

Passage: Revelation 11:19

Title: The Temple in Heaven

Summary: In our passage God opens up and invites us into the Temple and Throne of God in heaven. In this invite God will show us the “Ark of the Covenant”. It is His “Covenant” with man, with you. What does His covenant say to us presently and yet future. What does the Ark of the Covenant speak to us about His mercy and grace? In our study we will let God “reveal” the depth of these things, and we will see His Glory from heaven unto us.

Revelation 11:1–2 (NKJV)¹ Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, “Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. ² But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months.

Revelation 11:19 (NKJV)¹⁹ Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

Outline: The Rebuilt Temple of Jerusalem (Revelation 11:1-2)

- What is the Temple
- What isn't the Temple
- The Temple of Solomon
- The Temple at the Time of Jesus
- The Next Temple (Revelation 11:1-2)
- The Millennial Temple (Ezekiel 40-48)
- God's Personal Temple – You

Outline: The Ark of the Covenant in the Temple of God (Revelation 11:19)

- The Ark of the Covenant - What is It
- The Ark of the Covenant – What it isn't
- The Ark of the Covenant in the Temple of Solomon
- The Ark of the Covenant in the Temple at the Time of Jesus
- The Ark of the Covenant in the Next Temple
- The Ark of the Covenant in the Millennial Temple
- The Ark of the Covenant in the God's Personal Temple – You

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV)¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV)¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need

Revelation 11:19 (NKJV)¹⁹ Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

The Ark of the Covenant - What is It

We had looked at the temple that will be in Jerusalem and we asked seven questions. We will do the same as we look at the Ark of the Covenant that was in the temple with the Children of Israel in their

wilderness wandering, which was known as the Tabernacle, and then when the temple was built by Solomon in Jerusalem. So the first question that we're going to ask is, what is the Ark of the Covenant? The Ark of the Covenant is a box about three by three feet with specific dimensions and ordination and the things that were spoken directly to Moses on how it should be built, and built exactly according to the pattern. And inside the Ark of the Covenant we would find three things. First was a jar of Manna, and it was remembrance of the Manna that was provided in their wilderness wandering, the Manna from Heaven.

Secondly, was a little staff, we know it as Aaron's rod, and it was the rod that budded when the question and the challenge came who should be the priesthood for the Children of Israel now that they've left Egypt? And you know the story, the one whose rod budded would be the one that God would signify my favor is upon, and it was Aaron's rod that budded and it is in the Ark of the Covenant. And thirdly, was the two tablets of the Commandments that was given to Moses there on Mount Sinai. As we look at these things, it's a beautiful place for us as we look at what's in the Ark because God speaks a story to us, and that is that the Manna from Heaven is God speaking to us, that I will provide for you just as I provided for the Children of Israel in their time, their wilderness wandering.

Hebrews 9:1-5 (NKJV)¹ Then indeed, even the first covenant had ordinances of divine service and the earthly sanctuary. ² For a tabernacle was prepared: the first part, in which was the lampstand, the table, and the showbread, which is called the sanctuary; ³ and behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All, ⁴ which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant; ⁵ and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

It's a promise that's kept, and sealed, and secured that everyone would be able to look and know in that Ark of the Covenant was the promise of God to be God the provider. And there's a great picture with Aaron's rod budding because God is putting his stamp of approval on the priesthood and the priesthood will be woven all the way through, even to what we'll finish with today, that there's a priesthood that lives to make intercession on behalf of the people and the priesthood represents God to the people. And then thirdly, the 10 Commandments was the law that was given to man on how they should live. And, of course, if you could not keep the commandments then there was the judgment that would come with them that would need a sacrifice that would be atoned for through the high priest there in that temple. And then, once a year the high priest would go and sprinkle the blood on behalf of a nation that had sinned against God.

The beauty of all of this is, as we look at this, the mercy seat. Was a picture, very ornate, gold-hammered, overlaying this box, with two cherubim pointing in and beautiful pictures you can find on the internet to look at what this looked like. But the picture perfect is the lid was covered, called the mercy seat, and it covered the commandments that were written against man, that condemned man. So God is making a statement that my mercy will cover you and your sin and provide a way through a priest and through the sacrifice for the forgiveness of sin. Now, grace is getting what we don't deserve. Mercy is not getting what we deserve. We deserve judgment and punishment for breaking God's holy law, yet he provided the means of mercy through the sacrificial system, which ultimately would end it there on the final lamb, Jesus Christ, who would say it is done. And so, the Ark of the Covenant represented mercy.

