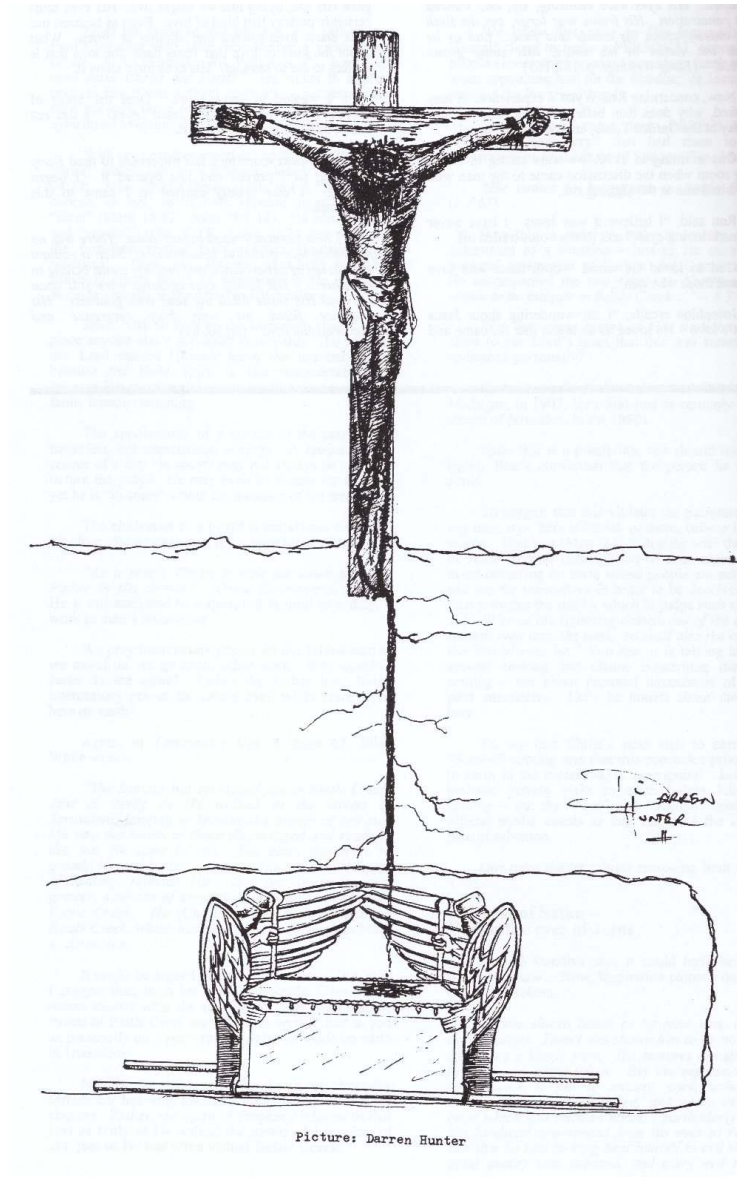


The Ark of the Covenant has been found this I know, for the Bible tells me so.



A close examination of the biblical evidence for the discovery of the Ark of the Covenant and the blood and water of Christ.

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Contents.

1. To the Law and to the Testimony...
2. The Traditions of Men or the Testimony of God?
3. Where is the Evidence?
4. The Blood and Water on the Mercy Seat.
5. Christ's Blood on the Mercy Seat. What does it Mean? - by Bill Fry
6. The Tables of Stone and their Message from God.
7. The Method and Message of God - by Rebecca Samsing
8. Moving in Faith - Rebecca Samsing
9. The Sample of Blood and the Nature of Christ.
10. The Ark of the Covenant and The Mark of the Beast.
11. The Tables of Stone and the Sample of Blood on Public Display.
12. The Spirit of Prophecy.
13. Further Reading

This booklet is designed for those Bible believing Christians who are already familiar with the discovery of the Ark of the Covenant by the late Ron Wyatt. For information on this discovery, please visit

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"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Isaiah 8:20.

The alleged discovery of the Ark of the Covenant by the late amateur archaeologist Ron Wyatt, is becoming one of the most controversial issues of our time. This discovery alone would be considered the greatest archaeological find ever, but Ron Wyatt claimed to have discovered something even more; something so incredible, that no one had ever thought of it before- even himself.

Next to the cross-hole of Christ, Ron uncovered an earthquake crack that was formed at the death of Christ (Matthew 27:51). This crack extended to a cave directly below the cross- hole. In this cave Ron found the Ark of the Covenant and other furniture from Solomon's Temple. God had previously arranged for the Ark to be hidden in that exact location by chosen men, about 600 years before Christ. After the Roman soldier pierced the side of the Messiah, His blood and water traveled down the cross, down through the crack, eventually to land on the Mercy Seat of the Ark of the Covenant.

Sadly, Mr. Wyatt has since passed away. He never did show any verifiable physical evidence at all for his discovery. So why do millions of people from every continent of the world believe his incredible claim? At the time of writing (March 2002) no one else has ever seen the Ark, no one can get to it, few even know how to, in fact, Ron never left any instruction for anyone to reveal the Ark in the future. So why do millions still believe in such a discovery, and why are countless others accepting it every day? Many professional archaeologists declare Wyatt's claims to be a hoax. Can it be true?

As for myself, I can hardly believe there is any controversy at all, for the answer to this question is so simple. The believers of this discovery have settled for a plain, and very simple, "Thus saith the LORD." The Bible clearly and simply says that this discovery is true, and as yet, no skeptic has been able to disprove the scriptural evidence (discussed in Chapter 4). Yet many continue to disbelieve- perhaps for some, when God says something, it's still not enough.

Every message that God has ever preached, whether it is through a prophecy, a parable or a historical account, there is always one underlying theme. That is to turn from your sins and repent, to give up every sin, or overcome every sin, *"As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?"* Ezekiel 33:11.

But there is another standard that every message must meet if it is from God, *"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."* Isaiah 8:20.

So let us see if this discovery meets these standards which identify it as being from God. Let's see if it calls us from our sins, and matches up to the standard of the law and the testimony (the writings of the biblical prophets and the Ten Commandments).

The Traditions of Men or the Testimony of God?

Many people have heard the story about the Ark of the Covenant being in Ethiopia. It must be the most widely known story on this subject today, but did you realise that the Bible says it cannot possibly be true?

The story claims that Solomon had an illegitimate son with the Queen of Sheba. The young man saw the abominations of the Jewish people, and so he determined to take the Ark from them. He apparently made a copy of the Ark, then switched the fake Ark for the real Ark. He took the real Ark to Ethiopia and left the fake Ark in the temple. This supposedly happened around the 9th century BC.

From the surface there doesn't seem to be anything wrong with the story, until one realises that the Shekinah Glory (the literal presence of God that resided upon the Ark) did not depart from off the Ark in the temple, until somewhere around 590BC!

So if the story were true, Solomon's son managed to trick God into residing over a fake Ark for about 400 years! Of course that is impossible. The story alleges that the fake Ark was in the temple from the 9th century BC, and God resided over that Ark in the temple until just before the destruction of Jerusalem in 586BC. So of course the story cannot be true.

It was Ezekiel who recorded the account of the Shekinah Glory departing from off the Ark of the Covenant, in Ezekiel 10:4 and 11:23. Ezekiel began his ministry in 593/592BC, and the Shekinah Glory could only have possibly remained above the Ark until just before the destruction of Jerusalem, which was in 586BC. So somewhere in between these two dates, 593/592 and 586BC, the Shekinah Glory departed from off the Ark of the Covenant. That is only a period of six years to consider.

The last mention of the Ark of the Covenant's location is in 2 Chronicles 35:3, where we are told it was in the temple. That was in 621BC, only 35 years before the destruction of Jerusalem. So it is likely that the Ark was still in Jerusalem when the Babylonian army besieged the city. Therefore, the Ark could not have been taken out past the siege wall around Jerusalem, nor was it in the temple when the Babylonian army invaded, as they did not take it (2Kings 24:13 and 25:13-18). This matches perfectly with where Ron Wyatt found it. It was inside where the siege wall would have been, but outside the city of Jerusalem.

Another popular theory is that Shishak, king of Egypt, took the Ark, but this also is impossible according to the Bible, as the Ark was still in the temple after Shishak, "*took away the treasures of the house of the LORD*" (2 Chronicles 12:9). Twenty-three chapters later, in 2 Chronicles 35:3, we are told the Ark was brought into the temple, "*And said unto the Levites that taught all Israel, which were holy unto the LORD, Put the holy ark in the house which Solomon the son of David king of Israel did build*". The biblical standard will never let us down when searching for truth. Whatever story or teaching or doctrine we hear, it must always match up to, "*the law and the testimony*", and the testimony of God's word tells us the Ark of the Covenant simply cannot be in Ethiopia, nor could it have been taken by Shishak.

Where is the Evidence?

Many people understandably ask, "Where is the evidence of the blood karyotype, or the photographs or video of the Ark of the Covenant?" While I understand why Ron Wyatt was told not to produce any physical evidence until the correct time, I can also understand why some feel unsure about this discovery unless they can see some physical evidence for themselves.

Ron was told that the Tables of Stone, sample of blood, and good clear video of the Ark of the Covenant would be put on public display sometime after a universal religious law was passed. This law will force man to break God's law, so we must understand that this is God's timing and not man's.

While I can only guess as to why God has timed it so, may I offer the following OPINION. If the evidence were released now, what would be the reaction of most of the non-Christians that you know? I believe that most would agree it was an amazing discovery. They would listen and be amazed by the news reports etc. but most might then continue their life as usual. They might continue their lives unconverted and the discovery wouldn't make any difference to them. They can ignore the message of the discovery, claiming that it is irrelevant to them, they are not "religious" and they are not interested in it any further.

However, if the discovery were released sometime after the universal religious law was passed, the message of the Ark would be relevant to EVERY individual on earth. Everyone would be forced at that time to make a decision either for God and His law, or against. They would be faced with the decision to either keep God's law, or keep man's law in opposition to God. Thus no one could abstain from the message of the Ark, and the evidence would then be relevant to every single person on earth.

Christians have always understood the importance of taking the Bible as their final authority. Very few have physically seen Jesus, yet they believe in Him because they believe in the Bible. No one has seen physical evidence for the life, death and resurrection of Christ, yet we believe because the Bible says it is so. In fact, if you were to show a Christian something from the Bible, then they turned around and asked, "But where is your physical evidence?" surely that would suggest they don't have the faith in the Bible that they might claim. If the Bible says it, but it is still not good enough, and they require further evidence, then surely they cannot have faith that the Bible is the inerrant, inspired word of God.

There is biblical evidence for the blood and water of Christ on the Mercy Seat. Hebrews 9:19 is where Moses sprinkles blood and water above the law in order to confirm the Old Covenant. This was a type of Christ confirming the New Covenant, which we know He did on the cross. So what did Christ have to do in order to confirm the New Covenant in exactly the same way as Moses did? Sprinkle His blood and water above the law, just as Ron Wyatt found! We will investigate this biblical evidence in the following chapter, "The Blood and Water on the Mercy Seat".

Physical evidence will soon be available for this discovery, but until that time, please remember that biblical evidence far supercedes physical evidence, and my friendly challenge to everyone,

is to find an alternative antitype to Hebrews 9:19, if it is not found in this discovery. If one cannot find such an alternative in the Bible, please do not attack this discovery, as one would have to accept that it is the only antitype for Hebrews 9:19, thus it is biblical. If you cannot answer the biblical evidence, but continue to actively oppose the discovery, you could be warring against the Holy Spirit!

