

Elder Vernon Johnson

Numbers

Two

Two Golden Cherubims

Ex. 25:18 "And thou shalt make two cherubims of gold, of beaten work shalt thou make them, in the two ends of the mercy seat. 19 And make one cherub on the one end, and the other cherub on the other end: even of the mercy seat shall ye make the cherubims on the two ends thereof. 20 And the cherubims shall stretch forth their wings on high, covering the mercy seat with their wings, and their faces shall look one to another; toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubims be. 21 And thou shalt put the mercy seat above upon the ark; and in the ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee. 22 And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel."

Within the most holy place in the tabernacle there was the ark of the covenant, the mercy seat and the two golden cherubims. The mercy seat was situated on top of the ark of the covenant and its dimensions of length and width were the exact same dimensions as the ark of the covenant. Once a year the blood of the lamb was carried by the High Priest and sprinkled on the mercy seat. Furthermore, God had promised to meet with and commune with the representative of the people from above the mercy seat.

The ark of the covenant contained the two tables of testimony, Aaron's rod that budded, and the bowl of manna. These were all placed in the ark of the covenant for safe keeping. The ark of the covenant was a type of Jesus Christ. It was he that ate of "every word that cometh forth from the mouth of God (manna)." It was he that kept the law to a jot and a tittle (two tables of testimony). He, like Aaron's rod that budded, showed forth life from the dead in his resurrection.

The mercy seat was situated exactly above the ark of the covenant. This testifies to us that God's mercy toward us is directly related to Christ's covenant work and sacrifice. It is through God's mercy and Christ's (the lamb of God) sacrificial atonement that God communes and meets with us through our mediator (Jesus Christ).

The two cherubims were situated on either end of the mercy seat, with their wings spread the complete length of the tabernacle. Their inward wings met in the middle of the tabernacle above the mercy seat. These two cherubims had their faces inward toward the mercy seat and ark of the covenant. They were witnesses of the ark of the covenant, the sacrificial atonement, and of God's mercy toward his people. One was testifying on one side of the ark and the other was testifying on the other side of the ark.

These two cherubims are typical of the Old Testament scriptures and the New Testament scriptures. The Old Testament testified of what Christ was going to do when he came and the New Testament testified of what Christ did when he came. Their faces were inward.