

STUDIES ON THE TABERNACLE

PREACHED AT NEWTOWNARDS FPC FROM 3RD to 8TH
SEPTEMBER 2006 BY REV RON JOHNSTON

The Holy Place



(Exodus 25:23-40; Exodus 30:1-10)

The Table (Exodus 25:23-30)

Substance of it (verse 23&24)

Size of it (verse 23)

Setting around it (verse 25)

Staves to carry it (verse 26-28)

Serving pieces for it (verse 29; Number 7:14,20)

Shewbread on it (verse 30)

Continual bread (Numbers 4:7; Exodus 25:30)

Hallowed Bread (1 Samuel 21:4)

The Bread (Leviticus 24:9)

Provision of it 'By statute'

Preparation of it 'Flour...frankinsense...by fire' (verses 5&7)

People for whom provided 'Aaron and his sons'

Place of eating 'In the Holy Place'

A place of communion, illumination contemplation, supplication.

Partaking of it. 'Shall eat it' on the Sabbath (verse 8)

Purpose of eating

To strengthen the priest for service. We must see on Christ in His Word.

The Lampstand (Exodus 25:31-40)

Plan of Lampstand

It was made of pure gold (verse 39) and beaten into shape (verse 31). It had a centre stem with 3 branches on either side. Each stem had representations of almond buds, blossoms and fruit. Its 7 lamps were continually kept burning (Exodus 27:20,21) by filling them daily with pure olive oil and trimming each lamp (Exodus 30:7,8)

Picture of Christ

Christ was pure gold beaten on Calvary but now in glory is light for his people. Almond represents 'resurrection' (Numbers 17:8). Christ is our Great High Priest raised for us. Revelation 3:1 and 4:5 pictures Christ with the 7 Spirits of God. The Holy Spirit is also typified by the oil.

Purpose of Lampstand

It was to give light: 'over against itself' (verse 37); 'over against the table' (Exodus 40:24) and on the altar of incense (Exodus 30:7,8). The spirit reveals Christ, illuminates the Word and helps in prayer.

People of God to be Lights

As we dwell in the Holy Place our High Priest tends us (Exodus 27:21) and fills us with the oil of the Spirit (Zechariah 4:6) so that we may shine before the Lord (Exodus 40:25; Revelation 1:13,20). We are to shine constantly (Exodus 27:20); calmly (Exodus 27:20); and clearly (Exodus 25:38).

'Lord give me oil in my lamp and keep my burning'

Altar of Incense (Exodus 30:1-10)

Incense is a symbol of prayer (Psalm 141:2; Luke 1:10; Revelation 5:8; 8:3). Christ is our Great High Priest who continually intercedes for us in heaven (Hebrews 7:25).

Through Christ we too can offer prayer and praise (Hebrews 13:15; John 16:23,24; Ephesians 2:18)

1) Who can offer prayers (verse 7)

Priests who are chosen, called, cleansed and clothed.

2) Why we can offer prayer (verse 1-5)

Because Christ is our altar

3) Where we can offer prayer (verse 6)

Only when we go to the laver and then into the Holy Place.

4) Way in which we should offer prayer (verse 7-10)

(a) The Prescription of prayer (verses 7&25)

(b) The Passion of prayer (verse 7) (BURN)

(c) The Persistence of Prayer (verse 7&8)

(d) The Perversion of prayer (verse 9; Leviticus 10:1,2)

5) Why we should offer prayer (verse 10)

Because it is Holy unto the Lord.

6) Who we should pray for (Exodus 28:29-30)

Those the Lord lays upon our heart.

7) What happened as the Priest prayed

He saw the beauty of the Holy Place which symbolised the beauty of Christ.

The fragrance of the Holy incense was upon him.