

Indiana Jones vs the Bible: Location of the Ark



D) Location of the Ark

Quiz – Select the location where you believe the Ark of the Covenant could be at:

- Locked away in a government warehouse
- In Africa
- In Egypt (Tunis)
- Mt Nebo
- In a cave under Golgotha
- In Heaven

Could you answer the question of where the Ark of the Covenant is by reading the bible? Maybe, not all bibles would be able to answer this question.

It has been claimed that the Ark of the Covenant was taken to Africa however it has never been shown.

Modern day location claim in Africa:

“The [Ethiopian Orthodox Church](#) claims to possess the Ark of the Covenant or *tabot* in [Axum](#). The object is now kept under guard in a treasury near the [Church of Our Lady Mary of Zion](#)” (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ark_of_the_Covenant)



It has been shown in the movies, Indiana Jones, that it was in the Egyptian town of Tunis and later put into a government warehouse.

Another claim is that it's in a cave under Golgotha, where Jesus was crucified, and when Jesus bleed while on the cross the blood dropped on the ground and went into a crack that went into the cave. Jesus' blood then fell onto the Ark.

Another couple of choices is Mt Nebo and Heaven.

II) Chain of Custody

One needs to find the chain of custody of the Ark to find where the Ark is presently and the Bible tell who had control of the Ark

** (have another person look up in the Bible and read the following verses) **

Joshua 3:14-16 Joshua brings the Ark into the promised land

1 Samuel 4:10-11 & 1 Samuel 5:1-2 The Ark was taken by the Philistines

1 Samuel 6:15 The Ark was returned to the Israelites by the Philistines

1 Samuel 7:1-2 The Ark was moved to Kiriathjearim for 20 years

2 Samuel 6:3-10 King David moves the Ark to Obededom's house

2 Samuel 6:16 King David brings the Ark to the city of David

1 Kings 8:1 King Solomon brings the Ark to Jerusalem

2 Kings 25:9-10 Babylonians burnt house of the Lord, Kings house, all houses of Jerusalem, broke down the walls of Jerusalem

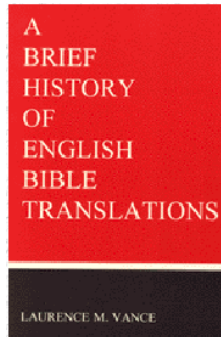
Was the Ark in Jerusalem when the Babylonians burnt the Temple?

2 Kings 24:13 gives a description of what the Babylonians brought back to Babylon and the Ark is not listed in the inventory. **Where did the Ark disappear to?**

All Bibles tell the final location of the Ark but not all Bibles tell where the Ark was taken to. To understand why, you need to know a few things of how your Bible got to where it is today.

In the book: **A Brief history of English Bible Translations by Laurence Vance**

The 1611 King James Bible contained 3 sections: the Old Testament, apocrypha and the New Testament. The 1611 Bible was written in old English and by the late 1800s the English language had changed and a committee was commissioned to update the language.



On June 22, 1870 the revamping of the New Testament began and was completed in 11 years. It was published in its entirety on May 17, 1881 in the newspaper (don't ever expect that to happen nowadays!!)

On June 30, 1870 the revamping of the Old Testament began and was completed 15 years later. It was published in its entirety on May 19, 1885.

At this time the old and new testaments were published in one book.

In 1894 the Apocrypha (time between the old and new testament) was completed however the Apocrypha wasn't included in the old and new testament bible that had been printed since 1885.

Some Bibles have the Apocrypha. The Roman Catholic Bible, New American Bible, contains most of the Apocrypha.

The Apocrypha tells where the Ark was taken. The passage which tells of the place is: 2 Maccabees 2:4-7 This tells that the tent that was used to house the Ark from Moses time to King Solomon, the Ark and the Alter of Incense was taken to the Mountain where Moses overlooked the promise land and placed into a cave. The cave location was to be hidden until the coming of Jesus.

Apocrypha: 2 Maccabees 2:4-7

4: It was also contained in the same writing, that the prophet, being warned of God, commanded the tabernacle and the ark to go with him, as he went forth **into the mountain, where Moses climbed up, and saw the heritage of God.**

5: And when Jeremy came thither, he found an hollow cave, wherein he laid the tabernacle, and the ark, and the altar of incense, and so stopped the door.

