

## Sermon Notes

### *Exodus – The Revealing of God’s Glory and His Design for the Chosen #85*

“Interpreting the Furniture of the Tabernacle and the Staff of Life”

– Exodus 25:23-30

- I. Interpreting concerns in regard to the Tabernacle and furnishings.
  - A. The Tabernacle represents God’s fulfillment to the covenant of Israel.
    - 1. The heart of the covenant – To Love and care for His people.
      - a. Leviticus 26:9, 11-13
    - 2. Later fulfilled in Christ – John 1:14a
  - B. Symbols and details
    - 1. The Tabernacle prefigures the work of Christ but how much is symbolic?
      - a. Interpretation errors lead to conclusions that the text may not be asserting.
        - 1. Note Jewish scholar – Philo
        - 2. Pastor Don’s first encounter with the tribe arrangement around the Tabernacle as viewed from above.
          - a. Note power point visual.
      - b. It is easy to read into symbols.
    - C. What should be our interpretive guide?
      - 1. First, New Testament correspondence.
        - a. For example: Heb. 8:5; 9:9,11
      - 2. Second, Understood from details from an Old Testament usage.
        - a. For example: Ex. 26:26-29. The word for placement is thought by most to be in the shape of a cross, but does this relate to the cross of Christ? Probably not.
        - b. Material usage – Acacia wood and gold overlay. Dual nature of Christ? Maybe and maybe not.
        - c. Note Old Testament symbolic meanings.
          - Cherubim
          - Atonement Cover
          - Ark as a footstool
    - D. Today’s text
      - 1. Exodus 25:23-30
        - a. Pastor Don’s love of bread.
- II. Exposition
  - A. Exodus 25:23-24

*All noted in the Old Testament  
with connection to God and  
the work of Salvation.*

- 1. Table made of same material as the ark.
- B. Exodus 25:25-28
  - 1. Ark and table had rings and poles for transportation.
  - 2. Size – About the size of a coffee table.
  - 3. Many synonyms for its name.
    - a. The table Ex. 25:27-30
    - Table of Presence Num. 4:7
    - Table of Pure Gold Lev. 24:6
    - Ceremonially Clean Table II Chron. 13:11
    - The golden table on which was the bread of the presence I Kings 7:48
- C. Exodus 25:29
  - 1. See Lev. 24:5-9. Note history of the term “Shewbread”
  - 2. “Dishes” for incense – Lev. 24:7
  - 3. “Pitchers and bowls” – Ex. 25:29; 37:16
- D. Exodus 25:30
  - 1. “Plates” – for the bread. More details noted on the bread in Lev. 24:5-9.
- III. The Meaning
  - A. Instruction – Mostly f\_\_\_\_\_ and not s\_\_\_\_\_
    - 1. The New Testament and Old Testament do not speak of most parts that were of or on the table.
    - 2. The bread – borrowed from pagan religions???
    - a. Many think yes.
    - 3. God did not need the bread – The people did ! Acts 17:25.
      - a. The Staff of Life
        - 1. Psalm 104:15; Matthew 6:11; Psalm 111:5
    - 4. Twelve loaves – everyone had a place at the table.
    - 5. Bread of the Presence – Ex. 25:30
      - a. Literally, “Before God’s f\_\_\_\_\_”
    - 6. Replenishment of fresh loaves – Lev. 24:8
    - 7. Eating and breaking of bread.
      - a. Vern Poythess
      - b. Revelation 19:9
- IV. Points for Reflection.
  - A. The Bread of Presence literally means “Before God’s face.
  - B. The Staff of Life for the Christian is Jesus Himself.
  - C. Be thoughtful about what you really desire from God.