

"Joshua said to the people, "Set yourselves apart to the Lord . Tomorrow he'll do amazing things among you." Joshua said to the priests, "Go and get the ark of the covenant. Walk on ahead of the people." So they went and got it. Then they walked on ahead of them. The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I will begin to honor you in the eyes of all the Israelites. Then they will know that I am with you, just as I was with Moses. Speak to the priests who carry the ark of the covenant. Tell them, 'When you reach the edge of the Jordan River, go into the water and stand there.' " The priests will carry the ark of the Lord . He's the Lord of the whole earth. As soon as the priests step into the Jordan, it will stop flowing. The water that's coming down the river will pile up in one place. That's how you will know that the living God is among you."

Joshua 3:5-8, 13 NIRV

"So the people took their tents down. They prepared to go across the Jordan River.

The priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them. The water of the Jordan was going over its banks. It always does that at the time the crops are being gathered. The priests came to the river. Their feet touched the water's edge.

Right away the water coming down the river stopped flowing. It piled up far away at a town called Adam near Zarethan. The water flowing down to the Dead Sea was completely cut off. So the people went across the Jordan River opposite Jericho.

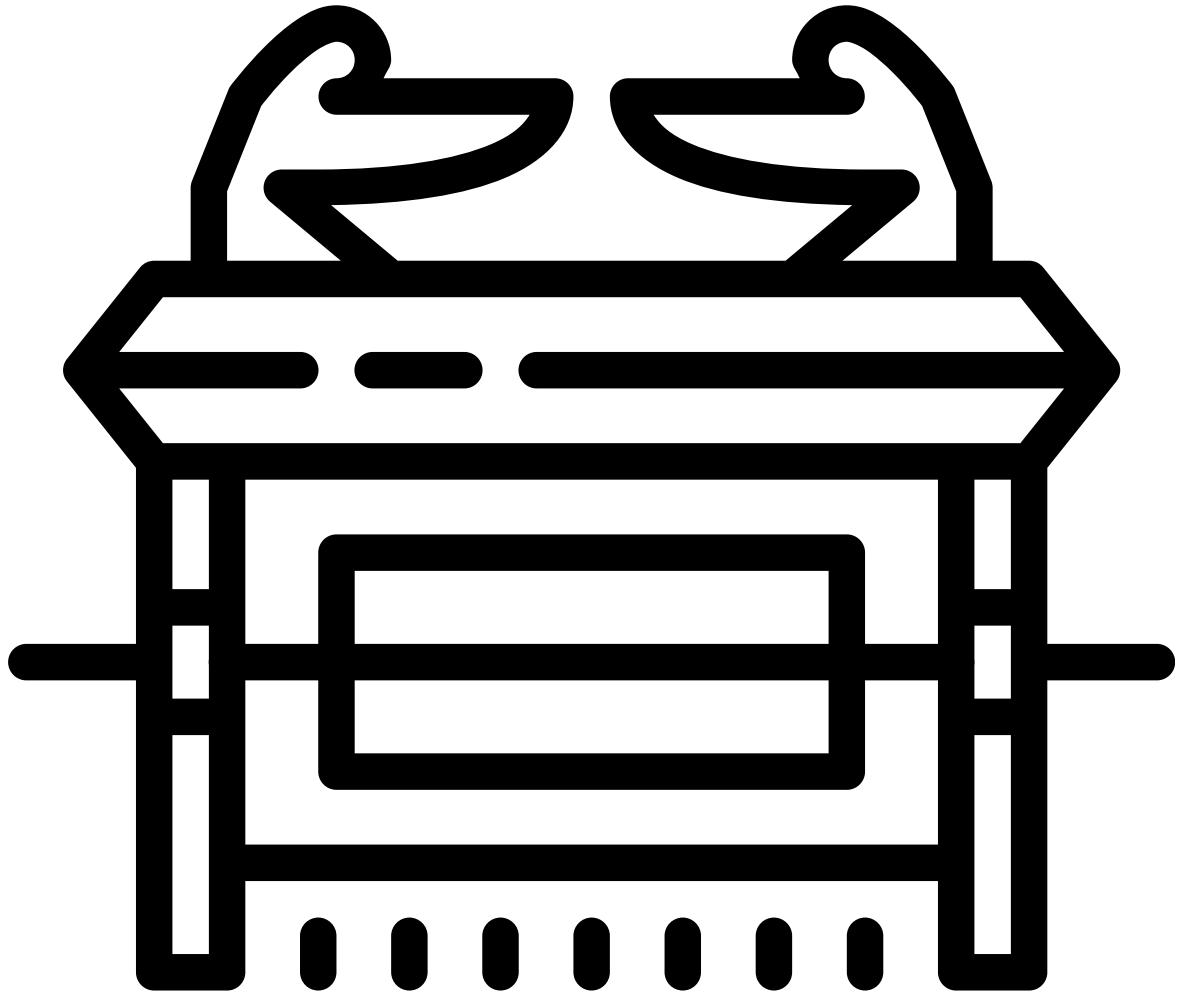
The priests carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord . They stopped in the middle of the river and stood on dry ground. They stayed there until the whole nation of Israel had gone across on dry ground."

Joshua 3:14-17 NIRV

Questions:



1. Which river did the Israelites have to cross?
2. The Ark of the Covenant went ahead of them. What did it symbolize?
3. How did the Israelites know that God was with Joshua as He was with Moses?



"The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I will begin to honor you in the eyes of all the Israelites. Then they will know that I am with you, just as I was with Moses."

Joshua 3:7 NIRV