6: And some of those that followed him came to mark the way, but they could not find it.

7: Which when Jeremy perceived, he blamed them, saying, As for that place, it shall be unknown until the time that God gather his people again together, and receive them unto mercy.

Deuteronomy 34:1 tells the location where Moses overlooked the promise land

KJV Deuteronomy 34:1 And Moses went up from the plains of Moab unto the **mountain of Nebo**, to the top of Pisgah, that is over against Jericho. And the Lord shewed him all the land of Gilead, unto Dan,

Make up Quiz –

Select the location where you believe the Ark of the Covenant could be located at now with the above information:

- Locked away in a government warehouse
- In Africa
- In Egypt
- Mt Nebo
- In a cave under Golgotha
- In Heaven

If you selected Mt Nebo you incorrectly since in the Book of Revelations 11:19 describes where the Ark could be located at right now:

RSV Revelation 11:19 **Then God's temple in heaven** was opened, and the **ark of his covenant was seen within his temple**; and there were flashes of lightning, voices, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail

Make up Quiz –

Select the location where you believe the Ark of the Covenant could be located at now with the above information:

- Locked away in a government warehouse
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If you selected In Heaven then you selected incorrectly since the true answer is: **no one knows**. This is because we know it was taken to Mt Nebo and we know it will eventually reside in Heaven but it will also a point in time be taken into Heaven – it could be in the air right now on its way to Heaven. When would this event happen? I would suspect before the earth changes of the book of Revelation occurs that will (I suspect) destroy the cave where Jeremiah placed the Ark. How far along we are to that time is anyone's guess.

III) One true factoid of Indiana Jones

At the end of the movie, the Germans, looked inside of the Ark and were soon destroyed.



A destruction event similar to this occurred in the Bible. In 1 Samuel 6:19 50,070 Bethshemesh Israelite men were killed when they looked inside the Ark after the Philistines sent the Ark back. The Philistines had captured the Ark briefly.

KJV 1 Samuel 6:19 And he smote the men of Bethshemesh, because they had looked into the ark of the Lord, even he smote of the people **fifty thousand and threescore and ten men**: and the people lamented, because the Lord had smitten many of the people with a great slaughter.

1 Samuel 5:1-12 shows what happens to those non-Israelites who had possession of the Ark. Plagues and cancer broke out on the Philistines in such a large amount that they feared the Ark and quickly sent it back to the Israelites after 7 months. This would be similar to Germany losing the war (from the Indiana Jones movie).



IV) Where are the Temple Treasures?

What are the Temple Treasures? And where did they go? Look up each reference to see where they went.

1 Kings 7:51 King David and King Solomon's Gold and Silver

1 Kings 14:25-26 Some treasures go to Egypt

1 Kings 15:18 Some treasures go to Syria

2 Kings 12:18 Some more treasures go to Syria

2 Kings 14:13-14 The House of Israel gets some of the treasures

2 Kings 16:7-8 Some treasures go to Assyria

2 Kings 18:11-16 Assyria carries off Israel into captivity (along with treasures)

2 Kings 24:13 Babylon carries away House of Judah and treasures to Babylon

Babylon also took control of Assyria, Syria and Egypt so the logical deduction is that the treasures taken from Jerusalem by Assyria, Syria, Egypt and the House of Israel ended up in Babylon.

Ezra 6:5 King Cyrus of Persia overthrew Babylon and gained control of the temple treasures. King Cyrus made a decree to move all the treasures of the temple from Babylon to Jerusalem.

