

What a holy place Mount Sinai was, where God gave the Ten Commandments! Exod. xx. Every place also, was sacred or holy where the Ark of the Covenant rested, whether in the wilderness, or in Shiloh; in Kirjath-jearim, or in the house of Obed Edom, or in the temporary tabernacle which David made for it in Sion; and when finally it was placed in the inner chamber of Solomon's temple that chamber became thereby the Holy of Holies. God's special presence went with His word, contained in the Ark, to bless those who obeyed it, and to punish those who transgressed it. God "dwelt between the cherubins," whether the Ark was in Shiloh, (1 Sam. iv. 4), or in the temple at Jerusalem. Ps. lxxxi.

What became of the Ark at the destruction of the Temple by Nebuchadnezzar we know not; but "in the second temple this defect was supplied as to the outside form, for there was another Ark, of the same dimensions as the first, and put in the same place: but it wanted the Tables of the Law, Aaron's rod, and the pot of Manna; nor was there any appearance of the Divine glory over it; nor any oracles delivered from it. It was used as a substitute for the former on the great day of Expiation, and to be a repository of the collection of the Holy Scriptures made by Ezra after the Captivity. (Ency. Relig. Knowl.) Yet the whole Jewish nation worshipped toward that Ark; and our Saviour acknowledged this temple in which it stood as His Father's House, and a holy place from which He drove out the buyers and sellers, and through which He forbade even the carrying of any vessel. (Mark xi. 16.

The Christian Church has come in the place of both the Jewish temple and synagogue. Christian baptism, the one baptism with pure water, has come in the place of the diverse baptisms (Gr.) with blood, and