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The Ark of the Covenant – What it isn't

Now, the second question is, what is it not? So we ask, as we did with the temple, okay, this is what it is, well what isn't it? Well, what it's not is the real one. So the Ark of the Covenant that we would see in the temple, in the tabernacle, in this Holy of Holies. It's not the original, it is a copy of the one that is in heaven. That is why Moses was told very specifically, make it in accordance with, and he was given very specific dimensions and patterns for whether it's the Ark of the Covenant or the Holy of Holies or the veil that separated the Holy of Holies from the holy place or the very sockets that carries the Ark and everything of every last detail, Moses was told to build it exactly. And then, we read in Hebrews that they were all just a copy.

Hebrews 8:1-6 (NKJV)¹ Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, ² a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man. ³ For

every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices. Therefore it is necessary that this One also have something to offer. ⁴ For if He were on earth, He would not be a priest, since there are priests who offer the gifts according to the law; ⁵ who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, "See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."⁶ But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises.

And God speaks something very specific to us. In this picture is, he gives us very specific patterns for life, how we're to live, how we're to live in relational to him and how we are to live in relational to one another. He gives us these very specific patterns, dimensions, descriptions in what we know here as the word of God. And so, there's a place for us that we are to live our life in the pattern of what this word says so we need to know this word, we need to understand this word, and then we not just know it, what it says, but says and do what we're told to do in accordance with it. And as we've discussed, but worth repeating, is when the temple was made there was a cornerstone that was laid and, as we said, that cornerstone was what all the other corners of the building.

So from right angles those other cornerstones needed to be in perfect alignment with what was designated the chief cornerstone. And then, diagonally across to the other side of the square was another cornerstone, the fourth cornerstone, and it had to be in perfect diagonal to the chief cornerstone. And if everything was followed exactly in the dimension that it was required you'd have this perfect square. Then you could build this perfect wall that could withstand the full load that was going to be put on it and it would not fall or tumble because everything was in alignment to the chief cornerstone. And here is a word play for you that we know that Jesus is the word of God, John 1:14. "And the word became flesh and dwelt among us." What we could add to that is, the cornerstone became flesh and dwelt among us. The cornerstone is the word of God and he gives us the directions for life through this word. And, Christian, if we'll build everything off of that cornerstone we will be able to build walls that can hold loads and withstand storms of life.

Acts 4:10–12 (NKJV)¹⁰ let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. ¹¹ This is the 'stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.' ¹² Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

John 1:14 (NKJV)¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

And interestingly enough, as we look at these things of a temple, sacrifice, Ark of the Covenant, a priesthood that would be validated, and a priesthood that would be needed, when we look at this Ark of the Covenant that is in heaven, that's the original, that was to be what the copy was made of here on Earth, it just only makes sense that there would be a temple in ...

It makes sense that there would be a temple in heaven with an ark in it, because we have a high priest there in heaven upon the throne. His name is Jesus Christ. We see him in the scriptures in the Book of Hebrews, in the Book of Genesis as the priest forever, whose name is Melchizedek. And it's just fascinating. But Melchizedek is none other than Jesus Christ that we find through the scriptures. And of course that makes sense because if there's a temple in heaven and there's an Ark of the Covenant, then there has to be a priesthood and it all ties together perfectly, our high priest, Jesus Christ, Melchizedek in the Old Testament.

Genesis 14:18–20 (NKJV)¹⁸ Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. ¹⁹ And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; ²⁰ And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he gave him a tithe of all.

Hebrews 6:19–20 (NKJV)¹⁹ This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, ²⁰ where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV)¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need

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The Ark of the Covenant in the Temple of Solomon

Thirdly, we looked at the temple in the time of Solomon's building and before that the tabernacle for the children of Israel as their wilderness wandering. Well, we look at the Ark of the Covenant, what was it in the tabernacle and what was it in the temple of the time of Moses and Solomon. And what we see there is the temple represented the national identity of Israel. As we studied, for Israel to have a temple, it says, this is our national identity. God is temple is among us. Well, the Ark of the Covenant represents the presence of God because God dwells among the mercy seat.

And so when the temple was finished by Solomon, we read that the glory of the Lord filled that place. It was God literally coming and taking up his presence in the Holy of Holies there above the mercy seat. But we'll also read after many years of rebellion and disobedience where the people no longer saw the presence of God, all that they looked at was the temple of God. As Jeremiah would say, you're putting your trust in the temple that it can save you or protect you. You need to put your trust in the living God. [2 Chronicles 7:1-2 \(NKJV\)](#)¹ When Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the temple. ² And the priests could not enter the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD had filled the LORD's house.