The treasures were placed back into the rebuilt temple until 70 AD when Titus came and sacked Jerusalem and in the process the temple was burnt down. The Gold and Silver in

the temple was melted and flowed into the cracks in the rocks. The Romans pulled up the stones to get to the Gold. This fulfilled the prophecy of Jesus in Matthew 24:2

KJV Matthew 24:2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, **There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.**

Not all the temple treasures were melted. In Josephus it mentions some of the treasures that was given to Titus which was preserved by the temple priests

From the Book “The New Complete Works of Josephus”
Josephus was a First-Century Jew who was a diplomat, general and historian

Josephus War Book 6 Chapter 8

3. But now at this time it was that one of the priests, the son of Thebuthus, whose name was Jesus, upon his having security given him, by the oath of Caesar, that he should be preserved, upon condition that he should deliver to him certain of the precious things that had been **reposit in the temple** (29) came out of it, and delivered him from the wall of the holy house two candlesticks, like to those that lay in the holy house, with tables, and cisterns, and vials, all made of solid gold, and very heavy. He also delivered to him the veils and the garments, with the precious stones, and a great number of other precious vessels that belonged to their sacred worship. The treasurer of the temple also, whose name was Phineas, was seized on, and showed Titus the coats and girdles of the priests, with a great quantity of purple and scarlet, which were there reposit for the uses of the veil, as also a great deal of cinnamon and cassia, with a large quantity of other sweet spices, (30) which used to be mixed together, and offered as incense to God every day. A great many other treasures were also delivered to him, with sacred ornaments of the temple not a few; which things thus delivered to Titus obtained of him for this man the same pardon that he had allowed to such as deserted of their own accord.

Josephus War Book 6 Chapter 1

1. AND now the Romans, upon the flight of the seditious into the city, and upon the burning of the holy house itself, and of all the buildings round about it, brought their ensigns to the temple (24) and set them over against its eastern gate; and there did they offer sacrifices to them, and there did they make Titus emperor (25) with the greatest acclamations of joy. And now all the soldiers had such vast quantities of the spoils which they had gotten by plunder, that in Syria a pound weight of gold was sold for half its former value.

An interesting article that I saw a decade ago tells what happened to the temple stones.. they were brought back to Rome to build the Coliseum. The empire of Rome eventually morphed in the Roman Catholic Church so by a chain of custody the Temple items that Titus received are now in possession by the Roman Catholic Church. The treasures are in the VATICAN possessions!!!

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/1311985/Colosseum-built-with-loot-from-sack-of-Jerusalem-temple.html>

The Telegraph

Colosseum 'built with loot from sack of Jerusalem temple'

By Bruce Johnston in Rome
12:00AM BST 15 Jun 2001

THE Colosseum, the huge Roman amphitheatre used for animal shows and gladiatorial combat, was built with the spoils of the sack of the Jewish temple in Jerusalem, a new archaeological find suggests.

A recently deciphered inscription was made public yesterday as organisers prepared for an exhibition on the monument, opening next week. A feature of the show is a large, altar-like stone with a chiselled Latin inscription, which tells how a senator, Lampadius, had the Colosseum restored in AD 443.

But holes still visible in the surface clearly corresponded to different lettering, this time in bronze, which had been previously fitted into the stone. After a long study, Prof Geza Alföldy of Heidelberg University, working with Italian archaeologists, deciphered the puzzle. He concluding that the original inscription read: "Imp. T. Caes. Vespasianus Aug. Amphitheatrum Novum Ex Manubis Fieri Iussit."

The translation is: "The Emperor Caesar Vespasian Augustus had this new amphitheatre erected with the spoils of war. There is no doubt what war this was, the sack of Jerusalem," said Cinzia Conti, the director of surface restoration at the Colosseum, yesterday.

Ms Conti said the Emperor Titus inaugurated the Colosseum in AD 80 with 100 days of festivities, but his father, Vespasian, had first opened it in AD 79, shortly before he died, when it was still unfinished. The original bronze lettering on the stone altar would have been made for the original opening.

The sack of Jerusalem occurred in Vespasian's reign in AD 70, when a revolt by the Jews was crushed and Jerusalem was captured by Titus. The temple was destroyed and a million people were said to have died in the siege. The Arch of Titus, at the end of the Roman Forum nearest to the Colosseum, commemorates the victory, and bas-reliefs show Roman soldiers making off with booty from the temple.

Two years after the sack of Jerusalem, in AD 72, work on the Colosseum, officially known as the Flavian Amphitheatre, began.

