

**The School of Biblical Law**  
Introduction to Law and Grace  
Lesson Eleven: “God’s Law in Three Tabernacles, Part II

The Scriptures record three tabernacles that were houses for God’s Presence and containers of His Law.

1. The first tabernacle was The Tabernacle of Moses, and the second was the Tabernacle of David. Each of these structures housed the Ark of the Covenant; and the following items were found inside the Ark: The Pot of Manna, The Rod of Aaron, and The Tablets of Testimony. The first tabernacle foreshadowed the Old Covenant believer, and the second spoke of the incarnate Christ.
2. The third tabernacle was Solomon’s Temple (I Kings 8).

Only the Law remained. “Thus all the work that Solomon made for the house of the LORD was finished . . . And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD unto his place, to the oracle of the house, into the most holy place, even under the wings of the cherubims. . . . And there it is unto this day. . . . There was nothing in the ark save the two tables which Moses put therein at Horeb, when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of Egypt” (II Chron. 5:1,7, 9, 10).

The Temple of Solomon is a type of the New Covenant believer or the Church.

The tabernacle was no longer a tent but was built from stone (I Peter 2:5).

It was erected upon Mt. Moriah (II Chron. 3:1), where Abraham’s promised son was offered as a sacrifice and received back in a figure of resurrection, thus foreshadowing the sacrifice of Christ, which laid the foundation for His church to be built (Gen. 22:6-14; Heb. 11:17-19).

The church is the final resting place for the Ark, or the church is the tabernacle that houses the manifest glory of the Lord.

- I Cor. 3:16, “Know ye not that ye are the temple and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”
- Dwelleth is the Greek word, *oikeo* (verb) from *oikos* (noun), meaning to occupy a house, inhabit, cohabit.
- John 1:14 says the Word became flesh and dwelt (*skenoo* – to tent) among us; but the word of choice for the Spirit dwelling in the church is *oikeo*. The Spirit dwells (*oikeo*) in you – Rom. 8:9; Christ dwells in (*katoikeo*) your hearts by faith – Eph. 3:17; God has said, I will dwell (*enoikeo*) in them.

3. Two things were removed from inside the Ark of the Covenant, but one item remained.

The Pot of Manna was removed because Christ was the true manna that came from heaven. Those who ate the manna in the wilderness died but those who eat of Christ shall live forever (Jn. 6:32-59).

Aaron’s budded rod testified to the priesthood under the first covenant, but Jesus is a priest after the order of Melchisedec (Heb. 5:1-10; 6:20; 7:1-28).

The Tablets of Testimony were not removed, which is a witness that the Law would continue to be pertinent to and would be found inside of the New Testament temple, which is the heart of the believer. The church is now the container of God’s Tablets of Testimony.