And as it progressed its way through, what we would see is that there was a time where we read in the scriptures that the spirit of God departed from the temple. And we actually will never read again that the spirit of God returned to the temple, whether it was Solomon's Temple or the new temple that was built after the Babylonian exile or the great temple that was expanded by Herod. And so the spirit of the Lord departed and we never read it to return.

[Ezekiel 10:18 \(NKJV\)](#)¹⁸ Then the glory of the LORD departed from the threshold of the temple and stood over the cherubim.

Revelation 11:19 (NKJV)¹⁹ Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

The Ark of the Covenant in the Temple at the Time of Jesus

Well, the fourth one as we looked at was the temple in the time of Jesus.

Well, we're going to take a look at the Ark in the time of Jesus as well. And it's a fascinating study. Movies have been made out of it. I'm sure many people have watched and remember the Raiders of the Lost Ark. I myself don't. But it was a popular movie trying to find the Ark of the Covenant and he who found it would have the powers of the universe. And ever so fitting as man would be fascinated by these things, thinking there was some power in the actual box, but the power wasn't in the box. It was in the God who created the Ark of the Covenant and gave it for man.

So what we'll see in 2 Chronicles is the last mention of the Ark of the Covenant, that there was a time it actually wasn't in Solomon's Temple. It was taken out for various reasons. It's been conjectured that it was to protect it from being stolen and overrun by enemies. And King Josiah gives the command for it to come back in, which could only mean that it wasn't in there. But we truly don't know if it ever did get back in there. So the question always has to come is, well, where is the Ark? What happened to the Ark?

[2 Chronicles 35:1-3 \(NKJV\)](#)¹ Now Josiah kept a Passover to the LORD in Jerusalem, and they slaughtered the Passover lambs on the fourteenth day of the first month. ² And he set the priests in their duties and encouraged them for the service of the house of the LORD. ³ Then he said to the Levites who taught all Israel, who were holy to the LORD: "Put the holy ark in the house which Solomon the son of David, king of Israel, built. *It shall no longer be a burden on your shoulders. Now serve the LORD your God and His people Israel.*

And so a couple of the common thoughts on the matter is that when Nebuchadnezzar came in and destroyed the temple about 600 years before the time of Christ, that the Ark got destroyed when the temple got destroyed, but that's probably doubtful. One of the other positions is that they knew that the temple was going to get destroyed and faithful priests then and hid the Ark of the Covenant not wanting it to fall into the hands of Babylon. And some say that it's literally buried underneath the Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount right now.

And that's one of the reasons that the Dome of the rock is there because the Muslims don't want any archeological digging or excavation to go on because to find the Ark of the Covenant would then prove the scriptures and that Jerusalem belongs to the people of Israel. Interesting thought. And there's another common thought on the matter, and that is that the Ark of the Covenant is in Ethiopia and that through various conjectures, and I'll attach it into these notes of that the Ark was taken for protection, whether it was the period of the Babylonians or the Romans, which is more common position, that the Romans were going to come destroy the temple, which they did in 70 AD.

And then the Ark was moved out then and taken to Ethiopia and then it was still there today. And it's fascinating stories and documentaries. And I actually say I personally believe that the Ethiopians have something, but I don't believe it's the original. I think they probably have what was a copy that was made and how would they know that it wasn't the original? But there's a lot of strings that lead and tie together that there is something there that the Ethiopians have the Ark of the Covenant and they're waiting for the return of the Messiah to build his temple and then they would bring the Ark of the Covenant and present as a gift.

And they quote Isaiah 18 as one of their reasons behind that. But the Ark at the time of Jesus, we don't actually know. And I have three thoughts on the matter. If there was the Ark in the temple at the time of Jesus, one of the possibilities is that somehow miraculously it would have to be that the Ark of the Covenant survived the Babylonian destruction of the temple as it laid in ruins, as it would be destroyed, burnt to the ground, that somehow it was taken to Babylon and then later returned to the Jewish people when they return as we've studied with Ezra and rebuilt the temple and then would have the Holy of Holies and then the Ark of the Covenant would've put inside of it.