Location of the Temple Treasures



Regards,

Called/Chosen + Hear + Believe + Repent + Confess + Baptize + Abide = Salvation -> Proclaim
Mt22:14 + Lk11:28 + Jn3:16 + Mk6:12 + Rm10:9 + Acts2:38 + Heb10:26 = 1 Pt 3:21 -> Mt28:19-20

Reference Verses

KJV Joshua 3:14-16

14 And it came to pass, when the people removed from their tents, to pass over Jordan, and the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people;

15 And as they that bare the ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bare the ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (for Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest.)

16 That the waters which came down from above stood and rose up upon an heap very far from the city Adam, that is beside Zaretan: and those that came down toward the sea of the plain, even the salt sea, failed, and were cut off: and the people passed over right against Jericho.

KJV 1 Samuel 4:10-11

10 And the Philistines fought, and Israel was smitten, and they fled every man into his tent: and there was a very great slaughter; for there fell of Israel thirty thousand footmen.

11 And the ark of God was taken; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were slain.

KJV 1 Samuel 5:1-2

1 And the Philistines took the ark of God, and brought it from Ebenezer unto Ashdod.

2 When the Philistines took the ark of God, they brought it into the house of Dagon, and set it by Dagon.

KJV 1 Samuel 6:15 And the Levites took down the ark of the Lord, and the coffer that was with it, wherein the jewels of gold were, and put them on the great stone: and the men of Bethshemesh offered burnt offerings and sacrificed sacrifices the same day unto the Lord.

KJV 1 Samuel 7:1-2

1 And the men of Kirjathjearim came, and fetched up the ark of the Lord, and brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the ark of the Lord.

2 And it came to pass, while the ark abode in Kirjathjearim, that the time was long; for it was twenty years: and all the house of Israel lamented after the Lord.

KJV 2 Samuel 6:3-10

3 And they set the ark of God upon a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab that was in Gibeah: and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drove the new cart.

4 And they brought it out of the house of Abinadab which was at Gibeah, accompanying the ark of God: and Ahio went before the ark. 5 And David and all the house of Israel played before the Lord on all manner of instruments made of fir wood, even on harps, and on psalteries, and on timbrels, and on cornets, and on cymbals.

6 And when they came to Nachon's threshingfloor, Uzzah put forth his hand to the ark of God, and took hold of it; for the oxen shook it.

7 And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his error; and there he died by the ark of God.

8 And David was displeased, because the Lord had made a breach upon Uzzah: and he called the name of the place Perezuzzah to this day.

9 And David was afraid of the Lord that day, and said, How shall the ark of the Lord come to me?

10 So David would not remove the ark of the Lord unto him into the city of David: but David carried it aside into the house of Obededom the Gittite.

KJV 2 Samuel 6:16 And as the ark of the Lord came into the city of David, Michal Saul's daughter looked through a window, and saw king David leaping and dancing before the Lord; and she despised him in her heart.

KJV 1 Kings 8:1 Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, and all the heads of the tribes, the chief of the fathers of the children of Israel, unto king Solomon in Jerusalem, that they might bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David, which is Zion.

KJV 2 Kings 25:8-10

8 And in the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month, which is the nineteenth year of king Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, came Nebuzaradan, captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, unto Jerusalem:

9 And he burnt the house of the Lord, and the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem, and every great man's house burnt he with fire.

10 And all the army of the Chaldees, that were with the captain of the guard, brake down the walls of Jerusalem round about.

KJV 2 Kings 24:13 And he carried out thence all the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king's house, and cut in pieces all the vessels of gold which Solomon king of Israel had made in the temple of the Lord, as the Lord had said.

RSV 1 Samuel 5:1-12

1 WHEN THE Philistines captured the ark of God, they carried it from Ebenezer to Ashdod;

2 then the Philistines took the ark of God and brought it into the house of Dagon and set it up beside Dagon.

3 And when the people of Ashdod rose early the next day, behold, Dagon had fallen face downward on the ground before the ark of the Lord. So they took Dagon and put him back in his place.