In Hebrews 9:19 we find Moses sprinkled blood and water above the Book of the Law in order to confirm the Old Covenant. This was a type of what Christ would do to confirm the New Covenant.

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The Blood and Water on the Mercy Seat.

When Christ sprinkled His blood and water above the law of the Ten Commandments, He was fulfilling a certain ceremony that Moses had already carried out. What ceremony was carried out in the Old Testament, which the blood and water of Christ on the Mercy Seat fulfilled? Well, when Moses confirmed the Old Covenant, he sprinkled blood and water above the law, and this was a type of what Christ was to do. So when Christ confirmed the New Covenant (which He did on the cross), He too had to sprinkle His blood and water above the law... just as Ron Wyatt found!

When Moses confirmed the Old Covenant, everything God told him to do was a type of what Christ was to do. So every ceremony Moses carried out represented what Christ was to do. Everything Moses did was a "type" or "symbol" of what Christ did, when He confirmed the New Covenant. We call everything that Christ did the "antitype", or in other words, "the real thing". For example, the sacrificial lamb represented Christ. So the lamb was the type, and Christ was the antitype.

Let's now take a look at the ceremony where Moses sprinkled blood and water above the law, and see how Christ fulfilled each and every thing Moses did. The ceremony was carried out in order to confirm the Old Covenant, and is described in Exodus 24:3-8 and Hebrews 9:19.

Exodus 24:3-8, "And Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, "All the words which the LORD had said we will do.

And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD, and rose up early in the morning, and builded an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel.

And he sent young men of the children of Israel, which offered burnt offerings, and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen unto the LORD.

And Moses took half of the blood, and put it in basins; and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar.

And he took the book of the covenant and read it in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the LORD has said we will do, and be obedient.

And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words."

Hebrews 9:18-20 relays more information about the same ceremony,

"Whereupon neither the first testament was dedicated without blood.

For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you."

So we can see how Christ's blood and water fell on the Mercy Seat, in order to confirm the New Covenant.

The confirmation of the Old Covenant by Moses was a type of the confirmation of the New

Covenant by Christ. Moses sprinkled blood and water above the law in order to confirm the Old Covenant, so Christ had to sprinkle His blood and water above the law in order to confirm the New Covenant. We know that the New Covenant was confirmed at the cross because on the cross Christ "confirmed" that He kept His agreement, or covenant, to offer mankind His blood. So it was on the cross that Christ had to fulfil Hebrews 9:19, and sprinkle His blood and water above the law.

Can we prove it from the Bible?

Exodus 24:3-8 and Hebrews 9:19 records Moses' confirmation of the Old Covenant, and this is a type of Jesus' confirmation of the New Covenant. So when the New Covenant was confirmed at the cross, Christ had to confirm it in the same way as Moses did. So in order to understand how the New Covenant was confirmed, we must look at how the Old Covenant was confirmed. Now we will take a look at each ceremony Moses carried out and see how Christ fulfilled each one.

1. Firstly, Moses told the congregation everything that God had said. God began speaking in Exodus 20:22 and did not stop speaking until Exodus 23:33. So the people heard the Ten Commandments for themselves, then Moses relayed all the various statutes and judgments to them.

In the confirmation of the Old Covenant, Moses was the mediator who relayed the law to the people (Exodus 24:3) and in the confirmation of the New Covenant, Jesus was the Mediator, (Hebrews 8:6, 9:15, 12:24) who spent His whole life relaying the law to the people (John 14:15, 21 and Matthew 5:17,18 and Luke 16:17).

2. Next, Moses wrote the law in a book (Exodus 24:4). The only other place the law was written down was by Christ on the Tables of Stone.
3. Then Moses built an altar under a hill. The Ark of the Covenant is by definition an altar as it was designed to receive atoning blood, and this is the definition of an altar. And Ron Wyatt discovered that it was hidden under Skull Hill when Christ was confirming the covenant on the cross. So perhaps the Ark of the Covenant under Skull Hill is the antitype to Moses building an altar under a hill?
4. Then Moses built twelve pillars representing the twelve tribes of Israel, or God's church (Exodus 24:4), and Jesus chose twelve disciples who were the beginnings of the New Covenant church (Matthew 28:16-20 and Revelation 21:14). At the confirmation of both covenants, the twelve tribes, or twelve disciples were already established.
5. Animal sacrifices were subsequently made (Exodus 24:5) which were a type of Christ sacrificing His life on the cross (John 1:29).
6. Moses then applied the blood to the altar (Exodus 24:6). Could this represent the anointing of the Ark of the Covenant with Christ's blood? As we said, the Ark is an altar, it was under a hill (Skull Hill), and was anointed with Christ's blood when He was confirming the New Covenant.

7. Exodus 24:7 tells us that next, the people promised to obey, and keep the law, and under the New Covenant, Jesus promised to help the people keep the law (Hebrews 8:6 and II Peter 1:4). There was never anything wrong with the law, so it never changed from the Old Covenant to the New Covenant (Psalm 89:34), but there was something wrong with the promise. Under the Old Covenant the people promised to obey and keep the law, but as you and I know, people break their promises all the time, just as the Israelites did several times when they broke the law. So that covenant was broken, therefore under the New Covenant, Christ has promised to give us the power to keep the law. Christ cannot break a promise, so we know for sure that under the New Covenant we have the ability to keep the law (Hebrews 8:7-10 & 13).
8. Moses then sprinkled the blood on the people (Exodus 24:8). Jesus fulfilled this as described in Isaiah 52:15, "*So shall he sprinkle many nations.*" So now everyone in the world can have the blood of Christ applied to his or her life and be forgiven of their sins and undergo rehabilitation, so they can live forever with God.
9. Then the mediator (Moses) verbally confirmed the covenant with God's people, "*Behold, the blood of the covenant.*" Jesus fulfilled this in Matthew 26:28 when He said, "*...this is the blood of the new testament.*"
10. Then Hebrews 9:19 mentions the key to understanding this discovery. Moses took blood and water, and with scarlet wool and hyssop sprinkled them on the law. The discovery of the Ark of the Covenant, with the blood and water of Christ, sprinkled above the law, is the fulfillment of this part of the confirmation. In the type, Moses sprinkled animal blood and water above the book of the law. In the antitype, Christ sprinkled His blood and water above the tables of the law. Everything in the Old Covenant was symbolic, except for the law, as this is eternal.

The fact is that Jesus did fulfill this ceremony at the cross. If we do not believe that this discovery is biblical, then how was the sprinkling of the law by Moses in Hebrews 9:19 fulfilled? Can it be biblical that Jesus fulfilled all the other things that Moses did, but not this one? When the nature of Jesus' first coming did not fit with the understanding of the religious leaders of His day, it was their understanding that was wrong. And I submit that if our religious leaders do not understand this today, it can only be their understanding that is at fault, for the above evidence is concrete and indisputable.

Type and Anti Type.

Some claim that the blood of Christ (the antitypical) should not be sprinkled on the earthly Mercy Seat (a type of the true, in heaven). However, this cannot be a true understanding of type and antitype, as we find other places in the Bible where an antitype is found together with a type.

The Ark of the Covenant was the throne of God on earth. The Ark of the Covenant in heaven is the antitypical throne of God, and the Ark of the earthly sanctuary was the pattern of that true Ark in heaven. It is above this heavenly Ark that the Father Himself physically resides.

If God resides above the original Ark of the Covenant in heaven, then on the earthly type, one

would think that only a type of God should reside. But it is the Shekinah Glory, the LITERAL presence of God that resided above the earthly copy. So if the antitypical Shekinah resided upon the typical Ark, it is biblical that the antitypical blood of Christ resides upon the typical Ark.

In regard to the Mercy Seat being God's throne, it is interesting to note that Ron Wyatt discovered that Christ's blood fell on the right hand side of the Mercy Seat. Hebrews 10:12 tells us, that after Christ ascended, He took His seat "*on the right hand of God*" on the heavenly throne.

Can we find an alternative fulfillment to Hebrews 9:19 anywhere else in the Bible?

We need blood AND WATER in order to fulfill Hebrews 9:19, and the ONLY time blood and water are mentioned together in the New Testament is on the cross. So the only place in the whole Bible that we could possibly find the antitype to Hebrews 9:19 is on the cross. This fits perfectly, as it was on the cross that Christ confirmed the covenant. So it was on the cross that He "needed" that blood and water to confirm the covenant in the same way as Moses did... by sprinkling blood and water above the law.

Actually, Jesus had to sprinkle His blood and water above the law in order to confirm the New Covenant. The New Covenant could not have been confirmed unless Christ's blood and water were sprinkled above the law, at Calvary.

Some may claim that Hebrews 9:19 was fulfilled in heaven upon the heavenly Ark, but that is impossible. You need blood AND WATER in order to fulfill Hebrews 9:19, and blood and water was never offered upon the heavenly Ark. Also, Hebrews 9:19 was the confirmation of the Old Covenant, so we can only find its fulfillment in the confirmation of the New Covenant, and we all know that the covenant was confirmed on the cross, and not in heaven. There was never any ceremony carried out in heaven that confirmed the New Covenant. The New Covenant was only confirmed on the cross. Thus, the blood AND WATER of Christ HAD to be sprinkled above the law, on the cross, and so the antitype cannot be found in any heavenly ceremony.

The only time anything was offered on the heavenly Ark was at the Dedication of the Heavenly Sanctuary, and the antitypical Day of Atonement. Neither of these is the antitype to the Confirmation of the Covenant, and neither of these ceremonies included the sprinkling of blood AND WATER.

Scarlet wool: The ONLY time that scarlet wool was ever used in the Old Testament was here at the confirmation. Scarlet symbolizes sin (Isaiah 1:18, Revelation 17:3). Wool symbolizes purity and righteousness (Isaiah 1:18). This can only be the righteousness of Christ (Exodus 12:5, Isaiah 64:6, Hebrews 9:14). Only once was the combination of these two, scarlet and wool, ever used in the Old Testament, and they were sprinkled with blood and water on the book of the law. And only on the cross did a righteous Christ put on our sins, and sprinkle the law with His blood and water. There is no other possible fulfillment of this type in Scripture.

Hyssop: Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary defines hyssop as, "a plant used in purificatory sprinkling rites by the ancient Hebrews." In Psalm 51:7, hyssop represents cleansing. The hyssop used in sprinkling the blood was the symbol of purification.

So hyssop and scarlet wool represents Christ cleansing us from our sins. I John 1:7, “...and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin.”

Only in the “new light” of this discovery, can we find the antitype of the confirmation of the Old Covenant. It can only be when Jesus (scarlet wool and hyssop) sprinkled blood and water above the law at Calvary.

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Christ's Blood on the Mercy Seat- What Does It Mean?

- by Bill Fry

In the book of 1 Timothy 2:5,6 we read the following:

"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time."

It is important to notice the tense of the words of verse 6, *"to be testified in due time"*. This indicates that there was a *"testimony"* about some thing relating to Christ's sacrifice that had not taken place at the time this was written. Historically we know that the first letter to Timothy was written many years after the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. In fact, the Greek word that is translated "due time" in this verse means literally, "at the appropriate occasion". This means that there was something about Jesus' sacrifice on the cross for sinful man (the ransom) that at a later, more appropriate time, was going to be used as a testimony to the world. I believe that this testimony is the revealing of one of the many biblical archaeology discoveries of Ron Wyatt; specifically the Ark of the Covenant.

The blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, has been found on the Mercy Seat (the solid gold lid) of the Ark of the Covenant that once sat in the Most Holy Place of the Jewish temple in Jerusalem. That Ark still contained the tables of stone on which God Himself inscribed the Ten Commandments (1 Kings 8:9). It was hidden in a cave chamber underneath the Calvary escarpment on or about 586 BC, just prior to the destruction of the old city of Jerusalem and the temple by the Babylonian army. That chamber was located directly under the spot where, approximately 615 years later, Jesus was crucified.

We read that when Jesus died there was a great earthquake, and that the *"rocks were rent"* (Matthew 27:50,51). The rending of that rock created a fissure that communicated between the top of the cross-hole that held the cross of Jesus and the top of the cave chamber where the Ark of the Covenant was hidden. Shortly after His death (and the rending of the rock) a soldier stuck a spear into Jesus' side to determine whether He was dead. When that happened the apostle John records that blood and water flowed from His side.

"But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. And he that saw it bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe." John 19:34,35. John was specifically impressed to *"record"* this event and to draw attention to it, to declare that it was true...that it really happened just as he wrote it. Moreover, it was recorded to assist our belief, i.e. faith.

We now know that the blood and water traveled down through the crack in the rock and was deposited on the top of the Ark, onto the Mercy Seat. Later in his first epistle, John recalls this incident with the water and the blood and talks of its significance to the believer.

"This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth. For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these

three agree in one. If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son."

1 John 5:6-11

Notice that John tells us that the witness (record) of the water and the blood are God's "*witness*" of His Son to men... that this "*witness*" is greater than the "*witness of men*". The witness of the blood and the water, through the Holy Spirit, testifies "*that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.*"

The key to understanding the purpose and significance of this Divine object lesson, that God set up over 2600 years ago, is found in understanding what the Ark of the Covenant is and how God has used it in the past.

According to Exodus 25, the Ark of the Covenant was manufactured by workmen commissioned by Moses, according to a vision that he was shown on one of his visits with God on Mt. Sinai. In this vision he was shown a "*pattern*" which he was to use to design all of the furnishings for the wilderness tabernacle (Exodus 25:9,10 & Hebrews 8:5).

The Ark of the Covenant was specifically made to house the tables of testimony, i.e. the tables of stone on which God with His own finger wrote the Ten Commandments. It was also used to house the "*law of Moses*", which was placed in the "*side of the Ark*" (Deuteronomy 31:26). The Shekinah glory, i.e. the Presence of God, also rested on the Mercy Seat of the Ark between the cherubim after it was installed in the wilderness sanctuary.

The Ark was dedicated for use in the wilderness tabernacle as were the rest of the furnishings. Then it became a part of the sanctuary service that God gave to Israel. However, its only function in that service was on one day of the year, the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), when the high priest of Israel sprinkled the blood of a bull and a goat on the Mercy Seat in order to make final atonement for the high priest and for Israel; to cleanse the sanctuary of the accumulated sins of the nation over that past year (Leviticus 16). In doing this the high priest was bringing "*before the Lord*" the evidence that an atoning sacrifice had been made... that the price for sin ("*the wages of sin is death*" Romans 6:23) had been paid. On the strength of the acceptance of this sacrifice, Israel and the sanctuary were cleansed of sin.

Because the Ark was fabricated at the same time as the other furnishings of the tabernacle and because it was a part of the sanctuary service of the Levitical priesthood, many have assumed that it lost its significance at the same time that the Levitical priesthood passed away in favour of the priesthood of Melchisedec (Hebrews 7:11,12). However this is not the case. The proof of this is seen in the very nature of the object that the Ark was made to preserve; the eternal, immutable Law of God.

The only other use that we see God making of the Ark is demonstrated in two separate incidents. In the wilderness, shortly after their deliverance from Egypt, God told Moses to place a pot of

manna in the Ark to be "*kept for your generations*". It was placed there to be preserved for a later time when it would be used as a testimony of how God provided for them in the wilderness (Exodus 16:32-34).

The other occasion was when there was a dispute in Israel as to who was to be designated to take care of the sanctuary and its service. God caused a rod from a prince of each of the other eleven tribes to be placed before the Lord along with Aaron's rod. The next day Aaron's rod was found to have budded, blossomed and bore almonds. This was God's sign to Israel that the tribe of Levi was to be the keeper of the sanctuary. God then instructed Moses to place Aaron's rod in the Ark to be preserved as evidence "*against the rebels*" i.e. as a "*token*" or sign that illustrated who it was that were priests in Israel (Numbers 17:1-11).

The pattern that emerges from God's use of the Ark in these two instances, along with the stated purpose for which it was originally made, illustrates that the Ark was a place for the safekeeping of evidence, i.e. a testimony or witness to be used by God at a later time. In fact the original name given to the Ark of the Covenant, the "*Ark of the Testimony*", means in the literal Hebrew, "*the gathering place of evidence*".

This being the case, it was most appropriate that God would place the Ark underneath the crucifixion site and cause Christ's blood to be sprinkled on the Mercy Seat. In doing so God was "recording" the only physical evidence that exists today that His Son gave His life; that He paid the price for sin.

Christ's blood was not sprinkled on the Mercy Seat as a specific fulfillment of the anti-typical Day of Atonement. That "type" was to be fulfilled at a different place and time (Daniel 8:13,14). However, in its role as a "recorder" of evidence, it was perfectly appropriate for the blood of the final atonement sacrifice to be placed on the Mercy Seat of the Ark. When Christ as our High Priest (Hebrews 9:11) began to plead his blood before the Father in the Heavenly temple (Hebrews 8:1,2; 9:11), He would point to Calvary where the evidence of His sacrifice still remained. Eighteen hundred and thirteen years later, when Christ's ministry shifted to the Most Holy Place, he would do the same.

For those that have not thought it through, it may be assumed that on the anti-typical Day of Atonement Christ entered into the Most Holy Place in the Heavenly Sanctuary with a bowl of His own blood to sprinkle on the Heavenly Mercy Seat. However, this is not the case. I can find no where in the words of inspiration where Christ is portrayed as literally sprinkling His own physical blood in heaven. Inspiration indicates that His work in the sanctuary is done by virtue of the blood that He shed at Calvary in 31AD... that He "pleads His blood" before the Lord.

One thing that stands out clearly in the typical Jewish service of blood sacrifice is that the sacrifice was of no value unless the blood was brought before the Lord in some manner. It was sprinkled and/or applied to various pieces of the sanctuary furniture depending on the specific requirements of the ceremony being performed. However, it was always displayed in some manner "before the Lord" as evidence that a sacrifice had been made. Therefore when Christ pleads His blood on our behalf, He does so by pointing to the places where the evidence of His sacrifice is still displayed... His hands, His feet, His side and the Mercy Seat of the Ark of the

Covenant located at Calvary.

This brings us to the subject of the bringing out of the Ark of the Covenant so that it can be displayed to the world. There is no doubt in my mind that the Ark will be revealed to the world, yet I am confident that it will not be removed from its current location. I also know that the tables of stone will be brought out of the cave chamber and displayed to the world. However, the Ark will not be moved.

The reason for this is found in the very manner that God has used it at Calvary. The Ark of the Covenant has "recorded" on it the physical evidence that God will use to witness to the world that His Son died to give us eternal life (1 John 5:6-11). To move the Ark from its present location would invalidate the testimony of that evidence.

It is much like what we know of modern crime scene techniques. When an event takes place that the authorities want to document, the first thing they do is rope off the area, restricting access to it. No one is allowed to move or disturb the evidence because to do so would contaminate it. The same is true with the evidence on the Ark. Christ's blood on the Ark in that location establishes the fact that a sacrifice took place at this location and who it was that was sacrificed. To move the Ark would invalidate that evidence. Therefore while video of the Ark will one day be shown to the world, I don't believe that the Ark will ever be brought out of that chamber.

Bill Fry - USA

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The Tables of Stone and their Message from God.

As we have seen, this discovery proves that Jesus confirmed the New Covenant with His own blood and water, in the same way as Moses confirmed the Old Covenant with the blood and water of animals. But what does it mean, that the covenant was confirmed?

Millions of Christians today are taught that the law was done away with at the cross, but this discovery is scientific and physical evidence that the law was in fact confirmed at the cross as a part of the covenant. We saw in Chapter 4 how Christ confirmed that the disciples were a part of the covenant. How the sacrifice was a part of the New Covenant, and how the blood was a part of the New Covenant, and now we see how the law was also confirmed as a part of the New Covenant. When Moses sprinkled the blood and water above the law, he was signifying that the law now had to be kept, and was a part of the Old Covenant. Thus, when Christ sprinkled His blood and water above the law, He too was signifying that the law now had to be kept, and is a part of the New Covenant.

There is a law that the Bible says was done away with at the cross, but what some Christians do not realise is that the Bible speaks of at least two different laws. One is the law of the Ten Commandments, and the other is the sacrificial, ceremonial laws. It is only the sacrificial, ceremonial laws that were done away with at the cross. We do not need to conduct sacrificial ceremonies anymore, as they symbolised Christ, and He has already been sacrificed, *“Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances”* Ephesians 2:15. But the law of the Ten Commandments were confirmed by the blood and water of Christ, and Galatians 3:17 says that once a law is confirmed, it cannot be changed and it cannot be done away with, *“Though it be but a man's covenant, yet if it be confirmed, no man disannulleth, or addeth thereto.”* Furthermore, Galatians 3:15 says that it was indeed the law that was confirmed as a part of the New Covenant, and this law cannot be done away with, *“And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law... cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.”*

Every word that was confirmed by the blood and water of Christ, was written on two tables of stone by the finger of God. And every word of that law was recorded in Exodus 20. So every word of Exodus 20 cannot be changed and cannot be done away with. Millions of Christians are taught that the second commandment has been done away with. The second commandment says, *“Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image... Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them...”* and this commandment cannot be changed or done away with. It doesn't matter if it is a statue or icon or picture of Buddha, Krishna, or even Mary or Jesus. We must not make them and we must not bow down to them, or pray to them.

Millions more Christians are taught that the fourth commandment has been changed. The fourth commandment says, *“Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy, six days shalt thou labour and do all thy work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath to the LORD thy God, in it thou shalt not do any work...”* and that commandment cannot be changed and cannot be done away with. The seventh day is Friday evening to Saturday evening, but millions of Christians are falsely taught that it has been changed to Sunday.

Let me use two illustrations:

The wedding ring.

When Christ sprinkled His blood and water above the law, He was confirming a covenant between God and man. A wedding is also the confirmation of a covenant between God and man. So the blood and water sprinkled above the law is exactly like when a man puts a wedding ring on his bride's finger. Both acts symbolise the confirmation of a covenant between God and man. Now when the wedding ring goes on that bride's finger, are the couple saying they will now keep the wedding vows... or break them? Of course they are saying they will keep those wedding laws. And so when Christ sprinkled blood and water above the law, He too was saying that we should now keep those laws.

The King's seal.

One day soon, the Tables of Stone will be put on public display, but how will this prove that these laws must be kept? We have all known for centuries what the Tables of Stone say. We have all had our Bible's for centuries and they record those very words, but still Christians do not understand that they still have to keep the law. Well, the Tables of Stone are to all intents and purposes a "document".

