**R853 Rumination for 30th May 2021 by K.C. Ung**

The **T**heme: **The Ark** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/)

The **T**ext: ***Make thee******an ark****…of gopher wood…of wood.* Gen. 6:14; Deut. 10:1The **T**hots:

1. **The Ark** - The name given to three vessels mentioned in the Bible
2. The Ark of **B**ulrushesin which was hidden **B**aby Moses. Exo. 2:3

*And when she could no longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes,*

*and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein;*

1. Noah’s Ark: in which Noah and his family and all animals on earth were saved **D**uring the **D**eluge.

Gen. 6:14, 18-20

1. The Ark of the **C**ovenant in which were the **T**wo **T**ablets of the **T**en **C**ommandments I Kgs. 8:9

With its **C**over of the Mercy Seat where God **C**ommunicated with His People. Exo. 25:21, 22

1. **Noah’s Ark – *“Make thee an Ark of gopher wood”***
2. The **C**ommand to Noah: ***Make thee an ark of gopher wood*** *–* Gen. 6:14
3. The **C**onnotation of the Ark –- Heb. *Tebâ* = a chest, a box Strong
4. The **C**overing - *pitch it within and without with pitch* Gen. 6:14
5. The **R**oot Word of *Pitch*is Heb. *kāpar =* from a root meaning to **Cover**… Strong

**F**igurative to expiate or **C**ondone, to placate or **C**ancel: - make (an) atonement, **C**leanse…

**F**orgive, be merciful, **P**acify, **P**ardon, **P**urge (away), **P**ut off, (make) reconcile (-liation).

1. Thus, the **A**rk **P**ointed to Jesus, our **S**aviour from the Judgment of **S**in, See #5a, b

And those in the Ark, **S**inners **S**aved and **C**leansed - “***C****overed*” (**A**toned, propitiated) **S**ymbolically

 by the blood of Jesus inside and outside!

1. The “**C**ontents” in the Ark:Gen. 6:18-20
2. **N**oah and his **P**rogenies:*thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives.* Gen. 6:18
3. The **N**amed Creatures in **P**airs: Gen. 6:19 *Of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark…male and female.*

*Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive.*

1. The **C**omparison with the Ark:
2. The Ark is a **S**ymbol of **S**alvation in ChristHeb. 11:7

*By* ***F****aith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with* ***F****ear,*

*prepared an ark to the saving of his house…and became heir of the righteousness which is by* ***F****aith.*

1. The Ark **S**heltered (***C****overed* = Atoned) those in it by the **S**hed Blood of **C**hrist. See #3 above.
2. The Ark **S**upported by the waters is a **S**ymbol of Water Baptism… I Pet. 3:20-22

The flood *waters…the like figure in baptism,* while it does not wash away our sins

(*the putting away of the filth of the flesh)*, itgives us *a good* ***C****onscience toward God*

in helping us make a **S**tand for **C**hrist and His **C**ause publicly.

1. Thus, while water baptism does not **S**ave – it is a **S**ign (*figure*) to **S**ignify one’s identification with Christ in His death (immer**sion)**, burial (submer**sion)** and *resurrection (*emer**sion**) cf. Rom 6:3-6
2. Baptism is *the answer of a good conscience toward God* to live a resurrected life in Jesus.
3. **The Ark of the Covenant – “*make thee an ark of wood”***
4. The **C**ommand - ***make thee an ark of wood.*** Deut. 10:1
5. The **C**onnotation: *Ark* is Heb*. ’arôn, the common name for a “chest” or “coffer.* Strong
6. The **C**onstruction of the Ark: *They shall make an ark of acacia wood* Exo. 25:10, *NKJV*

**F**oreshadowing the Humanity of Christ leading to His death on the wooden cross. Also #4

1. The **C**overings and the **Cr**own: *…thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, within and without.* Exo. 25:11

**F**igure of the Deity and Majesty of Christ.

1. The **C**over of the Ark: the Mercy Seat - *Thou shalt make a mercy seat of pure gold.* Exo 25:17-22

*“Mercy Seat”* is Propitiation (*hilaskomai*); an expiatory (place or thing), i.e. (concretely) an atoning victim, or (special) the lid of the Ark (in the Temple):- mercy seat, propitiationStrong

