

## Hebrews 9:4

- A. ark: A chest, box, coffer, close basket, or similar receptacle; esp. a. in north. dial. a large wooden bin or hutch for storing meal, bread, fruit, etc. 2. *spec.* in *Jew. Hist.* The wooden coffer containing the tables of the law, kept in the Holiest Place of the Tabernacle. Also called Ark of the Covenant, Ark of Testimony.
- B. What men died for trying to look into (**ISAM 6:19**), we may look into by faith and perceive our need for Christ.
- C. There was a golden pot that had manna in it. c/w **EXO 16:32-36**.
1. The manna was a miraculous provision from God for their lives. **EXO 16:12-15**.
    - a. They were to eat what was on the ground the morning after quail covered the camp.
    - b. Faith is not entirely divorced from sense but must sometimes overrule it.
  2. The word “manna” means “what is this?”
  3. It was angels' food, the *bread of heaven*. **PSA 78:24-25; 105:40**.
  4. It normally putrefied when stored but did not so on the sabbath. **EXO 16:19-26**.
  5. The manna represented the faith of God to provide for needs.
  6. The manna ceased upon Israel's entrance into the promised land. **EXO 16:35**.
  7. The manna in the pot was a witness that was hidden.
  8. From all this we may be reminded that:
    - a. Christ is our miracle manna from God for eternal life. **JOH 6:48-51**.
    - b. Christ was/is a strange “what is this?” to men.  
**MAR 6:2; JOH 16:17-18; ACT 17:18-19**.
    - c. Christ is the life and sustenance of angels. **REV 5:11-14**.
    - d. our works putrefy outside of Christ our Sabbath.  
**ISA 64:6 c/w ROM 4:5; GAL 5:4; HEB 4:10**.
    - e. Christ is able to provide for every need. **JOH 1:16; PHIL 4:19**.
    - f. Christ is as *hidden manna* for overcomers. **REV 2:17**.
      - (1) We overcome now by faith. **1JO 5:4**.
      - (2) Our faith in the unseen Witness shall cease upon entrance into the heavenly Canaan. **HEB 11:1 c/w 1CO 13:12-13**.
- D. There was Aaron's rod that budded in it. c/w **NUM 17:1-13**.
1. Aaron's budded rod demonstrated life in spite of being cut off to die.
  2. It confirmed God's chosen high priest and so spoke of particular choice.
  3. It was a token against rebels who rejected God's ordained minister and rule.
  4. From these things we may be reminded that:
    - a. the Levitical priesthood would endure only until Christ.
      - (1) There was a succession of buds, blossoms and almonds on the rod.
      - (2) The flourishing of the almond tree is associated with waxing old and dying.  
**ECC 12:5**.
      - (3) The Law (which empowered the Levitical priesthood) waxed old and died with the coming of Christ with a superior priesthood.  
**GAL 3:19; HEB 8:13; 7:11-17**.
    - b. Christ is our *Branch* (**ZEC 6:12**) and the *rod of God's strength* (**PSA 110:2**) Who was “...cut off out of the land of the living” (**ISA 53:8**).
    - c. Christ was “...approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs...” (**ACT 2:22**).
    - d. Christ was declared to be the Son of God by His resurrection. **ROM 1:4**.
    - e. Christ's resurrection confirms Him as High Priest. **HEB 7:21-25**.
    - f. Christ's resurrection confirms Him as King and Ruler.

**PSA 2:1-9 c/w ACT 2:29-32; 13:32-34; REV 2:26-27.**

- g. Christ's resurrection is not just A sign to rebels; it is THE sign that should "...take away their murmurings from me, that they die not" (**NUM 17:10**).  
**MAT 12:39-40; ACT 2:36-40; 3:23-26.**
- h. Christ's resurrection was a fruit-bearing one. **JOH 12:23-24; 1CO 15:20.**
- i. God will make known whom He has approved in the church.  
**1CO 11:19; 2CO 10:18.**

E. There were the tables of the covenant in it. c/w **DEU 10:4-5.**

- 1. The Law was Israel's wisdom. **DEU 4:6.**
- 2. The Law spoke of human inadequacy, cursing and death. **GAL 3:10-12.**
- 3. The Law was under the mercy seat.
- 4. God dwelt where His rule was.
- 5. From these we may be reminded that:
  - a. in Christ are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. **COL 2:3.**
  - b. Christ is our mercy seat, our propitiation Who is set between God and His Law which condemns us (**ROM 3:25; 1JO 2:1-2; ROM 10:4**). That which makes the difference is not more law or new law, but mercy! **TIT 3:5.**
  - c. the Old Covenant of "do and live" had shortcomings but the New Covenant of "Christ did, you live" or "live and do" is of a different nature. **HEB 8:7-12.**
  - d. Christ still dwells where His rule is. **HEB 8:10-11; JOH 14:23; EPH 3:16-17.**
  - e. if we look into our hearts, Christ should be there and ruling. **1JO 3:19-21.**

F. Consider that each of the articles in the ark of the covenant spoke against God's people.

- 1. The Law's perfection condemned us in general. **GAL 3:10.**
- 2. The golden pot of manna was a witness of God's provision over against their murmurings to the contrary. **EXO 16:12.**
- 3. Aaron's budded rod was a witness against murmuring rebels who contested God's ordained ministry and rule over them. **NUM 16:11.**
- 4. The mercy seat covered all.
  - a. The same Greek word (*hilasterion*, SRN G2435) translated "mercyseat" (**HEB 9:5**) is also translated "propitiation" (**ROM 3:25**).
  - b. Christ covers all of our inadequacy, murmuring, doubt and rebellion.  
**HEB 8:12; COL 2:13.**