If I was to one day knock on your door totally unexpected and produce a piece of paper that said, "..... (your name) owes Aaron Sen \$10,000 U.S."; would you pay it to me? No! Of course not. Anyone could have written that. It is a document being displayed, but the document is not endorsed and has therefore not been validated, or confirmed. But if I knocked on your door and produced the same document with the King's seal confirming it... then would you pay me? Yes of course! You would have to! It is now a legally binding document.

The only difference is that one is just a document, (as are the Tables of Stone), and the other is a document endorsed by the signature of the King, (as are the Tables of Stone confirmed by the blood and water of Christ). Christ, the "King of kings", has validated His Ten Commandments with His signature, by sprinkling His blood and water above them, and this is what the world will one day see.

The law in our hearts.

The Bible says that under the New Covenant, Christ has written His law in our hearts (Hebrews 8:10). If you have the law written in your heart, do you break it, or keep it? Is Christ promising us that we can keep the law, when He promises to write it in our hearts, or is He promising us the ability to break it, and to steal, lie and kill etc?

The discovery of the blood and water of Christ on the Mercy Seat tells us that Christ confirmed the fact that the law is an important part of the New Covenant- for He confirmed it with His own precious blood.

This discovery is God's final "show and tell" message to the world before He brings it to an end. In this discovery, God has a message for us. He is telling us what the plan of salvation involves- it is not only the blood of Christ that will be put on public display, but the law too. Thus it is not

only the blood of Christ that makes up the New Covenant, but the keeping of the law too.

To the law and to the testimony.

We said that we would see if this discovery matches up to the standard of the law, and we see now how it teaches us, with scientific and physical evidence, that the law still has to be kept in order to enter heaven. We also saw how it matches up to the testimony of the prophets, because it fulfils Hebrews 9:19 of which there is no other possible fulfilment in all of Scripture.

So let us now take a brief look at the rest of the Bible and be sure that it is *“to the law and to the testimony”*, and in agreement with what the Bible teaches.

Psalms 89:34 says, *“My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing which has gone out of my lips.”* Well, the Ten Commandments have gone out of God’s lips, when He spoke them from Mount Sinai, *“And God spake all these words, saying...”* (Exodus 20:1). So the Ten Commandments cannot be altered, and must not be broken.

Under inspiration, David and Solomon told us that the law stands forever, and that God will not answer your prayers if you know this but still deny it, Psalm 111:7,8 *“All His Commandments are sure they stand fast **for ever and ever.**”* Proverbs 28:9, *“He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.”*

Many claim that it is impossible for human beings to keep the 10 Commandments, but if that is so, why did God order the death of thousands of men, women and children when they did not keep the 10 Commandments, in the Old Testament? The Old Testament is full of God's instruction to keep the 10 Commandments, but...

...does the Bible say we have to keep the law, even after Jesus died on the cross?

The whole of the New Testament was written after the cross, so every verse you read from the New Testament, telling us to keep the law, specifically refers to now, after the cross. There are several verses so far in this chapter which have been taken from the New Testament, but here are a few more.

James

1:25, *“But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, **and continueth therein**, he being not a forgetful hearer, but **a doer of the work**, this man shall be blessed in his deed.”*

2:8 *“If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well.”*

2:10 *“For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.”*

1 John 3:22, *“And whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him because we keep His commandments...”*

We are told to be at one with God, and daily we pray that the Holy Spirit will dwell within us, but there are certain conditions to the Holy Spirit dwelling within us.

1 John 2:24, *“And he that keepeth His commandments dwelleth in Him, and He in him.”*

The second commandment forbids idol worship, and indeed in the New Testament we are reminded we must still keep this commandment now. 1 John 5:21, *“Little children, keep*

yourselves from idols.”

Revelation gives us the description of the last day church. It is the last days now, so if you are a Christian, it should be a description of you. Revelation 12:17, *“And the dragon was wroth with the woman and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, **which keep the commandments of God**, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”*

Revelation 14:12, *“Here is the patience of the saints: here are they **that keep the commandments of God**, and the faith of Jesus.”* We must be Christians who, *“keep the commandments of God”*.

Revelation also tells us that those who break the Ten Commandments will not go to heaven, but suffer hell fire.

Revelation 21:8, *“But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the **abominable**, and **murderers**, and **whoremongers**, and **sorcerers**, and **idolaters**, and all **liars** shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone.”*

Revelation 21:27, *“And there shall in no wise enter into it (heaven) any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever **worketh abomination**, or **maketh a lie**: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.”*

Revelation 22:14,15, *“Blessed are they that **do His commandments**, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For without are dogs, and **sorcerers**, and **whoremongers**, and **murderers**, and **idolaters** and whosoever loveth and **maketh a lie**.”*

Some Christians are taught that we don't have to keep the Ten Commandments anymore, but that we just have to believe in Jesus?

But Matthew 7:21-23 tells us that it is not just those that believe, but that our works have to match up to God's will too, *“Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven.”*

James 2:14 tells us that belief is not enough, but it is by our behaviour that our faith will be known, *“What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him?”*

In fact the whole of James 2 tells us that our works, and behaviour will be essential in our salvation. James 2:19 *“...the devils also believe, and tremble”* but we know they will not be in heaven! James 2:20 & 24 also says, *“But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? ...Ye see then how that by works a man **is justified**, **and not by faith only**.”*

Other Christians are taught we don't have to keep the commandments, we just have to love God. But again the Bible tells us we must do both.

John

14:15 *“If ye love Me, keep my commandments.”*

14:21 *“He that hath My commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me.”*

15:10 *“If ye keep My commandments, ye shall abide in My love.”*

Romans 13:9, *“For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is ***briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**”* *NB. The Ten Commandments were never **replaced** by the command to love God,

and love one another. They were only **summarised** by the command to love God and your neighbour. That would be ridiculous to assume anyway, because if you love your neighbour, you would not kill him, steal from him, lie to him, and sleep with his wife. If you love your parents you will honour them. If you love God you will not take His name in vain, or worship other God's or idols etc. So if you love God and your neighbour, you would have to keep the Ten Commandments anyway. That is exactly what Paul meant in the above verse, and in Romans 13:10, "*Love is the fulfilling of the law.*"

John, like Jesus and Paul, also tells us that if we love God, then we will keep His commandments. 1 John 2:3,4 "*Hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.*"

1 John 5:2,3, "...*When we love God, and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous.*"

2 John 6, "*And this is love, that we walk after His commandments.*"

Didn't Jesus do away with the law?

Isaiah 42:21 tells us Jesus would not do away with the law, but actually just the opposite, "*He will magnify the law, and make it honourable.*" Matthew 4:10 tells us that the first commandment still stands, "*Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve*", and just like Isaiah, Jesus told us that He would not do away with the law, Matthew 5:17,18 "*Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.*" Heaven and earth have not passed, so the law still stands, and not a single dot or stroke of those words have been changed.

Again, in Matthew 5:21,22, Jesus tells us that the law has not been done away with, but in fact magnified, "*Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, thou shalt not kill: and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: but I say unto you, that whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment*". We read the same teaching in Matthew 5:27,28 about the seventh commandment, "*Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, that whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart*". Matthew 19:17 makes it pretty clear, "*If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.*"

In Mark 10:17,19, a man asks Jesus how does he get to heaven, and inherit eternal life, "*Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?*" Jesus told him to keep the Ten Commandments, "*Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother.*"

Luke 16:17 repeats that the law is certainly not done away with, because heaven and earth is still here, "*And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail.*"

But we can't be like Jesus and keep the 10 Commandments, can we?

Of course we can, the Bible tells us we can.

Matthew

5:48 "*Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.*"

Philippians

2:5 *"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus."*

4:13 *"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."*

2 Timothy

3:17 *"That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."*

1 Peter

1:16 *"Be ye holy for I am holy."*

2:21,22 *"Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow in His steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth."*

2 Peter

1:4 *"...that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature..."*

1 John

3:2 *"When He shall appear, we shall be like Him."*

3:3 *"And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as He is pure."*

Revelation

3:21 *"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne."*

Does keeping the commandments mean giving up every sin?

Well, the definition of sin is breaking the Ten Commandments (1 John 3:4, *"Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law."*) So when the Bible tells us not to sin, it is actually telling us not to break any of the Ten Commandments.

John

5:14 *"...sin no more."*

8:11 *"Neither do I condemn thee, go and sin no more."*

Romans

6:6 *"...we should not serve sin."*

6:12 *"Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body."*

1 Corinthians

15:34 *"...sin not"*

Ephesians

4:26 *"...sin not"*

Hebrews

10:26 *"For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins."*

James

1:15,16 *"Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. Do not err my beloved brethren."*

1 John

2:1 *"...ye sin not."*

3:4 *"Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth the law, for sin is the transgression of the law"*

3:6 *"Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not."*

3:8 *"He that committeth sin is of the devil;"*

3:15 *"Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer; and you know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him."*

Didn't Paul say we don't have to keep the law?

Paul did say that *a* law was done away with at the cross, but what some Christians don't understand is that there are at least two laws in the Bible. One is the law of the Ten Commandments, which was never done away with, and the other is the sacrificial and ceremonial laws. These were the laws that were done away with at the cross. They taught man how to sacrifice animals, what to sacrifice, when to sacrifice, why to sacrifice and how to conduct the ceremonies involved. Since Christ died on the cross, we no longer need to sacrifice animals, as they were only a lesson to teach people what was soon to happen. They taught people what was going to happen to Christ when He came to earth. So now that He has already come, and died for us, we do not need to carry out sacrifices anymore.

Paul actually kept the law and taught all them to do so too. He kept the 4th Commandment, the Sabbath, and generally taught all to keep the law.

Acts

17:2 *"And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three Sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures."*

21:24 *"...but that thou thyself also walkest orderly, and keepest the law."*

Romans

2:12 *"...and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law."*

2:13 *"For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified."*

3:31 *"Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law."*

6:1,2 *"Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? God forbid."*

6:15 *"What then shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid."*

7:12 *"Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good."*

Galatians

5:19 *"Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred ...envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."*

Ephesians

4:25 *"Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour."*

5:3 *"But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints;"*

5:5 *"For this ye know that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God."*

6:2 *"Honour thy father and thy mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)"*

1 Timothy

6:1 *"...that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed."*

The Sabbath was one of the commandments, so do we still have to keep Saturday Sabbath?

Christ's blood was sprinkled above the two tables of stone, thus confirming that we must keep that law. This act confirmed that we must keep the law that is written on the tables of stone, and what day do those tables say is the Sabbath?

Exodus 20:8, *"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all*

thy work; but the seventh day is the Sabbath to the LORD thy God..."

So yes, according to the discovery, and the Bible, we must still keep the seventh day Sabbath. That is from Friday evening to Saturday evening, but definitely not Sunday. There is no mention of a Sunday Sabbath on those tables of stone, nor anywhere in the entire Bible. Christ warned the Christians that the Sabbath would still be relevant to them even approximately 30 years after the cross, at the destruction of Jerusalem.

Matthew 24:20

"But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the Sabbath day."

