

Kids' Chronicle

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1992 VOLUME 1, ISSUE NO. 3 BY CINDY BASSETT

A Church in the wilderness

"You have sinned by worshipping the golden bull," Moses told the Hebrews. "But, because you are sorry, I will ask God if he will still lead us to the Promised land."

The people prayed until they saw Moses coming back down Mount Sinai, carrying two stone tablets.

"Here are God's laws again," Moses said, pointing to the Ten Commandments. "God will guide us. But we must never associate with people who worship false gods or we will become just like them."

"God has given me a plan to build a special house of worship," Moses added.

"But if we build this house in the desert, what will we do when we travel?" Someone asked.

"God's house will be a Tabernacle — a huge tent we can pack up whenever we move on. Who is willing to help build the Tabernacle?" Moses asked.

"I'm a carpenter," one man offered. "We have weavers in our camp too. All of us have something to contribute."

Moses smiled. "Your gifts and talents must be freewill offerings. Give whatever you feel is right."

Some people returned with gold

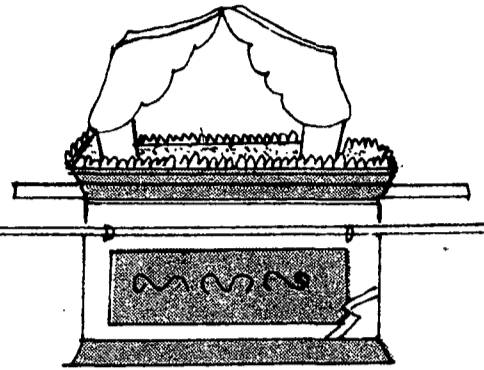
jewelry to be melted down. Others gave precious stones, and some offered their time to help with construction.

Moses was overwhelmed. "We have more than enough now! Tomorrow we will begin and work every day but the Sabbath."

The next morning, Moses explained all of the building details. While some made the large tent, others built the furniture, altars and fine articles that would be placed inside.

The most important item was the Ark of the Covenant because it symbolized the presence of God. Craftsmen constructed this chest with fine wood and overlaid it with gold.

Two angels with outspread wings faced each other on the lid. To carry the Ark, the men could put poles through rings on its corners.



Six months later, when the Tabernacle was finished, Moses placed the Ark of the Covenant in a room called the Most Holy Place.

Everyone stood in front and waited as Moses offered a prayer. Would God be pleased with their work?

A large cloud came down from the sky and settled over the top of the tent. Together with Moses, the people bowed their heads in thanksgiving.

The cloud never left their sight during the entire journey. At night, a pillar of fire glowed inside the cloud. Whenever the cloud moved, the people knew that God was guiding them on their travel. When it stopped, they camped in the desert and worshipped Him.

Read More About It: Exodus, Chapters 32:30; 34-40.

The Bible Times

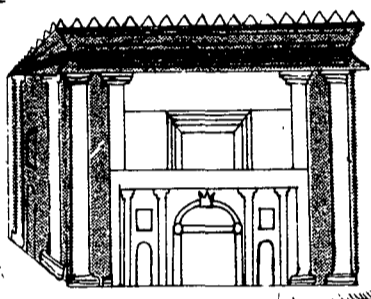
JERUSALEM, 957

B.C.— King Solomon today announced a national holiday to celebrate the official opening of the Temple. The event marks the first time in their history that the Hebrews will have a permanent house of worship.

The highlight of the celebration occurred when the priests carried the Ark of the Covenant into the Most Holy Place. This room was created to house the Ark, which the Hebrews carried with them for 40 years in the desert.

According to witnesses, a huge cloud came down from the sky as the Ark was put in the Most Holy Place. The cloud filled the entire building.

King Solomon said, "Today I have provided a fitting place for the Ark, which symbolizes the covenant that God made with our ancestors when he brought them out of Egypt to the Promised Land."



Q & A

1. What did God tell the people to be careful about as they continued their journey to the Promised land?

2. What talents do you have and how can you use them to serve God?

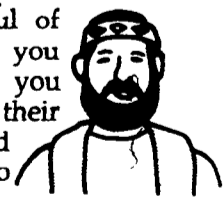
Talking to God

Dear God,
How can I ever thank you for all that you have given me?
"Praise the Lord! I will praise God all of my life."
Psalms 146:2

King Solomon's Wisdom

"Be careful of the friends you choose! For you may learn their habits and not be able to change!"

Proverbs 22:25



Essay winner

Congratulations to Karen A. Cringoli, age 10, a fifth-grader at St. Theodore's School, for winning the \$50 Savings Bond for the best essay in the January Kids' Club contest. Her essay appears below:

January question:
Would you have greater freedom if there were no laws?

"No, because people would not be protected and people would die through violence. Freedom is something we cherish, but laws are needed to help give us that freedom. Laws protect us and our belongings. Without sensible laws, our population would rapidly decrease because killing would increase. Drunk driving would rise. Laws are needed to guarantee and protect our freedom, contrary to taking our freedom. Our freedoms are so well stated in our country's Bill of Rights. With laws we will continue to have 'Liberty and justice for all!'"

TALENTS AND GIFTS

Everyone wanted to do something to help build God's house. The puzzle below lists some of the talents and gifts the people gave Moses. These words may run in any direction. Answers can be found on page 10A.

WOOD JEWELRY TIME GOLD LINEN SELF Y R L E W E J

Kids' Club

Your answer could win a \$50.00 Savings Bond!
How have your friends influenced you in your life?
Write your answer in 100 words or less. Include your name, home address, telephone number, school and grade. The winning essay will earn a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond (winner will be notified by phone) and be printed in the March 12, 1992, edition of Kids' Chronicle. Send your entry to: Cindy Bassett, c/o Catholic Courier, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624.
Deadline: February 28, 1992



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