

THE TABLE OF SHOWBREAD

"FROM ILLUMINATION TO FELLOWSHIP"

Texts:

- **Exodus 25:23-30 NASB**

23“You shall make a table of acacia wood, two cubits long and one cubit wide and one and a half cubits high.

24“You shall overlay it with pure gold and make a gold border around it.

25“You shall make for it a rim of a handbreadth around it; and you shall make a gold border for the rim around it.

26“You shall make four gold rings for it and put rings on the four corners which are on its four feet.

27“The rings shall be close to the rim as holders for the poles to carry the table.

28“You shall make the poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold, so that with them the table may be carried.

29“You shall make its adishes and its pans and its jars and its bowls with which to pour drink offerings; you shall make them of pure gold.

30“You shall set the bread of the Presence on the table before Me at all times.

31“Then you shall make a lampstand of pure gold. The lampstand and its base and its shaft are to be made of hammered work; its cups, its bulbs and its flowers shall be of one piece with it.

32“Six branches shall go out from its sides; three branches of the lampstand from its one side and three branches of the lampstand from its other side.

- **Leviticus 24:5-9 NLT**

5 “You must bake twelve flat loaves of bread from choice flour, using four quarts of flour for each loaf. 6 Place the bread before the LORD on the pure gold table, and arrange the loaves in two stacks, with six loaves in each stack. 7 Put some pure frankincense near each stack to serve as a representative offering, a special gift presented to the LORD. 8 Every Sabbath day this bread must be laid out before the LORD as a gift from the Israelites; it is an ongoing expression of the eternal covenant. 9 The loaves of bread will belong to Aaron and his descendants, who must eat them in a sacred place, for they are most holy. It is the permanent right of the priests to claim this portion of the special gifts presented to the LORD.”

- **Hebrews 9:1-2**

That first covenant between God and Israel had regulations for worship and a place of worship here on earth. 2 There were two rooms in that Tabernacle. In the first room were a lampstand, a table, and sacred loaves of bread on the table. This room was called the Holy Place.

- **John 6:32-58 NLT**

32 Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, Moses didn't give you bread from heaven. My Father did. And now he offers you the true bread from heaven. 33 The true bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

34 "Sir," they said, "give us that bread every day."

35 Jesus replied, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. 36 But you haven't believed in me even though you have seen me. 37 However, those the Father has given me will come to me, and I will never reject them. 38 For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do my own will. 39 And this is the will of God, that I should not lose even one of all those he has given me, but that I should raise them up at the last day. 40 For it is my Father's will that all who see his Son and believe in him should have eternal life. I will raise them up at the last day."

41 Then the people began to murmur in disagreement because he had said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." 42 They said, "Isn't this Jesus, the son of Joseph? We know his father and mother. How can he say, 'I came down from heaven'?"

43 But Jesus replied, "Stop complaining about what I said. 44 For no one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them to me, and at the last day I will raise them up. 45 As it is written in the Scriptures, 'They will all be taught by God.' Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him comes to me. 46 (Not that anyone has ever seen the Father; only I, who was sent from God, have seen him.)

47 "I tell you the truth, anyone who believes has eternal life. 48 Yes, I am the bread of life! 49 Your ancestors ate manna in the wilderness, but they all died. 50 Anyone who eats the bread from heaven, however, will never die. 51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever; and this bread, which I will offer so the world may live, is my flesh."

52 Then the people began arguing with each other about what he meant. "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" they asked.

53 So Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you cannot have eternal life within you. 54 But anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise that person at the last day.

55 For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. 56 Anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. 57 I live because of the living Father

who sent me; in the same way, anyone who feeds on me will live because of me. 58 I am the true bread that came down from heaven.

Recap

OUTER COURT

1. Gate
 - Christ the Door
 - John 10:9
2. Brazen Altar
 - Christ Crucified
 - Hebrews 13:10
3. Brazen Laver
 - Cleansing by Water of the Word
 - Ephesians 5:26

HOLY PLACE

4. Golden Lampstand
 - Christ the Light
 - John 8:12
 - Revelation by the Holy Spirit

THE TABLE OF SHOWBREAD

THE BIG IDEA

The Altar teaches:

Christ DIED for us.