1. The **P**erson in the “**C**overing” of the Mercy Seat – Christ is our **P**ropitiation: Rom. 3:25; I Jn. 2:2; 4:10
2. *Whom God hath set forth to be a \*propitiation* [\*Heb. Mercy seat] *through faith in His blood,*

*to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.*

1. *He is the \*propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.*
2. *Herein is love....that He* [God] *loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*
3. The **P**lace of **C**ommunication at and above the Mercy Seat. Exo. 25:25

*And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat*

1. The **C**ontents**:**
2. *There was nothing in the ark save the two tables of stone, which Moses put there at Horeb.* I Kgs. 8:9
3. *The ark of the covenant…wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded,*

 *and the tables of the covenant.* Heb. 9:4

1. Symbolising Christ Who is the Bread of **L**ife, the Resurrection and the **L**ife

and the **O**nly Perfect **O**ne Who **O**beyed and fulfilled the **L**aw! Mt. 5:17

**Conclusion**: Noah was to Construct the Ark – the **P**icture of our **S**helter and **S**alvation in Christ from Judgment.

 Moses was to Construct the Ark – the **P**lace of our **P**ropitiation in Christ.

*Dear Father, to Thy mercy seat My soul for shelter flees;*

 *’Tis here, I find a safe retreat When storms and tempests rise.* Anne Steele

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK. R. 853**

1. There are many in the world today who reject the biblical record of the story of **Noah and the Ark** in the book of Genesis. Some treat it as myths and fiction. It is not the intention of this devotion to debate this topic.

However, for many who are interested, numerous questions with regard to its biblical authenticity and veracity have been answered by “**Answers in Genesis**” – an apologetics ministry, dedicated to helping Christians defend their faith and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ effectively.

[**https://answersingenesis.org/**](https://answersingenesis.org/)

Examples of some of these questions and their authoritative answers can be found in the following:

* What Did Noah’s Ark Look Like?

 <https://answersingenesis.org/noahs-ark/thinking-outside-the-box/>

* How Many People Built the Ark?

 <https://answersingenesis.org/noahs-ark/how-many-people-built-the-ark/>

* Could Noah’s Family Care for All the Animals?

 <https://answersingenesis.org/noahs-ark/caring-for-the-animals-on-the-ark/>

* Is Noah’s Ark a Myth?

 <https://answersingenesis.org/noahs-ark/is-noahs-ark-myth/>

* Gopher Wood: The Mystery of the Ark’s Timber

 <https://answersingenesis.org/noahs-ark/gopher-wood-mystery-arks-timber/>

* How could all the Animals Fit On the Ark?

 <https://answersingenesis.org/noahs-ark/how-could-all-animals-fit-ark/>

And many more questions and their answers related to our topic are discussed and debated authoritatively by Answers in Genesis.

Kindly check on their website as given here: [**https://answersingenesis.org/**](https://answersingenesis.org/)

Do you believe in the biblical record of Noah and the Ark?

The above authoritative answers are valuable in dispelling your doubts if you have any.

Read them and prepare yourself to give an answer for the stand you take:

1 Peter 3:15-17, NKJV – *Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.* **REFLECT**

1. What is the significance of the Ark of the Covenant for Christians today?

The Ark of the Covenant was the tangible sign of God’s Presence with and among His people, Israel, to keep them holy; the Provision for them in the Propitiation of their national and personal sins to have them Pardoned on Atonement Day and the Promises so contained in His Covenant with them as His Chosen people to Preserve them.

This Picture was a Pointer to the Lord Jesus Who Personally fulfilled all the Conditions associated with the Ark of the Covenant so that today with Him in our midst He is that “Ark of the Covenant” to us all with His Promises of His Personal Presence, Propitiatory Provision, and Protection on our Pilgrim journey to heaven. He is the Only Perfect One Who had fulfilled the Law, died and Rose again and is now the Bread of Life to Provide for us in all on our Pilgrim way. We need no more the physical Ark of the Covenant as we have Him now in our midst. **REFLECT.**

**Points To Ponder:**

*Are you Ready with an* ***A****nswer for your belief in the* ***A****rk?* I Pet. 3:15-17