

The Holy Place

Exodus 25:23-39; 30:1-6; Hebrews 9:6

The Holy Place was also called the first Tabernacle. It was fifteen feet high, fifteen feet wide and thirty feet long. Its west wall was the veil and its eastern wall was the hanging curtain which was the door of the tabernacle. There were three pieces of furniture inside the Holy Place: the table of shewbread, the golden candlestick, and the golden altar of incense. It was a place of service for the priests. It had no places to sit denoting the activity that was to take place in God's service. It represented the "heavenlies." It had a floor of sand. It contained all that was heavenly in nature. We are to serve God on earth as heavenly citizens (Eph. 2:6; Phil. 3:17–21).

I. The Table of Shewbread (Ex. 25:23–30; 37:10–16; 40:4, 23)

A. The table's message about Jesus Christ



1. Christ's _____—the table typifies Christ as the spiritual food for His people (Jo. 6:32–33, 51–53; Lu. 15:17).
2. Christ's _____—the bread on the table was called the "bread of remembrance." The Lord's Supper was given as an ordinance to the local church as a remembrance of Christ's sacrifice for us (Lev. 24:5–7; I Co. 11:23–24; Rev. 5:6, 9).
3. Christ's _____—the bread was to be on the table continually even during transport to signify that Jesus Christ and the promises of Christ as given in His Word are faithful and true (Nu. 4:7–8; Rev. 19:11; 21:5; 22:6; Psa. 138:2)

B. The table's message for the church

1. _____ with God—the priests would eat of the bread at the table in the sanctuary signifying our fellowship with God in Christ (I Jo. 1:1–4).
 - a. Only the priests could eat of the bread as only believers in Christ can fellowship with Christ (Ro. 8:9).
 - b. Fellowship occurred in the sanctuary. This means that we cannot say we are in fellowship with Christ when we are out of touch with God (I Jo. 1:5-7).
2. _____ before God—The twelve loaves which represented the twelve tribes of Israel were to be kept in order on the table. When we serve God in fellowship with Him, we will live a life of order before Him. God is a God of order (Ex. 40:4; I Co. 14:40; Colossians 2:5; Titus 1:5).
3. _____ toward God—the bread would have to be baked fresh every Sabbath and set in order on the table. It would be eaten by the priests throughout the week showing us the need to keep our fellowship vibrant with God. Not only do we have a vibrant fellowship but a pure fellowship with God signified by the unleavened bread. (I Chron. 9:32; 23:29).

II. The Golden Candlestick (Ex. 25:31–39; 27:20; 37:17–24; 40:24, 25)



A. The candlestick’s message about Jesus Christ

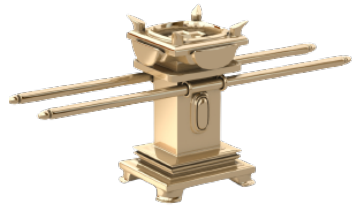
1. Jesus Christ is _____ of the _____—He came that we could have the light of life (Jo. 1:5, 9; 8:12; Rev. 21:23–24).
2. Jesus Christ’s _____—no mention was made of a base for the candlestick. The light of God came from Heaven. Mankind in his spiritual darkness on Earth

could not comprehend this divine light (Jo. 1:5; Col. 1:12–14).

3. Jesus Christ's _____—the candlestick is made of pure gold beaten into its shape. Without Christ's sacrifice of Himself we would not be able to have spiritual sight (Jo. 12:32–33).
 4. Jesus Christ's _____—the candlestick was designed after an almond tree which signifies the resurrection. The almond tree was the first to bud and bring fruit in the season. The knops are the buds of the almond tree (Jo. 1:4; Psa. 27:1; 36:9).
- B. The candlestick's message about the church
1. The church must keep Christ _____—Jesus is the center stem of the candlestick. Jesus Christ is to remain the center focus of the church (Ro. 2:11; 11:16–18).
 2. The church is _____ in Christ—there are six branches coming out of the center stem. Six is the number of man. Seven is the number of completion. Christ makes up the seventh branch which is the central stem completing the candlestick (Col. 2:8–10).
 3. The church can do _____ of eternal value without Christ—the six branches came out of its side. Christ is the vine and we are the branches. Any good fruit in our life is a result of being in Christ and yielding to His leading (Jo. 15:1, 4–5; Phil. 1:11; Ja. 3:17; II Pe. 1:19; Prov. 6:23).
 4. The church is to be a perpetual _____ light in the world—the lamps were never to be extinguished. The Scriptures show that the lamps went out when Israel turned their hearts from God (II Chronicles 29:1–11; Phil. 2:14–16; I Thess. 5:5; Eph. 5:8; Jo. 12:36; Matt. 5:14–16; Mark 8:34–35).

III. The Altar of Incense (Ex. 30:1–6; 40:5, 26–27)

A. The pleasing life of Christ and His church—the altar of incense typifies the pleasing nature of Christ’s life and sacrifice to His Father.



1. The incense was lit using coals from the brazen altar. This indicates the selfless, sacrificial nature of Christ’s life offered to God as a sweet-smelling savour (Heb. 11:6; Lev. 10:1-3).
2. What believers do through faith in God’s Word is just as pleasing to God (Isa. 42:21; Matt. 3:17; 12:18; 17:5; Phil. 4:18; Col. 3:20; Heb. 13:16; II Pe. 1:17; Gal. 2:20; Ezek. 20:41; II Co. 2:14–17).

B. The intercession of Christ—the altar of incense typifies the work of Jesus Christ as our intercessor before the Father in Heaven (Ro. 8:34; I Jo. 2:1; Heb. 7:25).

C. The intercession of Christ’s church—the altar of incense typifies the believer’s prayers to God. The blood sprinkled on the horns of this altar shows us the power of forgiveness available to us when we pray confessing our sins to God (Psa. 141:2; Rev. 8:3–4).

IV. The Furniture Revealed the Cross (Ex. 26:34–35)

The placement of the furniture discloses the message God was making known through the tabernacle; the need for a cross to bring sinners to God. His message to sinners is the judgment of sin upon His Son so we can have eternal life (I Co. 1:18; Gal. 6:14; Eph. 2:14–18; Phil. 2:8; Col. 1:20; 2:14; Heb. 12:2; I Jo. 5:11–13).