The seventh day Sabbath is reconfirmed as binding in Hebrews 4:9, *"There remaineth therefore a rest (SABBATIMOS) to the people of God."*

Many people say that the Sabbath is only for the Jews, and was only instituted at Mount Sinai in Exodus 20. But the Bible tells us that it has existed and been binding since creation. When God is speaking the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20, He says this referring to the Sabbath commandment, verse 11, *"Wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it"*. Well, when did God do that? When did God institute the Sabbath? At creation! Genesis 2:3, *"And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it."* And there was not a single Jew for about another 2000 years after God instituted the Sabbath. The Sabbath was instituted long before Mount Sinai, and long before any Jew ever existed. In fact, Exodus 16:26 tells us that the Children of Israel had to observe the Sabbath before they ever reached Mount Sinai and heard the Ten Commandments, *"Six days shall ye gather (manna); but on the seventh day, which is the Sabbath, in it there shall be none."* Even Jesus told us the Sabbath was not just for the Jews, *"The Sabbath was made for man..."* (Mark 2:27).

Did the Christian Apostles keep the Sabbath?

Yes, Acts 13:14 says they, *"...went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and sat down."* And they didn't keep the Sabbath just because they wanted to worship with the Jews. They also worshiped on Sabbath with the Gentiles. Acts 13:42, *"...the Gentiles besought (Paul) that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath."*

Acts 16:13, *"And on the Sabbath we went out of the city by a riverside."* (Not the synagogue).

Acts 18:4, *"And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded the Jews **and the Greeks.**"*

Didn't the Apostles change Sabbath to Sunday?

Sunday is the first day, and there is not a single text in the whole Bible that says the Sabbath was changed to the first day. Let's read the texts that some Christians are taught tell us the Sabbath was changed to the first day. John 20:19 says that the Christians met on the first day, *"for fear of the Jews"* but a change of the Sabbath is not mentioned at all, *"Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week... the disciples were assembled **for fear of the Jews.**"*

Acts 20:7-11 says, *"And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together **to break bread**"*. Some Christians are told that this breaking of bread was the Lord's Supper that is performed on Sabbath. So as they did it on the first day, the Sabbath must have been changed to the first day. But that is not what the Bible says at all. Acts 2:46 tells us they broke bread *"daily"*

and not just as a Sabbath ceremony. Finally, some try to use 1 Corinthians 16:1&2 to say that the offering taken on Sabbath was on the first day, thus Sabbath was on the first day. But it is not talking about the Sabbath at all, *“Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.”* It is simply saying to set aside some money on the first day of every week for convenience, but there is no mention of worship, Sabbath or any meetings at all.

The Ten Commandments cannot be changed and cannot be done away with and that is the message of the Bible, and of the blood and water on the Ark of the Covenant. It is God’s final warning before we will be forced to break one of the Ten Commandments by state law, and this is why this discovery has surfaced only now, just before the Mark of the Beast law is forced upon, *“all both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond”* (Revelation 13:16).

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The Method and Message of God.

- by Rebecca Samsing.

We do not know ahead of time what new light God will give His people, otherwise it wouldn't be, "new light". Although this information is hidden from us, God has shown us how to recognize whether new light is from Him or not. As we have emphasized, God's messages have to be "*to the law and to the testimony*" (Isaiah 8:20). God's methods are revealed through His testimonies, and His standards are revealed through His law.

It is therefore important when evaluating the discoveries of Ron Wyatt, to study how God has done things in the past, and what are His usual methods. Ecclesiastes 3:15, "*That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past.*" So to understand how God is working now, we can look at what He has required in the past. Remember these words when we later investigate how God works. Christ taught us, "*Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.*" Matthew 7:20. He said, "*Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.*" Matthew 7:17. So we need not fear every new thing that comes our way, as long as we know what fruit it bears. We also have to believe Christ will not allow us to be fooled by lies, if we have followed this advice of His. After we have applied the biblical tests, we must have confidence that God's test works, and so if something has passed the biblical test, we can accept it without fear. This is taking Him at His word, trusting Him; this is faith.

Good fruit, bad fruit.

What fruits identify new "*light*" from Satan? Christ has warned us of Satan's methods in the Bible. The devil's fruits are;

1. "peace and safety".
2. The Ten Commandments were done away with at the cross.
3. Unconditional salvation.
4. The Bible is not the infallible word of God, so some scriptures are rejected.

These fruits lead to people losing their salvation, but the opposite can be found in God's good fruit;

1. "...the hour of His judgment is come".
2. The Ten Commandments were confirmed at the cross (the opposite of being done away with).
3. Conditional salvation.
4. The Bible is the infallible word of God, and is our standard.

As we are now about to test the discoveries of Ron Wyatt according to Satan's fruits or God's, it is important to remind ourselves of the message God has entrusted to us. It is a message of judgment, "*Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come...*" Revelation 14:7.

In a way it is easy too understand Jonah when he fled from God's request to preach a message of judgment. It is no easy thing to preach a message of judgment, but as we consider Jonah's difficulties, we must also remember the lesson he learned from his experience. God reveals to us

the real reason why Jonah fled from his responsibility, and we must be sure that we don't suffer from the same thing. Jonah did not love these people enough; he was lacking a love for lost souls. His pride was more important to him than the lives of all the people in Nineveh. This was revealed when he actually became angry that God didn't destroy the city, after the inhabitants turned from their evil ways. God's messages are to encourage people to turn from their evil ways, because He wants to save them.

The message of judgment is not a threat, but a reminder of the consequences of one's actions. If we warn our children that they will get bad teeth if they eat candy, and don't brush their teeth, then we're not threatening them, we are warning them of the consequences. We warn our children out of love for them, not because we want to stop them from enjoying themselves.

Throughout the Bible, we can see the same message from God to every generation that ever lived, "judgment and salvation". God has brought this message through his faithful prophets each time, but the methods He has used to preach the message have varied.

Let us now take a look at the discoveries of Noah's Ark, Sodom and Gomorrah, and the Red Sea Crossing, to see if they have the signature of God's fruit, or of Satan's? The discovery of Noah's Ark preaches a message of judgment for the wicked inhabitants of the world, and salvation for Noah and his faithful family. The cities of Sodom and Gomorrah remind man of judgment for the wicked inhabitants of the cities, and salvation for faithful Lot and his two daughters. And the Red Sea crossing site again tells us of the judgment for the wicked Egyptians, and salvation for Moses and the faithful Israelites.

Each one of these discoveries reminds us of each group that experienced a "mini judgment day", and directs our minds to the great and terrible judgment day soon to interrupt world history... The Second Coming of Christ and the end of the world (1Thessalonians 4:16,17 & John 6:40,44,54).

The discovery of Mount Sinai and the Ark of the Covenant remind us of the standard by which we are judged... The Ten Commandments.

The message of these discoveries is the very same our LORD has given to the world in different ways since the fall of man. The very same message God has, with tears, cried out to us, *"Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye"* Ezekiel 18:30-32.

The message, as always, warns us of the consequences of sin at the same time as it tells us God can save those who accept it. Therefore, when searching the Scriptures, we read of God giving a message of judgment, but we also always find with it a message of salvation. Each and every one of these discoveries gives the warning of the majority who were judged, and the faithful few who were saved. They tell us that there is a way to allow God to save us- trust and obey. The message

of judgment and salvation is the Third Angels Message of Revelation 13. Judgment for those who break God's commandments and receive the Mark of the Beast, salvation for those who keep His commandments and receive the Seal of God.

These things are God's physical "show and tell" discoveries to reach this last generation with His Three Angels Message. Many may ask, "Why can't we just tell the Three Angels Message? Why do we need these physical evidences to show too?" God's people have largely ignored the message of judgment, claiming that it was not a message of love, and worried that it might offend or upset. The church was silent, and now the stones are crying out. While God's people slept on, He raised up stones to cry out (Luke 19:40), but now we can cry out with them making the message even louder. In this way, God has awoken His people and they can preach the message of judgment and salvation to the world.

We must recognize God's voice. This is not a new message, but the very same message that has come from the mouth of God through the entire history of the Bible. If we study it carefully we can recognize our Father's voice and recognize the message He preaches. What's more, we can take this opportunity to work with Him. Don't you recognize Him?

Every single message that God has ever preached, whether it be through a prophet, a parable, or a historical account, will always have one underlying theme. That is to turn from your sins and repent, and we find this message here in all of these discoveries. And the discovery of the Ark of the Covenant also calls us from our sins. It tells the world that the law of the Ten Commandments must be kept and not broken. That by definition is telling the world not to sin, as, "*sin is the transgression of the law*" 1 John 3:4.

Christ said, "*My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow Me*" John 10:27 To know God is to have knowledge of Him. However, as many fear these discoveries, seeing only something dangerous, let us not just measure them to see if they bear good fruit, but let us see if they actually bear the marks of Satan's fruit.

Do the discoveries preach a message of "peace and safety"?

No! They speak of turning from your evil ways by reminding us of the examples of Noah, Lot, and the Israelites. Satan hates this message, and would never call someone from his or her sins.

Do the discoveries preach that God's law is done away with?

No! The discovery of the Ark of the Covenant teaches us that Christ confirmed the law, and that it was included as a part of the New Covenant. Satan has every reason to make men fear and hate this discovery most of all.

Do the discoveries preach that salvation is without condition?

Not at all! By example of Noah, Lot, and the Israelites, they urge the people of the world to "*choose this day whom ye will serve*". Serve God and turn from your evil ways and live, or serve Satan and perish as the inhabitants of the antediluvian world, Sodom and Gomorrah and the Egyptians did.

Do any of these discoveries go against the Bible?

Quite the contrary! They walk hand in hand with Scripture; the Scriptures confirming the discoveries, and the discoveries confirming the Scriptures.

As Christ said, *"A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit."* Matthew 7:18. Christ cannot lie, but our minds can effectively use fear to lie to us. We can have confidence in what is truth when we follow the principle of good and bad fruit. This principle is biblical, for Christ Himself told us to use it. Satan has nothing to gain from the fruits of these discoveries. They have led multitudes to Christ and to the Three Angels Message. They have led more people to Christ than any one of us might ever accomplish. I'm sure that when the Ark is revealed, hundreds will believe in one day because of the seeds that are being sown now. If we decide to hinder this work, we are in danger of working against the Holy Spirit, and at the same time we're being distracted from doing the work we are commissioned to do.

Many other biblical archaeological discoveries have not faced as much resistance as these. Why do you think the discoveries of Ron Wyatt are not as well received as discoveries of pottery, biblical cities, biblical inscriptions etc? When Christ came to earth His message was rejected and hated by so very many people, and so when He comes with the same message today we cannot expect it to be any more popular than it was then. Pieces of pottery, the remains of biblical cities such as Jericho, Capernaum or Chorazim do not prove, and do not therefore preach, the message of judgment and salvation. But these hated discoveries do! They preach the same message that Christ was hated for. They crucified Him because He was preaching a message of judgment and salvation. If they crucified Jesus, what will the world do to people and discoveries that preach the very same message? Be careful that you don't become one of those shouting, *"Away with Him, crucify Him"*, because the rejection of this message is the rejection of Him.

So we have investigated what God stands for (His "standard", the law), and seen that the discovery is, *"to the law"*, because it preaches the law as the standard by which we are judged, and the conditions upon which we are saved. So now let us again see if it is, *"to the testimony"*. We have already tested the discovery of the Ark of the Covenant by the testimonies of Paul and Moses in Exodus 24 and Hebrews 9:19, but this time we will look at the writings of Jeremiah to test the other discoveries of Ron Wyatt. Let us see if God's methods are typical of how He gives testimony. Remember Ecclesiastes 3:15? *"That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past."* Has God used these very same methods in the past, to wake people up and warn them of judgment and salvation, so that they might turn from their evil ways?

