

Lecture 11 ~ THE TABLE OF SHEWBREAD The John Knox Institute of Higher Education

John Knox Institute of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

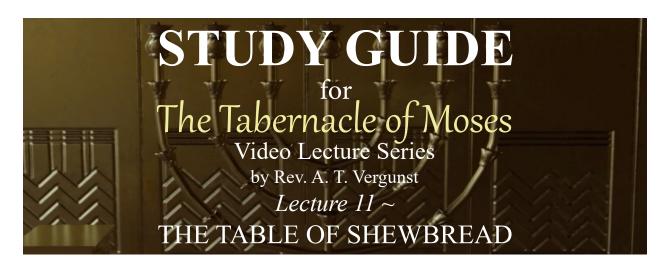
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The Tabernacle of Moses Video Lecture Series by Rev. A. T. Vergunst

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- 2. The Temple Theme
- 3. Setting and Organization
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Scripture Text

"Thou shalt also make a table of shittim wood: two cubits shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof. And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, and make thereto a crown of gold round about. And thou shalt make unto it a border of an hand breadth round about, and thou shalt make a golden crown to the border thereof round about. And thou shalt make for it four rings of gold, and put the rings in the four corners that are on the four feet thereof. Over against the border shall the rings be for places of the staves to bear the table. And thou shalt make the staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold, that the table may be borne with them. And thou shalt make the dishes thereof, and spoons thereof, and covers thereof, and bowls thereof, to cover withal: of pure gold shalt thou make them. And thou shalt set upon the table shewbread before me alway."—Exodus 25, verses 23 to 30

"And thou shalt take fine flour, and bake twelve cakes thereof: two tenth deals shall be in one cake. And thou shalt set them in two rows, six in a row, upon the pure table before the LORD. And thou shalt put pure frankincense upon each row, that it may be on the bread for a memorial, even an offering made by fire unto the LORD. Every sabbath he shall set it in order before the LORD continually, being taken from the children of Israel by an everlasting covenant. And it shall be Aaron's and his sons'; and they shall eat it in the holy place: for it is most holy unto him of the offerings of the LORD made by fire by a perpetual statute."—Leviticus 24, verses 5 to 9

Key Points

- 1. "Salvation" means to be restored to our relationship with God; reconciled, forgiven, accepted, renewed, through faith in Jesus Christ, in a new earth, and a new world.
 - a. God seeks and desires our reconciliation with him. That's the message of the Tabernacle, the sum of divine wisdom.
- 2. Description of the Table of Shewbread.
- 3. Description of the Shewbread and how it is used.
- 4. Spiritual lessons from the Table.

a. Made of Shittim wood overlaid with gold—the dual nature of Christ; God and man.
b. The wood and the gold are never mixed—Christ's divinity and humanity are never mixed.
c. The crown around the table points to Christ ruling as King of all.
5. Spiritual lessons from the Shewbread.
a. "Shew" means "face" or "presence"—the bread of God's presence with his people.
b. The bread firstly for God—the work of Christ is for God's glory and delight.
c. The Shewbread was unleavened, meaning sinless—Jesus Christ was without sin.
d. Shewbread was one of the simplest pictures of Christ—the bread of life.
e. Aaron and his sons were to eat it—believers should feed their souls on the Lord Jesus Christ.
<u>Review Questions</u>
1. What are the rich meanings in the word "salvation?"
2. How does the truth of salvation chase out the dark views of God that we have in our minds? What kind of dark views might we have?

3. Briefly describe the Table. How big was it? What did it have around its edge?

4. How was the Shewbread made? How was it placed on the Table? Who was to eat this bread, but when and where were they to eat it?
5. The Table made of wood and gold points to the dual nature of the Lord Jesus Christ. What are those two natures? Are they ever combined? Why are they both so essential for Jesus' mediating work to save sinners?
6. How do the loaves of Shewbread set on the Table remind us that we are only acceptable in Christ, the beloved one? How does the Father's declaration in Matthew 3:17 relate to the word "shew"?
7. How did the Shewbread point to the sinlessness of the Lord Jesus Christ? Why is that important to our salvation?
8. How does Jesus compare himself to bread and the manna in John chapter 6? What is the difference between the bread we eat for nourishment and the bread that God gives in his Son Jesus Christ?

9. Trace the journey from a seed of grain to a loaf of bread. How is that a picture of the journey of our Lord Jesus Christ, who became the bread of life for sinners?
10. What is the spiritual meaning of the Shewbread being eaten in the sanctuary by the priests? Why should believers attend a church where they are being fed the truths of Christ? What is the difference between the true bread and empty husks?
<u>Personal Applications</u>
1. Meditate on the dual nature of the Lord Jesus Christ—fully God and fully man; one person in two distinct natures. Does this help you to trust him as the only one who is able to save you to the uttermost? "What think ye of Christ?" Matthew 22:42a.
2. In what ways do you feed on the Lord Jesus Christ? Are you able to attend a faithful church where the Word of God is read and preached? Are you able to pray and read the Bible daily? Do you experience the fellowship of other Christians in your life?