

Review Questions: Lesson 3

1. (a) What message was the Ark of the Covenant conveying to Israel? (b) What was kept in the Ark?

(a) The Ark of the Covenant was God's visible presence, His dwelling among His people. He was restoring paradise on earth. His proximity demanded that His people be pure and faithful.

(b) The Ark of the Covenant contained the stone tablets of the Ten Commandments, the staff of Aaron, and some of the miraculous manna that God promised as food to the Israelites in the wilderness.

2. What did God warn his people about when they requested a king?

God, through the prophet Samuel, warned Israel that the king would consume the nation's resources through heavy taxes for his own aggrandizement.

3. What incident taught David to properly reverence the Ark of the Covenant?

During the procession of the Ark of the Covenant, a layman named Uzzah tried to steady the Ark when the oxen transporting it stumbled. As soon as he touched it, he was struck dead. David suspended the procession after this happened.

4. What unique design and features of Solomon's Jerusalem Temple speak of God's presence?

The décor in Solomon's Temple displayed cosmic imagery, evoking the Garden of Eden. The Temple veil, the priestly vestments, the lampstand, all contained imagery that represented the universe. Like Eden, in the Temple stood two imposing cherubim. Worshippers sensed the presence of God who created, possessed, and sustained the universe. In the sanctuary, God's holiness was most evident. Only priests were allowed in the Holy of Holies.