Jeremiah's show and tell lesson.

To find a time in the past when God warned His people to turn from their evil ways, we can go to the book of Jeremiah. There are many other places where we find the method God adopts in order to reach people, but for the sake of time, let us just take a couple of examples.

Just as all prophets before and after, Jeremiah had to preach a message of judgment and salvation. It could not have been much fun, or very easy because he was laughed at, threatened and imprisoned. And all this time there were self-proclaimed "prophets" with their own "gospels", just as it is today. At that time, Satan's fruits were just as much a result of the false prophets, as they are today. We see over and over again how they preached, "peace, peace and no danger". So let's now hear God's message of judgment and salvation, and see what methods He used to preach it.

"The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words. Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels. And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it. Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying, O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the LORD.

Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel. At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, and to pull down, and to destroy it; If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them. And at what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it; If it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then I will repent of the good, wherewith I said I would benefit them. Now therefore go to, speak to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I frame evil against you, and devise a device against you: return ye now every one from his evil way, and make your ways and your doings good." Jeremiah 18:1-11.

Here we see how God uses a physical object as a means of a "show and tell" lesson, to preach his message of judgment and salvation. Also we can read in Jeremiah 19:1-11 how God tells Jeremiah to again use a physical object to "show and tell" His message of judgment and salvation.

So, if we know God it will not surprise us that He now uses these physical objects in order to preach His "show and tell" message of judgment and salvation. In the first example God showed the people the clay vessel and said, *"Cannot I do with you as this potter?"* Today, God is showing us Noah's Ark and saying, *"Cannot I do with you as I did for Noah?"* He shows us Sodom and Gomorrah and says, *"Cannot I do with you as I did for Lot?"* He shows us the chariot wheels and horse and human remains in the Red Sea and says to us, *"Cannot I do with you as I did for the Israelites?"* "Please can I save you from this coming destruction?" Isn't this the same message from the Discoveries? God warns us, *"But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed"* Luke 17:29-30.

God has used the same methods to preach the same message in the past. He has always used physical things so people understand His lessons. Some other examples are; the sacrificial system (which could never do away with sin, Hebrews 10:4), the earthly sanctuary, the wave sheaf, Aaron's rod blooming blossoms, the pot of manna preserved in the Ark of the Covenant as a physical witness, circumcision etc. etc. None of these things could bring salvation, but all were a symbol of that which could. God SHOWS AND TELLS. This has always been His way of reaching people so they will remember His message. Some would have us believe that God is different today, and to use physical things today is unnecessary, compared to faith. However, He *is "the same yesterday, today and forever"* Hebrews 13:8. God has not stopped using the SHOW, to now only use the TELL. As always, He SHOWS AND TELLS.

The reason the Jews didn't recognize the Messiah, whom they claimed to worship, was predominantly due to their Talmud. The Talmud contained people's own interpretation of the Torah and the rest of the Bible. If we allow our own interpretation of the Word become our law, we too are in danger of not recognizing His voice, or His plan when it is presented to us. Be careful not to reject true light when it comes because God does not work according to your expectations. If we don't create our own beliefs, but stick to what the plain Word of God tells us about how He works, then we will recognize His methods at once. We need to recognize our LORD, His voice, message and His methods. If we do not, we'll be left in the dark. We must be sure not to set ourselves up against God in any field, if we do so, we're no longer gathering souls, but dividing the flock.

So what about the discovery of the Ark of the Covenant?

Do you remember the second of Satan's fruits mentioned at the beginning? That the law of God is done away with. This is Satan's trump card in preparing people to receive the Mark of the Beast. God is waiting to reveal this discovery until after the passing of a religious law, a law that forces man to break God's law, and is called, "The Mark of the Beast" in the Bible. To understand why God waits, we need to understand that Satan's trump card is the false doctrine that the Ten Commandments were abolished at the cross. So when this law is passed, everyone will get to see that in fact they must not keep this anti-christian law, but must keep the Ten Commandments. Why is it unacceptable to some, to believe that God will show the world what really happened on the cross, thus destroying Satan's trump card?

The presentation of the blood and water of Christ sprinkled above the law, on the Mercy Seat proves that the law was biblically confirmed, and not done away with. It's not only found in Hebrews 9:19 and Exodus 24, but also in Nehemiah 9:38 and Jeremiah 32:10-14. There we see that the biblical way to confirm a covenant, or a purchase (1 Corinthians 7:23) is the following:

1. First make a (verbal) agreement.
2. Then a written agreement.
3. The written agreement is then sealed or signed.
4. Only then is the agreement valid and unchangeable.

There is no other way, according to the Bible, to confirm a covenant. Therefore when Christ said He came to confirm a New Covenant, if He were to do it "by the book" He would use this method, the same method He asked Jeremiah and Moses to use.

1. Jesus had to make a (verbal) agreement.
2. He had to write this agreement down.
3. The written agreement had to be sealed with water and blood (i.e. signed).
4. Then the agreement is valid and unchangeable.

Did Jesus do this?

1. He declared the verbal agreement in Jeremiah 31:32-34, "*Behold the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant... I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts*".
2. Now this covenant had to be written down BY HIM, "*And He wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments*" (Exodus 34:28)

3. The written agreement was signed and sealed by the blood and water of Christ, *"...but one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water... and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent"* (John 19:34, Matthew 27:51).
4. THEN the agreement, or covenant Christ made would become valid and unchangeable, *"For a testament is of force after men are dead"* (Hebrews 9:17 & Galatians 3:15, 17).

In Jeremiah 31:33, Christ identified the New Covenant He would confirm with His people as, *"My law"*. We know this is the ONLY covenant He has ever written down, so this is the covenant that had to be sealed with blood and water. It is no mystery therefore to discover where Christ's blood and water ended up when *"the earth did quake, and the rocks rent"* beneath Him. Only the Ark of the Covenant containing the *"words of the covenant"* could be the resting-place. Christ said, *"Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil"* (Matthew 5:17). If Christ came to fulfil the law and the prophets He had to fulfil this as well, and so He did. Paul leaves us without doubt that Christ's mission on the cross was the antitype of the typical ceremony Moses was asked to do. Paul reveals the type and antitype. This we can see from Hebrews 9:19.

God has already used the "Tell" of His "Show and Tell" message, by giving us His Bible. Now as He has done before, He is using the "Show" part of His message. When God reveals this discovery to the world, He will have used the same method that He has always used in the past, "Show and Tell".

I recommend a study of King Josiah's time, when the Book of the Covenant was rediscovered. God's people had broken the covenant, and after many years they had forgotten the contents of the covenant. When the Book of the Covenant was rediscovered it sparked a reformation and a revival amongst God's people. The king arranged for the book to be read aloud to the people, and when they heard it, they were shocked. Many of them, including the king repented and renewed their covenant with God. God allowed the book to be rediscovered for this very reason, and now they understood the requirements of the covenant, and followed them.

What happened then, is the same that will happen at the public displaying of the tables of stone. God will show people once more what the covenant consists of, and plead with them to renew their covenant with Him and repent, *"That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and GOD REQUIRETH THAT WHICH IS PAST"* Ecclesiastes 3:15.

It's easy to see how these discoveries are just like God's way of reaching people, but only if we compare them with the Bible, and not with our own opinions. What a comfort to recognize His voice, seeing Him working hard for us, helping us preach the last message of judgment and salvation to the world. He is closer to His people than we can ever see or understand. Every hair on our head has been counted and He knows each one of us by name, let's work with Him!

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Moving in Faith

- by Rebecca Samsing.

It's always a comfort for me to search the Scriptures and learn how God has done things in the past. We have just done exactly that to discover how God has always used physical objects to preach His message.

Many people ask why God has only shown the Ark of the Covenant to one person, but is waiting before He reveals it to the rest of the world, and what is He doing during this time. I believe we can find the answer by again seeing what God has done in the past. The resurrection of Christ is no small event in the Bible. It is indeed one of the most important by far. So however God managed events at that time cannot be passed off lightly. They are extremely significant, and by paralleling the events around the resurrection of Christ, we can answer that question. The discovery of the Ark of the Covenant and Tables of Stone is a parallel to the resurrection, for God has used the same method of revelation in the past too. He has revealed Himself to just one person first, then taught new light on the subject, then revealed the actual evidence to those that believed the new light, exactly as He has done with the discovery of the Ark of the Covenant.

After Christ's resurrection, who was the first person to see Jesus? It was Mary. A female disciple of Christ and a former prostitute. Not one of the eleven disciples, nor the king, or Jewish leaders, or leaders of the Christian church, not even one of the male disciples, but a woman who was His humble servant. He revealed Himself to only one humble person at first. We see God doing exactly the same thing here, by using Ron Wyatt as the only humble witness to this discovery at this time.

Mary then went about spreading the good news of the resurrection to all the Christians, but most did not believe because they had not seen the evidence for themselves. Thomas was even more certain that he wouldn't believe unless he himself touched the wounds on Jesus' body. What is the parallel is here? Ron Wyatt went about spreading the good news of the discovery of the blood and water of Christ on the Mercy Seat, but sadly not all of God's people believed.

Then Christ met with two of His disciples on the road to Emmaus, but withheld His identity. He walked with them, withholding His identity, and He said to them, "*O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken.*" (Luke 24:25). Notice that first Jesus had to teach them new light on the resurrection, as they must understand the significance of the resurrection first. He wanted them to understand what the Scripture said about Him *before* they saw the evidence. Only when they accepted the new light, did Christ open their eyes that they might recognize Him. Only after the new light was accepted did He reveal Himself to them, or show them the evidence.

When Christ was finished showing them the Scriptures, He was about to walk on without letting them recognize Him. At that point, the two disciples could have argued with the Scriptural evidence, or not shown any interest in hearing anymore. They could have refused to listen because they hadn't seen Christ yet, or asked "Why would Christ only show Himself to a former prostitute first?" But they did receive what Jesus showed them from the Scriptures, and insisted that He go no farther, but that He come and stay with them. Imagine what would have happened

if they had rejected Christ's teaching. Probably He would not have revealed Himself to them, and they would have missed out on such a wonderful blessing! Such is the situation today with the Ark.

I believe this is what God is busy doing for us now. God is not just keeping us waiting for the evidence, but is teaching us what this discovery means from the Scripture. **THIS IS GOD'S PRIORITY BEFORE REVEALING THE EVIDENCE TO US!** Refusing to believe before seeing the physical evidence is just like Thomas. We have evidence from the Bible before us, but some still say it is not enough. Please let us co-operate with Christ as He is trying to teach us from the Scripture the truth, even before we see the evidence.

So what is the new light that God has given us regarding this discovery? That the blood and water of Christ confirmed that the law is a part of the New Covenant and has to be kept, not done away with, and that the law since then, cannot be done away with, and cannot be changed.

If we also invite Him in, we can become good workers for Him when this discovery is finally shown, at the passing of the universal religious law that will force us to break God's law. Sadly we see many not caring about the evidence from Scripture that God is now showing. They say that they want to see physical evidence before accepting the Scriptures. How would it look if the two disciples on the road to Emmaus said, *"We can see it is true from the Bible, but we will wait until we see the physical evidence before we believe it"*? Will those who doubt or disbelieve the discovery because their hearts don't rejoice in the truth, let Christ pass them by? They do not seem to understand the message behind the following Bible verse, *"And He said to them, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead."* Luke 16:31.

