

The Table of Showbread
Christ and His Church
 Exodus 25:23-30

Remember that every article in the Tabernacle in some form pictures the Lord Jesus Christ. Tonight we shall see that the Table of Showbread represents not only our Lord, but also His Church. “*Showbread*” means “*bread of presence*” simply because it was ever before the Lord’s presence. The table was 2 cubits long, 1 cubit broad and 1 ½ cubits high. A cubit is 1½ feet. It was made of wood and overlaid with gold, and was encircled by a crown or ornamental rim of gold. The table stood on the north wall of the Holy Place, opposite the golden candlestick. There were twelve loaves of bread upon the table, and only the priests ate the bread in the outer court every seventh day.

I. The Beauty of the Table Represents Christ . . .

(A). His humanity and deity are seen in the gold and acacia wood (shittim wood).

The gold represents the deity of Jesus Christ and the wood his humanity.

- (1). Acacia wood grows in dry lands --- Jesus came from a dry and barren land.
- (2). Acacia wood has thorns on its branches --- Jesus bore thorns upon his head.
- (3). Acacia wood gives a medicinal gum when struck --- so too Christ.

(B). The person of Jesus Christ is the only basis for communion with God.

The word “also” connects verse 23 with verse 22. The ark and the table are similar:

- (1). They are both the same height --- two cubits, the only two pieces alike.
- (2). Both had something placed upon it.
- (3). They both had rings and staves.

In I Samuel 18:3 we read of a covenant made between Jonathon and David.

II Samuel 9:1-10 speaks of the blessings of the covenant toward Jonathon’s family.

This covenant is an Old Testament God’s covenant with His Son (John 6:35-40).

II. The Bread on the Table Represents Christians . . .

(A). We rest upon Jesus Christ . . .

“*There, therefore, remaineth a rest for the people of God*” (Hebrews 4:11).

The twelve loaves of bread are resting upon the Table of Showbread.

(B). We are of equal status in the body of Christ.

The 12 loaves were all the same size, quality and weight and were of equal standing.

“*For we (saints) being man are one bread, and one body, for we are all partakers of that one bread (Jesus Christ, the bread of life)*” (I Corinthians 10:16-17).

The Parable of the Vineyard illustrates for us the grace of God upon each believer.

(C). We are protected in Christ

A golden border protected the bread from falling. It is a golden magnificent border.

We are secure because of the “*glory of His grace*” (Ephesians 1:6).

“*He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake*” (Psalm 23:3).

It’s interesting that “*thou shalt make the border of an hand breadth*” (Exodus 25:25).

“*Neither shall any pluck them out of my hand*” (John 10:28).

III. The Bread On the Table Also Represents Christ . . .

Christians are called “*bread*” and Christ is also called “*bread*” (I Corinthians 10:16-17).

Jesus said, “*I am the bread of life*” (John 6:35). No man lives except by Him.

In Leviticus 24:5-9 we read that the priests of the Tabernacle fed upon the bread.

(A). Every gospel church should feed upon the life, death, and resurrection of Christ.

(B). If any man has no interest in Christ he perishes.

(C). When the Holy Spirit is present, the bread will always remain fresh.

The priests would light the lamp in the Holy Place, and they would eat the bread once every seven days. The bread remained continually fresh.

Next week: The Golden Lampstand