The Laver teaches:

Christ CLEANSSES us.

The Lampstand teaches:

Christ ILLUMINATES us.

The Table teaches:

Christ SUSTAINS us.

I. THE FIRST USE OF THE WORD "TABLE"

Whenever man sinned in Genesis:

- communion was broken
- fellowship was broken
- relationship was broken

II. THE POSITION OF THE TABLE

Exodus 26:35

The Table sat on: The North Side

The Lampstand stood opposite it.

John 16:13-14

The Spirit reveals Christ.

III. SHITTIM WOOD

Exodus 25:23

* **Shittim (Acacia) Wood**

represents:

Christ's Humanity

Because it was:

- durable
- incorruptible
- resistant to decay

Scriptures

Isaiah 11:1

Zechariah 6:12

John 1:14

IV. PURE GOLD

Exodus 25:24

Gold represents:

Deity

Divine Nature

V. THE DIMENSIONS OF THE TABLE

Exodus 25:23

Length:
2 Cubits

Width:
1 Cubit

Height:
1½ Cubits

Judgment opens the door to fellowship.

VI. THE DOUBLE CROWN

Exodus 25:24-25

The Table had:

Two Crowns

King and Priest

Scriptures

Hebrews 7

Zechariah 6:12-13

VII. THE FOUR RINGS

Exodus 25:26

Scripture

Matthew 28:19

Mark 16:15

Acts 1:8

VIII. THE STAVES

Exodus 25:28

The Table was portable.

Hebrews 13:14

We seek a city to come.

IX. THE TWELVE LOAVES

Leviticus 24:5-6

Twelve Loaves

Represented:

The Twelve Tribes

New Testament Fulfillment

Christ continually represents His people before God.

Hebrews 7:25

X. WHY TWELVE?

Government

Apostolic Fullness

Divine Administration

Examples

12 Tribes

12 Apostles

12 Foundations

12 Gates

Revelation 21

XI. THE PIERCED BREAD

Jesus

Zechariah 12:10

John 19:34-37

The Bread of Life was pierced.

XII. THE FINE FLOUR

Leviticus 24:5

Flour begins as:

whole wheat

Then:

- crushed
- ground
- broken
- sifted

Jesus

John 12:24

The grain must fall into the ground.

Isaiah 53:5

"He was bruised for our iniquities."

XIII. THE BREAD WAS BAKED

Leviticus 24:5

The fire represents:

- suffering
- judgment
- wrath against sin

Hebrews 12:29

Our God is a consuming fire.

Christ endured the fire of judgment.

XIV. FRANKINCENSE

Leviticus 24:7

Frankincense was placed upon the bread.

Frankincense speaks of:

Prayer

Intercession

Worship

Jesus

Hebrews 7:25

Christ continually intercedes for us.

XV. THE BREAD OF THE PRESENCE

Exodus 25:30

Hebrew:

Lechem Panim

Bread of the Presence

Bread of the Face

- Showbread
- Bread of God
- Continual Bread
- Bread of the Presence
- Bread of Faces

XVI. THE PRIESTS ATE THE BREAD

Leviticus 24:9

Only priests could eat.

New Covenant

1 Peter 2:9

We are now:

A Royal Priesthood.

What Does Eating Mean?

To eat Christ means:

- receive Him
- believe Him
- live from Him
- depend upon Him

XVII. IT WAS EATEN IN THE HOLY PLACE

Leviticus 24:9

The bread was never eaten in the Outer Court.

Because fellowship follows:

Salvation

Cleansing

Illumination

The Order Matters

- Altar
- Laver
- Lampstand
- Table

XVIII. THE TABLE POINTS TO COMMUNION

Matthew 26:26-28

The Lord's Table.

- I. Bread
- II. Wine
- III. Covenant
- IV. Communion
- V. Fellowship