

Heaven

March 16, 2008

"In my Father's house are many dwelling places... I go to prepare a place for

Volume 1, No. 3

Carrying the Ark of Covenant

Charlestown Road Church of Christ

4601 Charlestown Rd.
New Albany, IN 47150
812-945-0664

Web site:
www.Truth-search.org

Our Services

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 am
Worship: 10:20 am
Evening: 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

Our Preachers:

Roger Shouse 816-260-1257
Patrick Cawthon 813-817-2810

Our Elders:

Larry Beckham 502-777-7720



It was a fairly small wooden box—a little longer than a yard stick and less than two and a half feet tall and wide. One person could easily carry it. It was smaller than many of the plastic tubs we have in our garages and basements. And you couldn't put near as much in this wooden box as you could our tubs. It was overlaid with gold which would make it beautiful and heavy. But it wasn't the outside of the box that was important. It was what this golden box carried that was significant. It was the Ark of the Covenant. It was designed by God and built by skilled craftsmen. It held reminders of God's law, providence, and promises: the stone tablets, Aaron's staff and a bowl of manna. The ark would be housed in the Tabernacle and later in the Holy of Holies within the Temple. The ark was the first to enter the promise land as the nation followed it.

One of the great lessons about the ark that isn't mentioned much is the way it was transported as Israel journeyed throughout the wilderness for forty years. God ordered that wooden poles overlaid with gold would be used by priests to carry the ark. This was a solemn and sacred duty. The names of the men who fulfilled this duty are not given to us. But their example is ever before us. Those priests of old had the honor and special privilege of carrying the divine emblems of God. How

important their job was. How serious they must have taken it. Can you imagine being one of four people who are carrying the golden ark before all the nation?

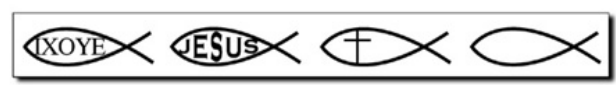


And what about us? Before the people of God we stand to proclaim his word in sermons and classes. We pass the divine emblems that represent His Son's body and blood. We bow and lead the people of God in prayer. Our duties are just as sacred as carrying the ark. What an honor and what a privilege it is us to be used by the Lord to serve His people.

May we have the same seriousness, care and devotion to all the tasks we do—whether passing out a bulletin, leading singing, teaching a class, encouraging a struggling saint, cutting the grass, cleaning the building, preparing the Lord's Supper, sending a card, or inviting a neighbor. What an honor to be used by God! Give it some thought before you serve. Say a prayer. Then do your best, remembering the privilege it is to work for the Lord!

"Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men" (Col 3:23)

Ichthus



You have seen the sticker or metal images of a fish on cars. Sometimes the word "Jesus" is inside the fish. Other times, it is the strange letters, "IXOYE." This is called "**Ichthus**", the Greek word for fish.

This symbol was first used in Alexandria, Egypt in the Second Century. Alexandria was a heavily populated seaport. This symbol became associated exclusively with Christians. The fish represents the Christ who multiplied the fish to feed the multitudes. A simple reminder of a powerful miracle and a loving Savior. During a time of persecution, drawings of this fish on walls and in caves encouraged brethren that they were not alone. Often one Christian would draw the simple outline of the fish and later on, another Christian would fill in the letters.

The five Greek letters (Iota, Chi, Theta, Upsilon, Sigma) stand for: **I**esous (Jesus) **X**ristos (Christ) **O**eos (God's) **Y**ios (Son) **E**oter (Savior). In other words, **Jesus Christ- God's Son -Savior.**

It helps knowing that we are not alone. It is good to have reminders. When the world around us is falling apart remember: **Jesus Christ- God's Son- Savior.** A simple drawing. Five simple words. A faith that will not be destroyed!

One ship drives east and another drives west
With the selfsame winds that blow.
'Tis the set of the sails
And not the gales
Which tells us the way to go.
Like the winds of the sea are the ways of fate,
As we voyage along through life:
'Tis the set of the soul
That decides its goal,
And not the calm or the strife.



-Ella Wheeler Wilcox

Family Connections



News for You

- **Patrick Cawthon** will be preaching this evening (if he gets feeling better)
- **Lee Quinn** is still an elder. Last week's bulletin accidentally left Lee's name off. Don't panic—he's still at the helm. Sorry about that Lee!
- Joint preaching next Sunday morning. Next week, **Roger** and **Patrick** will combine to preach a lesson about the resurrection. Rest assured, it will not be "doubly" long!
- This time of year many congregations have **gospel meetings**. Taking a evening to go can be so good for you and it is such an encouragement to others. Take someone with you and make it a great evening!

For your Prayers:

- **Elaine Gabhart** had minor surgery last week. She's home and doing well.
- The mother of **Benita Spalding** had eye surgery last week.
- **Carley Lile** will be going to Children's Hospital in Cincinnati this week.
- **Randy & Jean Wolfe** have been ill
- Several **couples are planning to get married** in the next few months. Pray for their marriages.
- There are several ladies who are **expecting babies**. Pray for healthy babies!
- There are those who are **struggling with family problems**. Pray for strong marriages, great relationships, grace, forgiveness and Christ in our hearts, homes and lives.

Group 9 meets after morning services @ Corley's home

Don't Forget: Our Gospel Meeting is coming soon

- **April 13-16**
- **David Thomley, Brentwood, TN**

