THE ARK IN BATTLE

When God brought the children of Israel out of Egypt, Pharaoh and his armies chased them. The Israelites were afraid and complained to God. Moses said to them, “Do not be afraid... The LORD will fight for you...” (Exodus 14:13–14).

The other nations of the ancient Middle East also thought their gods were warriors. In fact, one of the chief gods of the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land God promised to Abraham, was a warrior god: Baal. At the time, the Canaanites and all the peoples around them believed that it was the strength of their gods that gave them political and territorial power. When God took his people out of Egypt and gave the land to the Israelites, it was a powerful statement about who God is: the only, true, and mighty God.

The liberation of Israel from Egypt was, in fact, a confrontation between the LORD, the God of the universe, and Pharaoh, himself a false god, and the gods of Egypt. The ten plagues had the purpose that Pharaoh, and the Israelites themselves, would “know that there is no one like me in all the earth” (Exodus 9:14).

The ark of the covenant was the visual representation of God’s presence. For this reason, it travelled ahead of the Israelite army on their way to the Promised Land. In fact, when Israel finally travelled to the West of the Jordan river, God crossed the river first. The Levites carrying the



A. K. Abhirama

Today the ark is not necessary because God’s presence travels with each and every believer. Before going away, Jesus promised that he would be with his church forever, and he also promised to send the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is God’s presence in our midst.

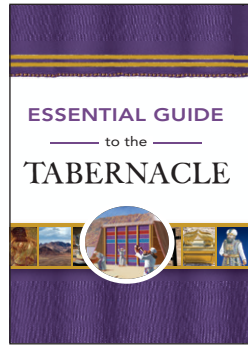


ark of the covenant walked through dry ground. As the Israelites crossed, the priests raised some commemorative stones to remember God’s passing through the river. God, the great King, was ahead of his army.

The Bible narrates two contrasting times when the ark was taken to battle. The first time, God ordered it; the second, he did not. On the first occasion, God instructed Joshua to have the priests take the ark into battle around Jericho (Joshua 6:6–20). The priests encircled the city for a week, with the ark and the armies. Because the Israelites obeyed God’s orders, God granted victory in battle to the Israelites.

The second incident of the ark in battle is in 1 Samuel 4:3–22. The leaders of Israel took the ark into battle with them without asking God. The results were disastrous: the Philistine army defeated Israel and captured the ark. At the end, because of God’s intervention, the Philistines returned the ark to Israel (1 Samuel 6).

Because God’s presence was in the ark of the covenant, treating it like a magic amulet, like an object to use when necessary, was a great offense and a breaking of the third commandment. Having the ark in their midst was a confirmation of God’s faithfulness to his promises: he promised he would be with them and fight along with and for them.



## Essential Guide to the Tabernacle

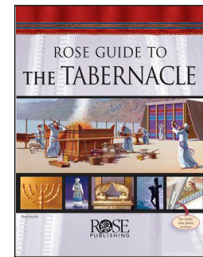
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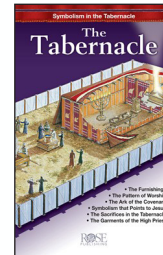
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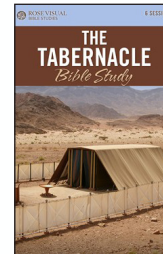
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