Well, the second one is my thought on the matter is that it was destroyed or it is buried or maybe even God could have raptured it away and taken it away so no man could lay their hands on it. Some believe that. But to me, it's not anywhere in the scriptures to confirm such a thing. But what's possible is it became a copy. And of course, that's what maybe the Ethiopians could have, just a copy and they wouldn't know. Then thirdly, there was no Ark of the Covenant in the Holy of Holies-

Covenant in the Holy Holies, and who else would know, but only one, the high priest, only the high priesthood could go into the Holy Holies once a year for the Day of Atonement. And it would be their secret. Only they would know that there was no Ark of the Covenant. But they wouldn't tell the people, so not to crush the people that the Ark of the Covenant has left. Because again, what does it represent? The presence of God. And I find three things that are fascinating to me for my application of life, and to share with you is, it could have super miraculously been preserved somehow, some way, and been put back into the temple during the time of Jesus. As much as I highly doubt that, I know there's a God who can do such things. He's the supernatural, miracle-working God. And that's why I have to say it's possible, because that's who He is and that's what He can do.

And therefore we have to evaluate it and go, "Yeah, it could have been." But secondly, that copy that could have been made, it's what religion does. Religion makes a copy of the original, but it's just a copy. It doesn't have the power, it's not the real thing. And yet man can follow religion over and over and over. It's powerless. There's no miracle in it. There's nothing that can change. But man says, "I can't have the original. It's too much work," or "What's needed to get the original is beyond what I'm willing to go the distance for. And so therefore I'll just make a copy, and I'll make a man-made religion, and that will suffice." And then thirdly, I think most probably, it was empty, and the only one who would know was the high priest. And it would just become their secret. And I think there's a place that every Christian needs to be on guard.

Every person needs to be on guard. There's a secret that only I know and nobody else knows. And I look like I have it all together. I go into the Holy of Holies, and everybody thinks I'm still holy. And I go behind the veil, and I go into this secret place. And only I know that it's not the real thing. And only I know that it's empty. But I keep putting on the face and the show because I don't know what else do. And God would be speaking in all these three to us. You can break open your heart and share your secret with me because I know, I know what's in your heart and I know what's in that emptiness. And I can bring you the

real thing if you're willing to go the route to get to the real thing. And we'll talk about that before we close here today.

Revelation 11:19 (NKJV)¹⁹ Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

The Ark of the Covenant in the Next Temple

Fifthly, we said, "Well what about this temple in the tribulation period?" So we have to ask the question, what about the Ark of the covenant in the tribulation period? Will they make a new Ark of the Covenant, will they get a copy or will the one that was a copy and is a copy, possibly, show up and be put in there? And it would be ever so fitting because what the temple is in the tribulation period, it's man's religion. It's not inspired by God, as we studied. God's not calling them to build this temple because God has destroyed the sacrificial system through the cross, that He became the final sacrifice, the Lamb of God who would take away the sin of the world. So this temple is going to be man-made.

The people of Israel will say, "See, our national identity has been restored." We said at the halfway point, the Antichrist, the instead of Christ will go in and say, "I am the Christ," and he will demand to be worshiped in there. And so we see, again, man's way. And that's why I could see easily the deception of a copy going in there to say, "Close enough." Because that's what religion does, "Let's just make a copy because we can't go the distance and get the real thing." Well, I think there's something that's greatly spoken here, and that is, this sends a message here in our study today in Revelation chapter 11, that it sends the message at the halfway point. Isn't that fascinating? It's the half way point. 22 chapters in this book of Revelation. Of course the chapter breaks are made by man, but it's pretty close when you count the verses, that this verse 19 here is almost at that halfway point. And it's interesting to me that the message is being sent that God is saying, "I am crushing, I am destroying.

I am sending the message of verse one and two of chapter 11. This temple is not the real thing." And this opening that we read into heaven to see the real Ark of the Covenant, God is sending the message, "This is where the real thing is. This is where the original and only now is. And I'm sending the message at the halfway point, don't put your trust into a false religious system. Don't put your trust into this man who comes and makes these promises. And I'm also saying, don't put your trust in this Ark of the Covenant that you see in this man-made temple, religious system, because the original is in heaven and heaven only. And I am bringing an end to man's government and man's ways and man's systems," as we have studied through this chapter 11, as He shakes the nations and makes the declaration that he will be the King and the only King. And as we said, and all the other kingdoms will fall until there's only one kingdom under God. And that was last week's study.

