

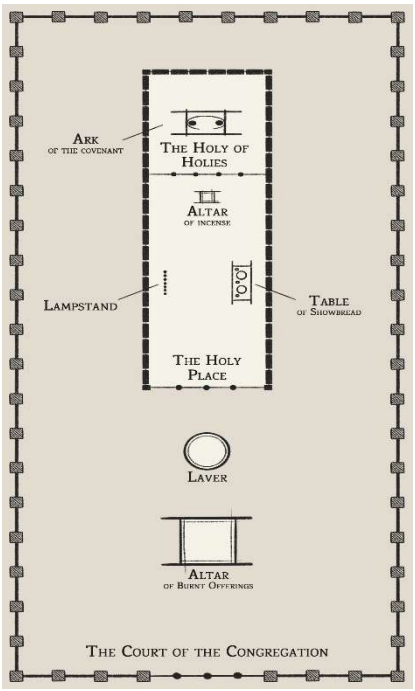

*Exodus 25:23-40*

# ENTERING THE HOLY PLACE

*The garden of Eden is almost like the holy of holies. The garden seems to be set within a wider region known as Eden, for the "river flowed out of Eden to water the garden" (Gen. 2:10). Just as the camp of Israel centered on the holy of holies, with descending requirements for holiness as one moved out to the holy place and from there to the camp, so at the center of creation we have the garden holy of holies, the holy place of Eden, and outside the region of Eden all the dry lands. Like the tabernacle…where gold and precious stones were abundant, good gold and precious stones mark Eden (2:11-12). The lampstand of the tabernacle…seems to symbolize the sacred trees of Eden (2:8-9), and the showbread points to the abundant food of which man could freely eat (2:16). The man's job in the garden is the same given to the Levites at the tabernacle: to work and keep it (2:15; cf. Num. 3:8). And as Yahweh promised to walk among the people once they had the tabernacle (Lev. 26:11-12; Deut. 23:14), so he walked in the garden (Gen. 3:8).*

—James M. Hamilton, Jr.
*Typology: Understanding the Bible's Promise-Shaped Patterns*

In Exodus 25-31, God gives Moses the divine design of the tabernacle. In this simple, sacred tent, God would dwell among His people. Thus, the tabernacle points backward to God's original desire in creation (Gen. 3:8), points forward to God's future dwelling among us (Rev. 21:3), and points upward to the heavenly Son of God who humbled Himself, took on human flesh, and tabernacled among us (John 1:14).




- **Promises.** God's comfort to us as we face the future.
- **Prophecies.** God's control over the events of the future.
- **Patterns.** God's connections from the past to the future.

**THE TABLE OF CONTINUAL BREAD** (25:23-30)

**Composition:**

**Dimensions:**

**Design:**

**Purpose:**

**Meaning:**



- God _____ us, individually and corporately.
- God _____ us, daily and continually.
- God _____ us around the table of fellowship (Rev. 3:20).

**THE LAMPSTAND OF CONTINUAL LIGHT** (25:31-40)



**Composition:**

**Dimensions:**

**Design:**

**Purpose:**

**Meaning:**

- God provides perfect _____.
- God provides resurrection _____.

| JESUS IS THE TRUE BREAD | JESUS IS THE TRUE LIGHT |
|---|---|
| *"I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst."* (John 6:35) | *"I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."* (John 8:12) |
| He is the manna from heaven (John 6:30-65). | He is the light of creation (John 1:1-9; 2 Cor. 4:4-6). |
| He is the bread of the presence (Lev. 24:5-9). | He is the light of revelation (Ps. 19:8; 36:9; 119:105, 130). |
| He is the unleavened sacrifice who died for us all (Lev. 2:1-13). | He is the light of resurrection and life (John 1:5; 2 Tim. 1:10). |

**AS GOD'S PRIESTS, WE NEED BOTH BREAD AND LIGHT!**

1. God's Word gives us daily sustenance (Deut. 8:3; Mt. 4:4).
2. God's Spirit gives us daily strength (Zech. 4:1-14; Rev. 4:5).
3. As God's priests, we enter into deeper relationship with Him through His Spirit and His Word (Eph. 5:18; Col. 3:16).

*Dan, as well as Judah, had a cake of fine flour on the table in God's presence. The weakest as well as the strongest, the unfaithful as well as the faithful, the hindmost as well as the foremost, stands in the same fullness of acceptance.*
—Henry Soltau (1805-75)

*At night the light from the seven oil lamps…would have made the tabernacle the brightest thing in the Israelite camp… Having the lights on meant then much the same thing it means now: someone's home. In this case, symbolically, "Yahweh was home" among His people.* —Douglas Stuart

**Oil** is a symbol of the Spirit of God (cf. 1 Sam 16:13; Is. 61:1). Olive oil is one of the cleanest oils, being 99% pure fuel. It does not produce smoke or soot when burned.

*All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle.* —Francis of Assisi (13th cent)

The **almond tree** is known as the "awake tree" (Heb., *shaqed* from *shaqad,* "to awake") since it is the first tree to "awake" from the sleep of winter (cf. Jer. 1:11-12). Aaron's rod was made from an almond tree and budded with life to prove his priesthood (Num. 17).

*Never separate the Spirit and the Word!* — D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

*It is not the work of the Spirit to tell you the meaning of Scripture without your own study and labor, but to bless that study, and give you knowledge thereby.*
—Richard Baxter (1615-91)

*The Spirit breathes upon the Word and brings the truth to sight.*
—William Cowper (1731-1800)