4 But when they rose early on the next morning, behold, Dagon had fallen face downward on the ground before the ark of the Lord, and the head of Dagon and both his hands were lying cut off upon the threshold; only the trunk of Dagon was left to him.
5 This is why the priests of Dagon and all who enter the house of Dagon do not tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod to this day.
6 The hand of the Lord was heavy upon the people of Ashdod, and he terrified and afflicted them with tumors, both Ashdod and its territory.
7 And when the men of Ashdod saw how things were, they said, "The ark of the God of Israel must not remain with us; for his hand is heavy upon us and upon Dagon our god."
8 So they sent and gathered together all the lords of the Philistines, and said, "What shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel?" They answered, "Let the ark of the God of Israel be brought around to Gath." So they brought the ark of the God of Israel there.
9 But after they had brought it around, the hand of the Lord was against the city, causing a very great panic, and he afflicted the men of the city, both young and old, so that tumors broke out upon them.
10 So they sent the ark of God to Ekron. But when the ark of God came to Ekron, the people of Ekron cried out, "They have brought around to us the ark of the God of Israel to slay us and our people."
11 They sent therefore and gathered together all the lords of the Philistines, and said, "Send away the ark of the God of Israel, and let it return to its own place, that it may not slay us and our people." For there was a deathly panic throughout the whole city. The hand of God was very heavy there;
12 the men who did not die were stricken with tumors, and the cry of the city went up to heaven.

RSV 1 Kings 7:51 Thus all the work that King Solomon did on the house of the Lord was finished. And Solomon brought in the things which David his father had dedicated, the silver, the gold, and the vessels, and stored them in the treasuries of the house of the Lord.

RSV 1 Kings 14:25-26

25 In the fifth year of King Rehoboam, Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem;
26 he took away the treasures of the house of the Lord and the treasures of the king's house; he took away everything. He also took away all the shields of gold which Solomon had made;

RSV 1 Kings 15:18 Then Asa took all the silver and the gold that were left in the treasures of the house of the Lord and the treasures of the king's house, and gave them into the hands of his servants; and King Asa sent them to Ben-hadad the son of Tabrimmon, the son of Hezi-on, king of Syria, who dwelt in Damascus, saying,

RSV 2 Kings 12:18 Jehoash king of Judah took all the votive gifts that Jehoshaphat and Jehoram and Ahaziah, his fathers, the kings of Judah, had dedicated, and his own votive gifts, and all the gold that was found in the treasuries of the house of the Lord and of the king's house, and sent these to Hazael king of Syria. Then Hazael went away from Jerusalem.

RSV 2 Kings 14:13-14

13 And Jehoash king of Israel captured Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Jehoash, son of Ahaziah, at Beth-shemesh, and came to Jerusalem, and broke down the wall of Jerusalem for four hundred cubits, from the Ephraim Gate to the Corner Gate.
14 And he seized all the gold and silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of the Lord and in the treasuries of the king's house, also hostages, and he returned to Samaria.

RSV 2 Kings 16:7-8

7 So Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, saying, "I am your servant and your son. Come up, and rescue me from the hand of the king of Syria and from the hand of the king of Israel, who are attacking me."
8 Ahaz also took the silver and gold that was found in the house of the Lord and in the treasures of the king's house, and sent a present to the king of Assyria.

RSV 2 Kings 18:11-16

11 The king of Assyria carried the Israelites away to Assyria, and put them in Halah, and on the Habor, the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes,
12 because they did not obey the voice of the Lord their God but transgressed his covenant, even all that Moses the servant of the Lord commanded; they neither listened nor obeyed.
13 In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and took them.
14 And Hezekiah king of Judah sent to the king of Assyria at Lachish, saying, "I have done wrong; withdraw from me; whatever you impose on me I will bear." And the king of Assyria required of Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold.
15 And Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the house of the Lord, and in the treasuries of the king's house.
16 At that time Hezekiah stripped the gold from the doors of the temple of the Lord, and from the doorposts which Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid and gave it to the king of Assyria.

RSV 2 Kings 24:13 and carried off all the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king's house, and cut in pieces all the vessels of gold in the temple of the Lord, which Solomon king of Israel had made, as the Lord had foretold.

RSV Ezra 6:5 And also let the gold and silver vessels of the house of God, which Nebuchadnezzar took out of the temple that is in Jerusalem and brought to Babylon, be restored and brought back to the temple which is in Jerusalem, each to its place; you shall put them in the house of God."