

Religion

Hope
for
Tomorrow



We all need a Saviour

By **DOREEN PALMER**

A good teacher uses black-board illustrations to demonstrate the lesson being taught. God, in the same way, has illustrated New Testament truths by the use of Old Testament events. For example, there is a beautiful illustration of our need for a Saviour in the Old Testament!

Moses built an Ark which the people took with them wherever they went.¹ God's presence could be felt as people came near it, and His glory could be seen around it like a cloud. Inside this Ark, Moses placed "the Testimony,"² the tablets upon which God had written the 10 Commandments. Within the Ark he also placed some of the manna with which God had fed them, and also the rod of Aaron which represented God's power.

We know today that the three articles in the Ark represented the triune God of the Christian: the Law represented Father God, the Manna represented Jesus, and the Rod of Aaron the Holy Spirit. Our one God of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is the "testimony" of our Christian faith, a testimony locked inside the ancient Ark for many years before the birth of Jesus.

King Solomon placed the Ark of the Covenant in his temple at Jerusalem. Please note, however, that by this time the pot of Manna and the Rod of Aaron were no longer in the Ark; only the Law was there.³ Later, because he sinned in allowing foreign gods in his land, Solomon lost part of his kingdom. The removing of the Manna and Rod from the ancient Ark is symbolic of Solomon's sin in allowing other gods in his land. We, too, allow other gods than the triune God in our lives if we do not worship Jesus and His Spirit.

Just as the old Ark became lost in Solomon's time with only the Law, we too cannot save ourselves by merely keeping a set of laws. We can be saved only by Jesus' death and resurrection; nothing we can do can earn it! If we depend only on keeping the Law we revert to Judaism, and Jesus' death is all in vain!⁴

Jesus said that He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.⁵ He alone is the Way to heaven; He alone is the Truth; and only through Him is there eternal life! As the Ark of the Covenant disappeared entirely after the removal of the items representing Jesus and His Spirit, the Bible tells us that those who deny the risen Christ will not be saved!⁶

The story of the Ark of the Covenant shows us we need Jesus Christ and His resurrected Spirit as part of the Godhead (trinity) in order to be saved. We all need a 'Saviour'!

KJV - Ex 25:10-22; Ex 25:16; I Ki 8:9; Gal 2:21; Jn 14:6; Rom 10:9

(Doreen Palmer is a freelance writer and member of Halton Hills Outreach Faith Ministry, 877-4853. Correspondence welcome.)

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Morning has broken, like the first morning.
Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird.
Praise for the singing; Praise for the morning;
Praise for them springing - fresh from the Word.
Sweet the rains new fall, sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dew fall, on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness, on the wet garden
Sprung in completeness, where his feet pass.
The old day has passed away! The old way is gone! A new day has dawned!

Never again can we believe that the powers of evil will prevail! In that thunderous darkness of that Friday so many years ago, it must have seemed as if evil had triumphed. But Jesus is the victor because he never 'sold out!' He willingly gave his life rather than succumbing to the power of evil.

Never again can we believe in death as an overwhelming power! Death has always seemed like the enemy of life. But even death could not contain or subdue the person of Jesus! Even death is disarmed and life goes on—beyond death! Death is but a doorway to a new way of living.

Never again can we believe that God could abandon us—to the powers of evil and death!

Knowing our muddled ways, it has seemed as if God would eventually lose patience and give up on us.

But 'Can a woman forget her child...

Even these may forget

Yet I will not forget you.

Behold, I have carved you on the palms on my hands.' (Isaiah 49)

And so...the 'piece de resistance'...

Instead of abandoning us to the powers of evil and death, God has made a mockery of the powers of evil and outsmarted death itself!

Old assumptions evaporate. This is a new beginning. Joy and Hope abound and we are invited anew into the adventure of Life—restored, reconciled, re-created! A new day has dawned!

Mine is the sunlight; Mine is the morning,

Born of the one Light, Eden saw play.

Praise with elation; Praise every morning,

God's re-creation of the new day!

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Monte Carlo Night

Georgetown Knights of Columbus presents Monte Carlo Night on Friday, April 26, 7:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at Holy Cross Hall. Admission \$10 per person (\$5 play dollars and snack included) with all proceeds for disabled washroom and Birthright. For info and tickets call Bob Smith, 877-6325 or George 877-2697.

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Wed. 9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

7:00 p.m. Youth Group

Fri. 7:00 p.m. Youth Rec Night (Acton H.S.)

8:00 p.m. Youth Choir

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edge."
2 Peter 1:5