



# The Book Of Exodus

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## The Ark of Covenant

St. Mary Coptic Orthodox Church,  
East Brunswick, NJ. USA



# The Ark



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# Home made Ark



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# The Ark

- The only item in the Holy of Holies.
- Represents Christ's Body
- The Cover of the Ark represents God's throne where He used to appear with His glory to the High Priest (Shekeena)



# The Material

- Made of Acacia wood: Christ's humanity
- Covered with Gold: Christ's divinity
- They don't mix or mingle but together they make up the material of the ark.
- Even the inside is covered with Gold.

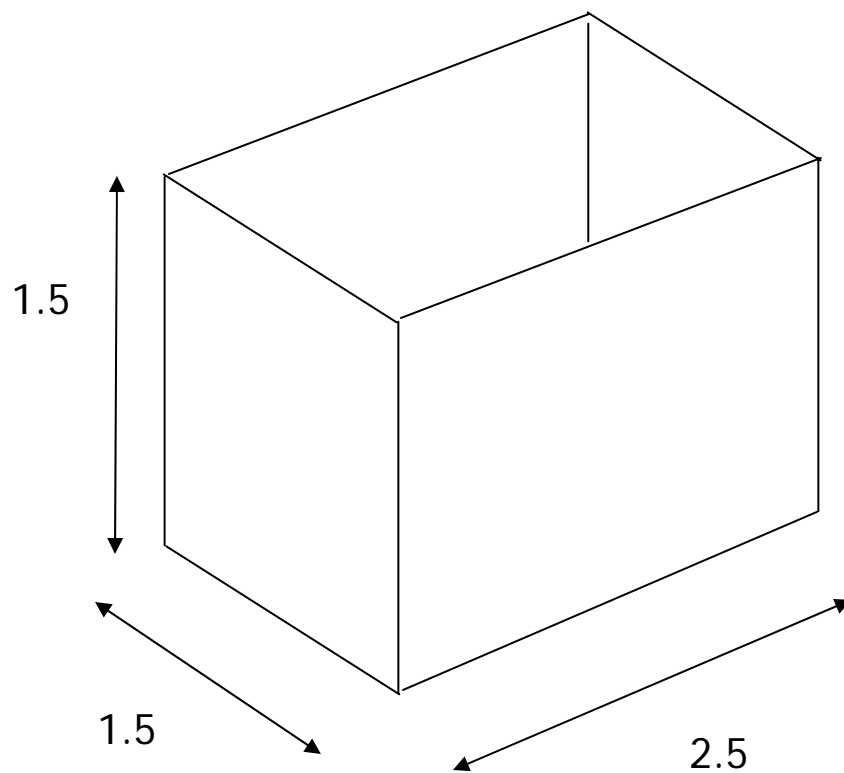


# The dimensions

- Exo 25:10 Two and a half cubits long and a cubit and a half wide and a cubit and a half high.
- 2 dimensions that are the same, the third is different.
- Christ is perfect (All His attributes are perfect and complete), He also became a Human (third dimension is different).



# The Shape



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# The dimensions

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- We find the following numbers:
  - $\frac{1}{2}$ : Ransom and endowment for the engagement with His blood
  - 1: God
  - 2: The humanity and 2<sup>nd</sup> person of the trinity.



# Crown at the top

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- The crown at the top represents Christ the King



# The rings and the staves

- The 4 golden rings:
  - Represent the 4 Gospels
- The Staves by which the Ark is carried so they would not die by touching it.
- The Staves are always on, to indicate the state of continuous transient and that we are always strangers in this world.
- They were taken out of their place when the ark was put in the temple.



# The Mercy Seat

- The cover of the ark of covenant
- Had the two Cherubims on the top
- Represents the throne of God.
- Made of Gold and no wood. Symbolizes Christ is His Glory
- The two Cherubims are made of Gold to represent the heavenly and the knowledge of God and not speaking about him.



# The Mercy Seat

- On the day of atonement, the high priest used to go inside and sprinkled blood of the mercy seat.
- This lid covered with blood was on top of the 10 commandments, as if the blood was asking for mercy for those who broke the commandments.



# Cherubim

- The first mention of the Cherubim were in paradise, when man was exiled from it.
- The Cherubim also glorifies the Lord for the salvation He gave to us. (Rev 4:9)
- They are witnesses to God's mercy to us.
- Also witnesses to the judgment we deserve for breaking the commandments



# Content of the Ark

- First it only included the 2 tablets of the commandment. Only Christ was perfect and kept the whole law
- Later the manna: Christ is the bread of life
- and Aaron's rod: represents humanity that was not fruitful until Christ was born without the work of a man.



# The Church and the Ark

- The commandment => The bible
- The manna => Christ's body
- Aaron's rod => The cross
- The Cherubim => The two candles



# It was beaten work (hammered)

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- The tabernacle was not