Exodus 37:1-9 Ark of the Testimony (Covenant) and Mercy Seat

1 Then Bezalel made the ark of acacia wood; two and a half cubits was its length, a cubit and a half its width, and a cubit and a half its height. 2 He overlaid it with pure gold inside and outside, and made a molding of gold all around it. 3 And he cast for it four rings of gold to be set in its four corners: two rings on one side, and two rings on the other side of it. 4 He made poles of acacia wood, and overlaid them with gold. 5 And he put the poles into the rings at the sides of the ark, to bear the ark. 6 He also made the mercy seat of pure gold; two and a half cubits was its length and a cubit and a half its width. 7 He made two cherubim of beaten gold; he made them of one piece at the two ends of the mercy seat: 8 one cherub at one end on this side, and the other cherub at the other end on that side. He made the cherubim at the two ends of one piece with the mercy seat. 9 The cherubim spread out their wings above, and covered the mercy seat with their wings. They faced one another; the faces of the cherubim were toward the mercy seat. NKJV [see also Exodus 25:10-22]

Facts Revealed:

- The Ark of the Testimony (Covenant) is a wooden box overlaid with gold inside and out in which is placed the Stone tablets with the Ten Commandments of Testimony written by the finger of God Himself, that God Himself gave to Moses.
- ⇔ Gold covered carrying Poles are to be placed permanently in the rings of the Ark. It is to be carried by the sons of Kohath of the Levites whenever it is moved. [Numbers 4:4-16]
- **☼** The lid of the Ark of the Testimony is the pure gold Mercy seat with the cherubim on it.
- ☼ The Mercy Seat is a permanent reminder of God's loving character in desiring to show mercy to the repentant sinner who comes to Him for mercy. [Exodus 34:6-7]
- God said that He will meet and speak with Moses from above the Mercy Seat, from between the Cherubim.
- **♦** Cherubim are the creatures that are always in the nearest presence of God.
- ❖ So the first article of the Tabernacle to be made is that which is nearest to God Himself, which is the Ark of the Testimony, the Stone Tablets written by God, and the Mercy Seat, from which He will communicate with Moses.
- ⇔ God always begins with Himself, the first words of His testimony are, "In the beginning God created." [Genesis 1:1]
- ♦ The first words of the Ten Commandments are, "I am Yehowah Elohey." [Exodus 20:2]