I find it interesting as Peter would quote this Psalm two, that the nations are becoming the kingdom of God and he will be punished for it. And we see the reference to it again here in chapter 11. And I just find it interesting, to me, that all these things that Peter says, "The nations will be judged, the nations will fall, God will reign. He's the one true living God," he gets threatened for it. And he doesn't say, "Hide me away, Lord." He doesn't say, "This is too much for me." He's talking about nations coming under the King of kings and the Lord of lords. And here's what he says, he asks and he prays, when you read this in Acts four, for boldness. He doesn't ask, "Tuck me away, keep me safe. Oh, the pressure's too much." He says, "Lord, give me boldness that I might preach in your name."

Psalm 2:1-3 (NKJV)¹ Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing? ² The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, ³

Acts 4:25-26 (NKJV)²⁵ who by the mouth of Your servant David have said: 'Why did the nations rage, And the people plot vain things? ²⁶ The kings of the earth took their stand, And the rulers were gathered together Against the LORD and against His Christ.'

Revelation 11:18 (NKJV)¹⁸ The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth."

Acts 4:29 (NKJV)²⁹ Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word,

And there's something for us as we look at this, that we have people who do not know that this is all coming and flowing towards the throne of God, towards this throne in heaven that we're looking at right here, at the middle of this book of Revelation. And we need boldness to say, "Lord, give me a heart and give me boldness to share your message, that you're coming, and your love and your power is available for them. Not just for salvation in heaven, but for victory in life today, over sin, over fear, over anxiety, over all the things that we can look and start getting fearful of this world and wondering where it's going to go and what's going to happen." Pray for boldness.

The father of lies is the devil. This rebuilt temple is from a lie. It's not inspired of the Lord. And therefore I think the Ark of the Covenant in there will be equally a lie. And the man who goes in, the Antichrist, will be the moment that he becomes filled with the dragon himself, the father of all lies. John 8. But I think there's a place as... I pondered Ephesians chapter four that we're told to not lie, but it says, speaking the truth-To not lie, but it says speaking the truth. And there's truths that each and every one of us need to remember because the world's throwing lies at us. The devil's throwing his lies, the father of all lies. Even our flesh will lie to us. And there's a truth that you need to hear today. Speaking from the original throne of heaven, when God said it's done, he meant that it's done. And the high priest who sits on that throne in heaven is your God and the truth that he speaks to you is that you're treasured. The truth that he speaks to you is that you're redeemed. The truth that he speaks to you is that you are his. The truth that he speaks to you, you have been made clean. He gives you the four "I wills" that we studied in Exodus chapter six verse six and seven, that I will take you as my own. These are the truths that he speaks. And these are the truths that the God of heaven wants you to know right now from his heart.

[John 8:44 \(NKJV\)](#)⁴⁴ You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it.

[Ephesians 4:25 \(NKJV\)](#)²⁵ Therefore, putting away lying, "*Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,*" for we are members of one another.

Revelation 11:19 (NKJV)¹⁹ Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

The Ark of the Covenant in the Millennial Temple

Number six, we said, well, what about the future temple, which is in the millennial kingdom, Ezekiel 40 through 48? Well, what about the arc of the covenant in that? Well, what we're told is there's no mention. Ezekiel 48, we read no mention of the arc of the covenant. In fact, Jeremiah chapter three verse 16 through 18 says we won't even remember the arc of a covenant, which is amazing to me. But here's something that's interesting that's been pondered and I can very well see. But maybe the mercy seat is, maybe the arc, the wood part with the tablets and the jar and the rod won't be there, the tablet's removed. But the mercy seat will actually be the throne of God for all of a 1,000 years because all of the millennial kingdom, everyone will always remember as we're called and brought to the time in Jerusalem; in the rebuilt temple, in the throne where Jesus is going to rule and we'll co-reign with him given jobs and assignment for a 1,000 years for his kingdom, his glory, and all under his power. And it will always be about mercy. And I just wonder if his throne will actually look just like that mercy seat.

[Jeremiah 3:16-17 \(NKJV\)](#)¹⁶ "*Then it shall come to pass, when you are multiplied and increased in the land in those days,*" says the LORD, "*that they will say no more, 'The ark of the covenant of the LORD.' It shall not come to mind, nor shall they remember it, nor shall they visit it, nor shall it be made anymore.*" ¹⁷ "*At that time Jerusalem shall be called The Throne of the LORD, and all the nations shall be gathered to it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem. No more shall they follow the dictates of their evil hearts.*"

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The Ark of the Covenant in the God's Personal Temple – You

Well, lastly, number seven, the arc... As we look at this and close out, when we looked at the temple, we talked about God's temple, which is you as Christ dwells in us and the beauty of that.

