

Furniture In God's House

In the past messages we have studied the security of the believer as represented in the tabernacle of the congregation in the wilderness. Every believer who enters the door of the tabernacle by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ comes under the blood of the burnt offering, and finds within the tabernacle a complete provision and supply for eternal safety and security.

We saw in our last message how the brazen pins, driven deeply into the desert soil, to which the cords of the tabernacle are attached, are a picture of the love of God in providing the Lord Jesus Christ who by His death and resurrection has provided eternal Salvation for us.

We are now ready to enter the tabernacle proper by the door on the basis of the blood, and behold the glories which He has prepared for us in the wilderness.

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There were exactly seven articles of furniture in the tabernacle — two in the court of the Gentile; (the Bronze Altar) 7.5' long x 7.5' wide x 4.5' high made of acacia covered with bronze. the most used piece of furniture in the Tabernacle.

The next - the Bronze Laver, a basin for ceremonial cleansing. Size none indicated.

Three in the Holy Place (Sanctuary) - the Golden Lampstand - size and dimension are unknown. Made of one talent - weighed 75 pounds of pure gold.

The table of Showbread - a wooden rectangle overlaid with gold 3' long x 1.5' wide x 2.25' high had two rings at the corners to insert poles/

The Altar of Incense - the altar was square, size 1.5' long x 1.5' wide x 3' high made of wood and overlaid with gold. It had rings in the corners for poles.

The Veil separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies. Size at least 15 feet.

The Ark of the Covenant - symbolic of God's throne and presence. This is where God spoke to the High Priest.

Dimensions 44" long, 26.4" wide, 26.4" high. Carrying poles 15 feet long

Mercy Seat - the area where the winged cherubim face each other.

Seven pieces of furniture - exactly seven, and no more ! The number of perfection. Speaks of God's perfect provision for believers who are in Christ.

There are seven steps from the outside, where the sinner beholds Christ merely as a man, to the inner sanctum of full and complete rest, and victory in the Lord Jesus Christ.

(1) We begin with the altar, immediately after we enter the door. The door is a picture of Christ .

(2) then we come to the Laver of separation. Represents separation from the world and from flesh, from the things which defile us, through the laver of cleansing, by the washing of the water of the Word.

(3) Next we approach the table of the shewbread , the place of fellowship. After we have believed, and been separated, we enter the place of fellowship with other believers in the assembly, to be fed on Christ, the Bread, at the table of fellowship.

(4) the fourth step is testimony, represented by the candlestick, or lampstand, fed by the oil of the Holy Spirit. (Matt.5:16) "You are the light...."

(5) next we come to the golden incense altar - the symbol of prayer and intercession.

(6) Then we enter through the veil into the most holy place, at the ark of the covenant surrender all.

(7) Sheltered under the mercy seat we find perfect peace and complete victory and rest.

Seven steps: Conversion, Separation, Bible Study, Testimony, Prayer, Full Surrender, and Victory.

The Table

In studying the three pieces of furniture which stood in the holy place, we take up the table of shewbread, which stood on the north side of the holy place.

It had a golden crown or molding all around the edge to keep the twelve loaves of bread safely upon the table and to prevent them from falling upon the ground and thus being defiled .

There was four golden rings, two on each side of the table - which two bars or handles passed through of which the table was carried from place to place by the priests.

They needed food - this table and its bread provided for them in abundance. The needed guidance was provide by the golden lampstand, and they needed an intercessor and a protector, and this was found in the golden incense altar.

Both table and Bread upon the table represent The Lord Jesus Christ.

On it were place twelve loaves of bread, six each in two separate rows.

The bread flavored with frankincense -constituted food for the priest.

The priest worshiped and fellowship daily.

The bread also speaks of the Lord Jesus Christ.

(Jn. 6:35) "I AM the bread of life: he that cometh to Me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on Me shall never thirst."

(Jn.6:48:51) "I AM the bread of Life."

"I AM the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eats this bread he lives forever."

The table was the center of fellowship for the priests, the bread was the living Word, as revealed in the written Word.

We are the N.T. priests ministering unto the Lord Jesus Christ.

The table , therefore in the holy place, speaks of fellowship; the altar of incense, of worship, the candlestick represents light for service.

The believer cannot be independent and work alone; he/she needs the blessing of assembling with other believers, "for where two or three gather together in My Name."

We are not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together as a custom of some is." "Not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some."

Basis Of Fellowship

The basis and center of this fellowship was the table of shewbread. Around this table the priest gathered daily.

All true fellowship must be around the person and the work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

They were to feed on Him as the Bread of Life, flavored with the frankincense of the Holy Spirit.

The sustaining food of the believer - is the Word of God, both the living Word and the written Word, the Bible and the Holy Spirit.

Read (Pg. 94-95)

The assembly of the saints should be first of all a time of worship and devotion and feeding and feasting upon the Lord Jesus Christ.

Eat Standing Up

The priest were to eat standing up at this table.

There were no chairs for them to sit down. The house of God is not a place of ease and entertainment, but a place of work and service.

The same is true about the night of the Passover of Israel deliverance from Egypt - they were to eat standing up.

In the ordnance of the Lord's Supper, beautiful antitype of the table of shewbread, we gather in the fellowship of believers to feed upon Christ, and to wait for orders to move on. (1Cor.11:26).

Read Pg. 96).