

The Tabernacle, Christ, and the Church

-A study through the second half of the book of Exodus-

Lesson 4-The Table for Bread & the Lampstand (Exodus 25:23-40)

Description of the Table

-Entering the holy place of the tabernacle the table for bread would be on the _____. The table was to be made of wood and then overlaid with pure gold. The table was to have a molding of gold around the edge which acted as a rim. The dimensions of this table were 2 cubits long (36 inches), 1 cubit wide (18 inches), 1.5 cubits high (27 inches). The table, like the ark, was carried by placing gold covered wooden poles through four rings attached to the four corners of the table.

Purpose

-To hold the sacred _____ and utensils. There were to be twelve loaves placed on this table every Sabbath day arranged in two piles of six (Lev. 24:5-6). The High Priest was to place these loaves on the table and then anoint them with frankincense (Lev. 24:7). Also on this table were some plates, dishes for incense, pitchers, and some bowls. All these pieces were to be made of pure gold.

“Upon that small table lay the holy bread and four holy utensils, all intended to communicate that the Lord desires to unite with His people in a satisfying fellowship meal.”-Hyde

Christ foreshadowed

-The High Priest offered up twelve loaves unto the Lord and anointed them with sacred oil. These anointed loaves were _____ by God.

“By placing the twelve loaves on the table, the priest symbolically offered up the people to the Lord, and they were accepted as a sweet-smelling offering to Him. This is a wonderful type and shadow of our Lord Jesus Christ, our High Priest, who offers us ‘without spot or wrinkle or any such thing’ to God.”-Hyde

“The twelve express the tribes of Israel. Each has allotted place on the presenting board. These classes had their differing marks. In size, in wealth, in promises, in privilege, in heritage, their state was diverse. But here not one is overlooked: not one is put aside. The table sets all equally in order before God.”-Law

-The table had a rim around it so that no bread could _____ off the table. There was a hedge placed around the bread safeguarding it and keeping it on the table before the Lord.

“This is a wonderful picture of the care of God for His people. Just as He kept the bread and utensils from falling away, so He keeps His people, symbolized by the bread, ever before His presence. God is always exerting His preserving power over His people, who are bound by nature to fall away from Him.”-Hyde

-The priests _____ the bread in the holy place after it had been presented to the Lord (Lev. 24:9).

“The Aaronic priesthood participated in a weekly meal that consisted of this holy bread...When the seed of the woman...would finally come, something wonderful would happen. No longer would there be an exclusive priesthood that would exclusively partake of the holy bread exclusively in the Holy place before the holy Lord. When the Lord would come, all His people would be priests, all would partake of His holy bread, and all would do so in His holy presence.”-Hyde

Description of the Lampstand

-The lampstand would have been on the _____ side of the holy place (opposite the table for bread). It was made of pure gold. The gold was to be hammered and shaped and decorated like a tree with seven branches at the top. This lamp was to burn continually before the Lord (Lev. 24:1-4).

Purpose

-To provide _____ to the inner part of the tabernacle. The tabernacle would have been completely dark without the light from the golden lampstand.

Christ foreshadowed

-Jesus Christ is the light of God. Without Jesus Christ we could _____ truly see God.

“Christ is the seven-lamped Candlestick...All is darkness without Him...the mystic number and constant blaze show Christ a perfect and unfailing light.”-Law

“Without this inmate, where is the tabernacle’s splendor? Its brilliant colors are all colorless. Its golden walls are a dark blank. All form, all shape, all rays are the black sameness of a vault. The eye looks around on undistinguishable night...Such is man’s heart, without the light of Christ...But let the Sun of Righteousness arise; let Christ send forth His heaven-bright rays. Then the scene changes. Then what floods of glory roll the mists away! The face of Jesus shows the truth of God.”-Law

“The lampstand of gold in the tabernacle was ultimately intended to point the priests and the people to the truth that one day there would be no need of a lamp because the Lord Himself would come and provide the light.”-Hyde

“The lampstand was a visual reminder to the people of God that they were by nature blind and in the dark.”-Hyde

-The light allowed the priests to _____ in the presence of God. Only through Christ can we serve God in an acceptable way.

“Because He has come and because He still walks in the midst of His people, He calls the church today to be light in darkness.”-Hyde