Thank you Jesus, thank you for doing this for me. Thank you for providing for me.

As we studied the mystery of Christ in us, the hope of glory, the mystery of godliness as he makes us into his image; I believe God speaks a message for us here in this chapter 11 verse 19, that he's speaking to all of us, I'm Christ in you and the hope of glory. It's signed, sealed, it's delivered, it's done on the cross. But I find it fascinating that in the middle of the tribulation, in the middle of the Book of Revelation, the revealing of all these things that we read, that this is literally the center of the book almost exactly.

I believe God is speaking to us as he says, "And the temple was opened in heaven." There's no veil that separates. God's opening and saying, "It's open house, come in." But I believe God is speaking a word to us, don't fix your eyes on anything that's on this earth because it's all going to be dispositioned, dispossessed. It's all going to be nothing. And for you to live victorious, to live peace, to live in power; fix your eyes upon heaven, fix your eyes to the throne that's immovable, to a mercy seat that covers all of your failings, covers all of your shortcomings. And see me seated there and see that I have this immovable throne that no matter what shakes on this earth, you can look out of this earth and look up and see me seated on my throne. And then he'll say in Hebrews four, "Boldly come to the throne of grace." So it's a throne of mercy called the Mercy Seat, but you'll never have mercy without grace and you can't have grace without mercy.

The two are Siamese twins together because it takes the same heart to give mercy as it is to give grace, and the same heart to give grace as it is to give mercy. And he said, "Boldly come to the throne of grace and you'll find help in the time of need." And it's ever so fitting because we talked about, well, who are these two witnesses that are going to be at this rebuilt temple in Jerusalem? As we looked at this chapter 11. And we saw the story of Moses and Elijah, Matthew 17, showing up and ministering to Jesus. Peter puts foot in mouth and says, "It's good we're here. Let's build three tabernacles." Heaven says, "Be quiet. This is my beloved son in whom I'm well pleased."

Matthew 17:3-8 (NKJV)³ And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. ⁴ Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵ While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" ⁶ And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them and said, "Arise, and do not be afraid." ⁸ When they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

But after it was all done and all the rumblings and all the talk and all the busyness, it's a beautiful verse there and it says, "And then they saw only Jesus." I think there's a lot of things going on in the world. There's a lot of things that can go on in the church. There's a lot of things that can go on in the world, but I think there's a place that when we can get through it all God says, "Just fix your eyes upon me." And then we too, like those Apostles, they saw only Jesus. And of course, fascinating enough, then they came down from the mountain and there was a boy demon possessed and Jesus had to minister to them. And I think there's a place when we fix our eyes on Jesus, then we can come back down into this world, that's a lost and hurting world, and minister to them.

And then just one last thought on that, some think that it's Enoch because it's appointed for men to die once. And you can ponder that on your own. But I just make the point of how beautiful it is when we read the Book of Jude speaking of Enoch, it says he's seventh from Adam. And you know what? I say that to mothers and fathers today, what a lineage that was passed down from Adam all the way to Enoch, that Enoch was still walking with the God that Adam met and Enoch walked with God and was not. And I believe he gets to behold the glory of the original and real temple that's in heaven.

Genesis 5:21-24 (NKJV)²¹ Enoch lived sixty-five years, and begot Methuselah. ²² After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters. ²³ So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. ²⁴ And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

Hebrews 11:5 (NKJV)⁵ By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, "and was not found, because God had taken him"; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

Jude 14 (NKJV)¹⁴ Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints,

And parents, may we not miss our place. We get to pass on this lineage of this gift that has been given to us, this word of God that we get to share with our kids and invest and pour out to them. And who knows what number they may be from us considering what number we may be from our lineage, but it's worth it

and it's doable when we fix our eyes upon Jesus and we get away from all the shakings of the world and get ourselves up into the heaven

Outline: The Ark of the Covenant in the Temple of God (Revelation 11:19)

- The Ark of the Covenant - What is It
- The Ark of the Covenant – What it isn't It
- The Ark of the Covenant in the Temple of Solomon
- The Ark of the Covenant in the Temple at the Time of Jesus
- The Ark of the Covenant in the Next Temple
- The Ark of the Covenant in the Millennial Temple
- The Ark of the Covenant in the God's Personal Temple – You

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need