

*"And The Philistines Took The Ark Of God, and brought it from Ebenezer unto Ashdod." 1 Samuel 5:1 KJV*



Satan has deceived himself into believing that he can actually do battle with God. He is also a coward. He thinks by pitting the object of God's love, man, against Him, he forces God to destroy what He loves. He should read the last chapter. *"The devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever."* When Jesus cried *"It is finished!"* it was! The Ark of God was behind the Temple Veil in the Holy of Holies; where God met with men. On the Mercy Seat, covering the Ark, lingered the Shekinah (Hebrew: shâkan (shaw-kan') reside, abide, inhabit) Glory of the Great I AM. It was approached once a year by the high priest with the blood of the sin offering. The Ark contained the Word of God, the stone tablets, the Work of God, Aaron's rod, and the Wonder of God, a bowl of

Manna. When the *"Lamb of God"* Shed His Blood on Golgotha's knoll for the sins of the world, *"behold, the Veil of the Temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom!"* Jesus is now the Portal between God and man Who Said, *"No man cometh unto the Father, but by Me. Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the Holiest by the Blood of Jesus. By A New And Living Way, Which He Hath Consecrated for us, through the Veil, that is to say, His Flesh; when He Had By Himself Purged our sins, Sat Down On The Right Hand Of The Majesty On High; And For This Cause He Is The Mediator Of The New Testament, for There Is One God, And One Mediator Between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus."* The Holy of Holies is, now, the Quickened spirit of every Blood-Washed believer!

Has sin and lust removed the Ark,  
From deep within your heart of hearts?  
And has the Truth been overcome,  
By Evil's minions been undone? –CGP

When the world is allowed access to our heart through lust and sin, it steals away the Word, Work, and Wonder of God from our soul and leaves us right where the Philistines left Israel; separated from our Deliverer. Israel did things backwards. Instead of taking the Ark with them into battle, they should have retreated to the Tabernacle, to entreat God for Mercy. They had already lost four thousand men! It was the "Place" God Inhabited, not the object. How often do we use a Bible as a talisman against evil instead of just staying by God's side? If God's Word is gone from your heart, your "Tabernacle" is empty. Israel lost another thirty thousand, because they took the Ark of God instead of retreating to the God of the Ark! Has your "Ark" been captured? The Ark bode no prosperity for the Philistines either. Their idols fell down and they all got sick. It's much the same with today's unbelievers. Instead of listening to God's Word and following it, they just try and get rid of it! Let's let the Shekinah Glory back into the Temple of our hearts! The Word of God Will Do The Work of God and restore to us the Wonder of God.

*"Seeing then that we have A Great High Priest, That Is Passed into the Heavens, Jesus the Son of God; let us hold fast our profession. 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. Let us therefore come boldly unto the Throne of Grace, that we may obtain Mercy, and find Grace to help in time of need."*  
Hebrews 4:14-16 KJV