Christ taught them the new light *before* He revealed the evidence to them. So those that say about this discovery, *"This is not how God works, not revealing the evidence first"*, are mistaken, and have forgotten the above Bible account, or deny it.

There are two sure ways of ending up in darkness. The first is to refuse to follow light that has already been revealed to us, and the second is to refuse to follow new light that is being revealed to us. Anyone who refuses to listen to Moses and the prophets as to how the covenant was confirmed (according to Hebrews 9:19), will have a difficult time believing it when they see it happen. Maybe they will call it the work of Satan (as some already do).

The lesson here is that biblical evidence far supersedes physical evidence. If the Bible says something is true, then it is true, even if we cannot see any physical evidence. It is all a test of faith as to whether we take the Bible as our final authority, or if we need physical evidence too. The two disciples had to receive the new light and invite Jesus in **FIRST** before He let them see the evidence, or reveal Himself to them. And they said, *"Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the Scriptures?"*

So what is the Lord showing us from the Scriptures on **OUR** walk on the road to Emmaus? The warning against complying with this universal religious law is a warning against receiving the Mark of the Beast, and it is a warning to keep God's law. Do you remember when Christ said in Luke, *"I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out"*?

The Christian movement that was to warn the world to *"keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus,"* as a warning against receiving the Mark of the Beast, have not been very successful this past century. So *"I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out"*, as indeed the Tables of Stone will, after the religious law is passed.

Malachi 3:6, *"For I am the LORD, I change not."* What He said then, also goes for our time, and the STONES SOON ARE TRULY GOING TO CRY OUT TO THE WORLD. We can either choose to CRY OUT with them or to try and silence them.

Remember the story in 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles. Do you remember the Book of the Covenant that Moses sprinkled with blood and water? It contained the covenant between the Israelites and God, and was mysteriously found after it had been lost for a long time. When the Book of the Covenant was delivered to King Josiah who had followed the evil ways of all the kings before him, he began a reformation. He was deeply shaken when the law was read to him, and the covenant that had been written down by Moses.

Scripture tells us that he did not know all that was written therein, but when he heard it, he humbled himself before God and gathered all the Israelites to hear it so they could reform their lives too. It is interesting to note that God is not suddenly using a new method when He let Ron Wyatt find the Ark of the Covenant containing the tables of stone. Just like in Josiah's time, He has again provided evidence for those who have forgotten the true contents of God's law, so that they can refuse the Mark of the Beast.

This is God's "show and tell" method He is using to speak to His children, who don't realize they are deceived by belonging to an apostate religion. This is a close parallel to what happened in the time of Josiah.

In Josiah's time, the book with the contents of the covenant were found after being lost for along time. Just as today the Ark that contains that same law, which was confirmed on the cross, was discovered by Ron Wyatt after being hidden for almost 2600 years. Although hidden from human eyes, God knew where it was all the time, and brought it to Ron's attention at just the right time to be a witness to the world. *"That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God required that which is past."* Ecclesiastes 3:15. *"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever."* Hebrews 13: 8.

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The Sample of Blood and the Nature of Christ.

While the obvious message behind the sample of blood is that Christ was born of a virgin, and the biblical account is true, is God trying to tell us something more?

From this evidence, I believe we can learn something that effects our attitude towards sin, and therefore will effect our salvation. The Bible calls us to perfection in many places (Matthew 5:48, 1Peter 1:16, 1John 3:2&3, Phil 2:5), but many of us ask, "How can we be like Jesus?" We say that He was so vastly different to us, as He was born of the Holy Spirit, and therefore we cannot be perfect as He was. While it is true He was born of a virgin by the Holy Spirit, it is not biblical to say that this gave Him an ability to overcome sin, that we do not have. Christ overcame sin in the same way as we can- by the submission of His will to God.

This sample of blood shows that Christ did not inherit any characteristics from the Holy Spirit, other than his male gender. He received the Y chromosome from the Holy Spirit that made Him male, but as for the X-chromosomes that contributed to his genetic make up, he received none from the Holy Spirit.

The Bible makes it perfectly clear that Jesus did not sin,
1 Peter 2:21, 22, "...Christ also suffered for us... **who did no sin**, neither was guile found in His mouth".

It also makes it clear, that we too can live a sinless life, if we adopt the same method that Christ used,
2 Peter 1:4, "*Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*"

Although many people agree that Jesus did not sin, they say that He was different from us, and that we cannot live a sinless life as He did. Of course it is true that Jesus was born of a virgin by the Holy Spirit, but did His birth in any way contribute to His ability to overcome sin? Did this virgin birth give Christ an unfair advantage over us, in His ability to conquer sin?

If Jesus was different from us, and had an unfair advantage over us, how then could He be our example?
1 Peter 2:21, 22, "...Christ also suffered for us, **leaving us an example, that ye should follow His steps: Who did no sin**, neither was guile found in His mouth".
Revelation 3:21, "**To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame...**"
1 John 2:6, "*He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk, even as He walked.*"

The apostles, and Christ always referred to, "the will" and never Christ's birth, as the key to His success in overcoming sin. We are told that Jesus overcame sin by submitting His will to the Father, and that we too can overcome sin by the submission of our will to God, in exactly the same way.

John 4:34, "*Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish*

His work."

Jesus said of Himself,

John 5:30, *"I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and My judgment is just: because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent Me."*

(See also John 5:19, 8:28, 12:49 & 50, 14:10)

We are told that we can overcome sin in exactly the same way as Christ did,

James 4:7, *"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."*

And the reason we need to resist the devil, is to overcome sin,

1 John 3:8, *"He that committeth sin is of the devil."*

Did sinlessness come naturally to Jesus, or did He have to struggle with temptation as we do?

Matthew 26:39, *"...O My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me:"*

But when Jesus did not want to do the will of the Father, how did He succeed?

"...nevertheless not as I will, but as Thou wilt."

The Father's will was different to Christ's, but in the same way as we can, Jesus submitted His will to the Father's. He had to learn obedience, just as we do,

Hebrews 5:8, *"Though He were a son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered:"*

Sinlessness did not come naturally to Christ, He could have chosen to sin at any time, but when temptation came upon Him, He chose not to sin, and then immediately prayed that God would strengthen Him to overcome. Then He removed Himself from the temptation, not staying there continuing to consider it. He kept a close and constant relationship with the Father through daily Bible study, prayer, consecration and submission; exactly the same method as we can successfully adopt. The virgin birth of Christ played no part in His overcoming of sin, so it does not matter that we were born from two human parents, we too can overcome even as Christ overcame. We only have human chromosomes that make up our character, and Christ only had human chromosomes that made up His character.

God's will for us is that we be one with Him. We share in His love and reflect it to others. John 17:23, 26, *"And the glory which Thou gavest Me I have given them; that they may be one, even as We are one... And I have declared unto them Thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith Thou hast loved Me may be in them, and I in them."* Thus we shall fulfil the law as He did.

For every person that has ever lived, or ever will live, Christ has gone through the same temptations they faced, or will face. We cannot comprehend the struggle He went through on our behalf.

Hebrews 4:15, *"For we have not an High Priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."*

Jesus had to be the same as us, if He was tempted as we are. He had to have gone through *exactly* the same experience as us, if He is to be able to help us when we are tempted, and be our example, otherwise He would not be able to understand us, or be our Substitute and Sacrifice.

Hebrews 2:18, *"For in that He Himself hath suffered being tempted, He is able to succour them*

that are tempted."

(The word, "*succour*" means, "to aid in time of need"- The Pocket Oxford Dictionary.)

Christ overcame sin in exactly the same way as we can. He was tempted in exactly the same way as we are- but was His nature exactly the same as ours too?

Romans 8:3, "*For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:*"

"*Condemned sin in the flesh*" means Christ lived a life without sin, in sinful flesh, in order to demonstrate that man, by using the same faith, trust and God-dependency, can also conquer sin in the same way.

So Christ was sent "*in the likeness of sinful flesh*". This word, "*likeness*" has to mean, "*exactly the same as*". If we say that Jesus was sent in similar flesh, and not sinful flesh exactly the same as mans, we contradict Scripture, and even harbor the spirit of antichrist!

1 John 4:3, "*And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist...*"

The Greek word, "*likeness*" here is the same word as, "*likeness*" in Philippians 2:7, another verse that reveals the human nature of Christ. It was not a surface, or partial likeness, but a true and complete likeness, differing from our flesh, only in that the flesh (nature) of Christ never became involved in the act of sinning.

Philippians 2:7,8, "*But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the **likeness** of men: And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*"

Here we see that Christ took exactly the same human nature as man, and overcame sin by humbling Himself, and becoming obedient. It was not the type of birth that He had, but the submission of His will that gave Jesus the victory over sin.

Other texts make it clear Jesus took upon Himself exactly the same nature as man, that is to say, sinful flesh,

Hebrews 2:14, 16 & 17, "*Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same... For verily He took not on Him the nature of angels; but He took on Him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behoved Him to be made like unto His brethren...*"

Romans 1:3, "*Concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh:*"

1 Timothy 3:16, "*God was manifest in the flesh...*"

Hebrews 5:7, "*Who in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto Him that was able to save Him from death, and was heard in that He feared;*"

Here we discover that Christ came in our fallen nature (flesh), and needed to be saved from death by the Father. That again is how Christ can be our example, because we are in exactly the same position.

The reason why this subject is of such importance is that if one believes that we cannot live without sinning, so continues in sin, never trying to overcome, they will ultimately lose their eternal life.

James 2:10, *“For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.”*

Matthew 7:21- 23, *“Not everyone that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven.”*

James 2:24, *“Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.”*

Revelation 22:14, 15, *“Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they might have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.”*

Matthew 19:17, *“If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.”*

(See also Mark 10:17&19, John 14:15, Rom 2:12&13, Eph 5:5, Heb 10:26, James 1:15& 16, 1 John 2:3&4, 1 John 3:15, Rev 21:8, Rev 21:27, Rev 22:14)

Christ came with exactly the same nature as us, as our example, and did not sin. Thus, by example, He showed us how to overcome sin, and inherit eternal life in the glorious kingdom of heaven.

Ultimately, you are responsible for your sins. We cannot use the excuse that we have inherited original sin, so cannot help but sin,

James 1:14, *“But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.”*

James 1:15& 16, *“Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”*

The Bible’s definition of sin is, *“the transgression of the law”* (1 John 3:4). If you break the Ten Commandments, you sin. So we cannot be born in sin, guilty from the minute we are born.

But Christ came to set us free from the bondage of sin and death, that by faith we may conquer sin, and keep the commandments,

Revelation 14:12, *“Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.”*

Christ took part of human flesh and blood.

Hebrews 2:14 states, *“Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same...”*

As Jesus' blood lacks the chromosomes from His Father (except for the sex-determinant Y chromosome), the question has been raised, does this contradict Hebrews 2:14? This verse is saying that Christ was human, with human flesh and blood. The sample of blood on the Mercy Seat is human. Children with Downs Syndrome have more chromosomes than you and me, but they are still human, and Hebrews 2:14 says that Christ had the same blood as we all have - human blood, no matter what the chromosome count.

Hebrews 2:14 cannot be saying that Jesus must have a set of chromosomes from an earthly father as we do, because He did not have an earthly father. That would be impossible. Imagine the implications if the blood did have chromosomes from an earthly father, perhaps Joseph. Then the Jews would feel justified in their accusation of Mary.

