

Exodus 25:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou shalt put into the ark the testimony which I shall give thee.

Analysis

The Ark's contents: 'the testimony which I shall give thee.' The Hebrew **תּוֹרַת** (edut, testimony) refers to the tablets of the law, God's witness to His righteous standards and covenant faithfulness. The Ark becomes God's throne because He rules based on His revealed truth. Christ fulfilled this law perfectly, becoming the living embodiment of God's testimony (John 1:17).

Historical Context

The stone tablets containing the Ten Commandments (Exodus 31:18) would be placed inside the Ark after Moses' second ascent of Sinai. These tablets testified to God's moral standards and covenantal relationship with Israel.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What does it mean that God's throne rests upon His 'testimony' (law)?
2. How did Christ embody the law that the Ark contained?

Interlinear Text

אַתָּה	אַל	בְּאָרֶץ	אֵת	בְּעֵד	רַבָּשׁ
And thou shalt put	H413	into the ark	H853	the testimony	H834
H5414		H727		H5715	

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Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 31:26 (Witness): Take this book of the law, and put it in the side of the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there for a witness against thee.

1 Kings 8:9 (Parallel theme): There was nothing in the ark save the two tables of stone, which Moses put there at Horeb, when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt.

Hebrews 9:4 (Parallel theme): Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;

Exodus 16:34 (Witness): As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept.