

# (Exodus) Exodus 25:29-30

by J. Vernon McGee

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*The table of showbread in Exodus 25:29-30 represents Christ as the sustainer of spiritual life for believers, emphasizing the importance of feeding on Him for growth and sustenance.*

**Duration:** 6:57

**Scripture:** Exodus 25:23-30, Leviticus 24:5-9, Matthew 22:1-14, John 6:48-51, John 12:24, John 12:27, John 12:31

**Topics:** "Christology", "Spiritual Growth"

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## Description

In this sermon, the preacher discusses the significance of the showbread in the Bible. The showbread was made of grain and symbolized Christ. The preacher draws parallels between the showbread and Jesus, highlighting how Jesus was ground in the mill of suffering and brought into the fire of suffering and judgment. The sermon also emphasizes the importance of feeding on Christ for spiritual growth and sustenance.

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## Transcript

Now, I turn over and read verse 29, "...and thou shalt make the dishes thereof, and spoons thereof, and covers thereof, and bowls thereof, to cover with all of pure gold shalt thou make them. And thou shalt set upon the table showbread before me always." Now, the bread, of course, was a type of Christ, and therefore the table is a type of Christ. It's a picture of Him.

And this table of showbread is that which suggests many things. I think that it speaks of sustenance. It speaks of provision.

It speaks of supply. And I want to make several suggestions, and will you notice them? It's a table of salvation. Now, Christ gave a parable.

You remember in which a king gave a marriage supper for his son. The invited guests refused to come, and this provoked the king to deal with the rejecters, and having done so, he extended the invitation to include those in the highways and byways. And these were bidden to come and to eat.

Thus, an invitation has gone out today to the world to come and to partake of the salvation as it is in Christ. And secondly, it's a table of providence. I don't have time to develop this, but God as a Creator provides all food for man and beast today.

Whether you like it or not, friend, you eat at God's table in the physical realm. And yet, how few recognize it today and give thanks to Him for His bounty. God is the one who provides for us.

And this table also speaks of the table of the Lord, the Lord's Supper. This suggests that one, that our Lord, you remember, in the upper room established. It's the table for believers.

It's a long table extending from the upper room to the upper air. And then, more specifically, I think, the table of showbread is a prefigurement of Christ as the sustainer of spiritual life for the believer. It was two cubits long, one cubit wide, one and a half cubits high, made of chitim wood, overlaid with gold.

The incorruptible chitim wood speaks of His humanity. And as the wood was a product of the earth but not subject to the action of it in a chemical way, thus our Lord had a body made of earth, conceived in the womb of the virgin, and the gold speaks of His deity. The gold is not produced by the earth, but is separate from it.

And because of that, it has an inherent value. So Christ was not of the earth in His deity, but He was very God of very God. He came from glory.

And so the figure of the golden wood we have already seen was further amplified when the ark was looked at last time. Now on the table there were placed these twelve loaves of bread, six in a row. And the table and the bread were just called one.

In fact, we have that metonymy of speech today, to eat the table of the Lord. Well, you don't eat the table, but that's the way we use it. We associate the table with the food.

Eat at my table. Well, gracious, what are you going to do? Chew on a leg of the table? No. The table and the bread are considered one.

Now the bread was changed each Sabbath, and the bread which was removed was eaten with wine by the priestly family in the holy place. And this table, I want to say this, does not prefigure Christ in the same way that the manna does. And we need to be very careful here.

I think both speak of Christ, but not in exactly the same connection, although Christ is the bread in both. Now the manna speaks of Christ as the life-giver. He interpreted it himself.

You remember in John 6, 32, we've already seen that. Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven, but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven, for the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, giveth life to the world. I am the bread of life.

He that cometh to me shall never hunger. He that believeth on me shall never thirst. Now the showbread speaks of Christ as the life-sustainer.

Eternal life is a gift and is the manna that came down from heaven. He that receives the manna receives eternal life. However, eternal life requires a special food to sustain it in growth and strength.

And the showbread sets forth Christ as the food for those who partake another manna of life. He's seen in another bit of language that he himself used. The showbread was made of grain.

It was ground unleavened, made into bread, and baked. It's first stated in Leviticus, Thou shalt take fine flour, bake twelve cakes thereof, two-tenths deals shall be in one cake. And we find that the Lord Jesus

said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone.

But if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. Now, he was ground in the mill of suffering. Now is my soul troubled.

What shall I say? Father saved me from this hour, but for this cause came I under this hour. He was brought into the fire of suffering and judgment. Now is the judgment of this world.

Now shall the Prince of the world be cast out, and I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. He came forth from the tomb and newness of life, for his soul did not see corruption. Now he lives a resurrection life.

He is the showbread now for believers to feed on, to sustain eternal life and growth. The Christian is to feed on the living Christ. He's to appropriate Christ as he is today, living at God's right hand.

He said, I'm the bread of life. There's an ancient proverb that contains the thought that a thing grows by what it feeds on. And there was a book that came out for dieting not too long ago, and it said, You are what you eat.

And the difficulty today is that we've got too many Christians that are not feeding on Christ. You have to feed on him to grow. And you feed upon him as he is today.

Paul said, Though we knew him in the flesh, we know him no longer after the flesh. He is today the living Christ, and we're to grow by looking to him.

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