The only other option God would have had, would be to give Jesus a "full set" of the Father's 23 chromosomes via the Holy Spirit. This would have been entirely possible for God to do, but then it seems that Jesus would have been half God, and half human. Then the impact of the God-portion of Jesus' genetic structure would have totally dominated His "earthly" body. This would give a message that contradicts the Bible, as the Bible says that Christ was our example (1 Peter 2:21). Jesus would then be half God and half human, thus having an unfair advantage over us, in being able to overcome sin.

But this sample of blood proves that Jesus had no genetic make-up, and therefore no help, from the Holy Spirit. He truly put off His Godhood in order to enter into human flesh. All His genes, and therefore His inherited nature came from Mary. The Holy Spirit did have to contribute the sex-determinant Y chromosome, in order to ensure Jesus was male.

In order for someone to say that the analysis of the blood is definitely unbiblical, he is then saying that he fully understands Divinity combined in humanity in the incarnation of Christ. We cannot explain the great mystery of the plan of redemption. Jesus took upon Himself humanity, that He might reach humanity; but we cannot explain how divinity was clothed with humanity. In contemplating the incarnation of Christ in humanity, we stand baffled before an unfathomable mystery that the human mind cannot understand.

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The Ark of the Covenant and The Mark of the Beast.

The Mark of the Beast is described in the book of Revelation.

Rev 13:16-18, *"And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:*

And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is six hundred threescore and six."

So it is a mark that everyone on earth will be forced to receive. It will be received in their hand or forehead, and they will be disenfranchised if they refuse it. The mark of the beast is also the name of the beast, which is the number of a man's name. The number is 666.

Who is The Beast?

In order to find out what the Mark of the Beast is, we must first find out what a beast is. A "beast" in Bible prophesy is a king or kingdom,

Daniel 7:17, *"These great beasts, which are four, are four kings."*

Daniel 7:23, *"The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth."*

So we can understand from the Bible, that a king or kingdom will impose its mark on the world.

Then the Bible doesn't say much more about the Mark of the Beast, but it does say a lot about the Seal of God. The Seal of God is in direct opposition to the Mark of the Beast. They are exact opposites, so either you receive the Mark of the Beast, or the Seal of God.

The Seal of God.

The seal of God is also received in a person's forehead, just like the Mark of the Beast, because it is the exact opposite.

Revelation 7:3, *"Saying, hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads."*

Revelation 9:4, *"And it was commanded them that they should hurt not the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads."*

Just as the Mark of the Beast is a man's name in a person's forehead, the seal of God is God's name in their forehead,

Revelation 14:1, *"And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred and forty four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads."*

There is a description of those who refuse the Mark of the Beast, and therefore receive the Seal of God,

Revelation 14:12, *"Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."*

So those that receive the Seal of God are Christians that keep the Ten Commandments. That is the exact message of the discovery of the Ark of the Covenant! If they keep the Ten Commandments, then they have overcome every sin, because sin is the breaking of the law. So

they are just like Jesus, because Jesus overcame every sin, and that is the exact message of the sample of Christ's blood!

Those who receive the Mark of the Beast, God will punish in hell fire.

Revelation 14:6-11. *"If any man worship the beast or his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever: and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name."*

However, those who receive the Seal of God, will be rewarded with eternal life.

Revelation 14:3, *"...which were redeemed from the earth."*

So what is the Seal of God?

So if those that refuse the Mark of the Beast keep the commandments of God, is it possible that those who receive the Mark of the Beast, break at least one of God's Ten Commandments? Well, the Seal of God is received in the same place as the Mark of the Beast, and indeed, the Bible tells us that the Ten Commandments are symbolically found in the hand and the forehead. Referring to God's Ten Commandments the Bible says,

Exodus 13:9, *"And it shall be for a sign unto thee upon thine hand, and for a memorial between thine eyes, that the Lord's law may be in thy mouth."*

Deuteronomy 6:8, *"And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes."*

Deuteronomy 11:18, *"And bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes."*

The Ten Commandments are found in the same place as the seal of God. So it is certainly possible that the Seal of God is a mark that God puts in man's forehead when he keeps the Ten Commandments, that prevents him from losing his eternal life.

In Nehemiah's day, all those that decided to keep the Ten Commandments, or the law, were referred to as sealed, (see verse 34 to see that they are talking about the law)

Nehemiah 9:38 & 10:1, *"...we make a sure **covenant**, and write it; and our princes, Levites, and priests, **seal** unto it. Now those that **sealed** were..."*

In Isaiah 8:16, the law is in fact the seal,

*"Bind up the testimony, **seal the law** among my disciples."*

In Hebrews 10:16, the Ten Commandments are again written in the minds, or foreheads of God's people,

*"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their **minds** will I write them."*

This is referring to the New Covenant, so please do not think that under the New Covenant we do not have to keep the Ten Commandments.

Revelation 7:3 says that it is the servants of God who will be sealed.

Revelation 7:3, "*Saying, hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.*"

What is a servant of God?

"But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God..."

So if we want to receive the Seal of God we must give up all sin, and that by definition means to keep the Ten Commandments. We are also told that the seal is being righteous,

Romans 4:11, "*...a seal of the righteousness of the faith...*"

So what is it to be righteous?

Psalm 119:172, "*For all thy commandments are righteousness.*"

Is there any doubt that those who keep the Ten Commandments receive the Seal of God?

Therefore, those who receive the Mark of the Beast break at least one of the Ten Commandments. The Bible says that the majority of people will receive the Mark of the Beast, and indeed today, the majority of Christians believe we do not have to keep the Ten Commandments.

Who is the Beast and what is his mark?

The beast is therefore a king or kingdom that forces everyone in the world to break at least one of God's Ten Commandments.

Did you know that in 1998 Pope John Paul II sent out an official letter to millions of Christians around the world, urging them to appeal to their governments to enforce Sunday rest by law? And on April 17th 2008 it has been alleged by the West Virginian Chairman to the Christian Coalition, Pastor Allen Fine, that the present Pope will be meeting with President Bush in Washington to urge him to support a National Sunday Law in America.

We have learned from this discovery that the Sabbath is one of the Ten Commandments that was confirmed as a part of the New Covenant by the blood and water of Christ, and it cannot be changed and it cannot be done away with. So if the Pope were successful, he would indeed be forcing everyone to break one of the Ten Commandments – the Sabbath Commandment.

Did you realize that one of the Pope's main titles is, "VICARIUS FILII DEI"? Each letter has a corresponding number, for instance, in Roman numerals, I = 1, V & U = 5, L = 50, C = 100 and D = 500. Whether you write his name in Hebrew, Greek or Latin, the numerical value of that name always totals 666.

Here it is in Latin:

V = 5	F = 0	D = 500
I = 1	I = 1	E = 0
C = 100	L = 50	I = 1
A = 0	I = 1	
R = 0	I = 1	
I = 1		
U = 5		
S = 0		

Total 666.

This fulfills the prophecy perfectly, that a kingdom with a leader whose name adds up to 666, will force everyone in the world to break at least one of the Ten Commandments. Furthermore, Ron Wyatt was told that the tables of stone would be put on public display sometime after a universal religious law was passed, and that this law would force man to break God's law.

The whole scenario fits perfectly with Bible prophecy, and now we see how the discovery of the Ark of the Covenant warns us not to receive the Mark of the Beast. The message of the Ark of the Covenant is that the Ten Commandments must still be kept, because the Mark of the Beast will be a law forcing everyone to break the fourth commandment – the Sabbath commandment. The sample of blood tells us how we can successfully keep the Ten Commandments; the same way as Jesus did.

The Tables of Stone and the Sample of Blood on Public Display.

This will happen sometime after the Sunday Law is passed, forcing man to break God's true seventh day Sabbath, and through it, God has a serious message that no one can ignore. The blood on the Mercy Seat proves Jesus was Messiah, and the analysis of His blood proves He was the Son of God. However, in order to appreciate how important the confirming of the New Covenant is, we must understand that the New Covenant is telling us to keep the law. So the message will be, Christ confirmed the New Covenant with His blood and water on the cross, and what is the New Covenant?

These Ten Commandments, and the "*blood of Jesus Christ*" which "*cleanseth us from all sin*" and sanctifies us (1 John 1:7 & Hebrews 13:12). We are promised that "*...our Lord Jesus... through the blood of the everlasting covenant...*" can and will "*...Make you perfect in every good work to do His will...*" Hebrews 13:20, 21.

The Bible tells us that not everyone will willingly accept this message, but warns us of the consequences of ignoring the blood of the covenant. Hebrews 10:29, "*Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant... an unholy thing.*"

God's last warning message to the world, before the Second Coming of Christ is so simple, but so very serious for every one of us. We must not break the New Covenant by breaking the law, "*...because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord... sin is the transgression of the law*"...and, "*...if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.*" Hebrews 8:9, 1 John 3:4, Hebrews 10:26. God has done all He can possibly do to make it clear to every human being on planet earth. He has given them His clear word that heaven is available to those who accept the blood of Christ and keep the commandments of God, and provided physical and scientific evidence to back it up. Yet we are told, there will be some who close their eyes to the truth because they love the sins of the world, more than the love of God, and the inevitable results... Isaiah 24:5&6, "*The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left.*"

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The Spirit of Prophecy.

Is there a prophecy that the Ark of the Covenant would be found?

As you read the following prophecy, please note that it was written in 1909 – 73 years before Ron Wyatt discovered the Ark of the Covenant.

“And He (Christ) gave unto Moses, when He had made an end of communicating with him upon Mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written by the finger of God. Nothing written on those tables could be blotted out. The precious record of the law was placed in the Ark of the Testament and is still there, safely hidden from the human family. But in God’s appointed time He will bring forth these tables of stone to be a testimony to all the world against the disregard of His commandments and against the idolatrous worship of a counterfeit Sabbath...

... When the judgment shall sit, and the books shall be opened, and every man shall be judged according to the things written in the books, then the tables stone, hidden by God until that day, will be presented before the world as the standard of righteousness. Then men and women will see that the prerequisite of their salvation is obedience to the perfect law of God. None will find excuse for sin. By the righteous principles of that law, men will receive their sentence of life or of death.” 1 Bible Commentary, page 1109.

Jan 28, 1909. Ellen G. White.

Further Reading.

The Great Controversy by Ellen G. White. - One of the most important books for our time. Find out how the future is to unfold, and how the Bible predicts what incredible events will take place in these last days of earth's history. Order the book free from: sue.bennett@adventbooks.org or read online at www.seventh-day.org/read_great_con.htm

The National Sunday Law by Jan Marcussen. – It is most important that we all understand the issues that face each and every one of us before the Second Coming of Christ. The Bible prophesied a worldwide religious law that would force all to break God's holy law. Ron Wyatt was also told that after this law was passed, the Tables of Stone would be put on public display as a testimony to all who disregard God's commandments. Read it free at www.seventh-day.org/Read_NSL.htm

New movie on the home page of www.thirdangelsmessage.com It's free to watch, and there is also a free book.

Prophet of the End is a book about Ellen White and can be ordered from Harvestime Books at www.harvestimebookstore.com/shop/scripts/prodView.asp?idproduct=48

Also visit www.arkofthecovenant.co.uk and see the presentation on, "The Ark of the Covenant and the Mark of the Beast", available from the Home page.