

“WORD OF LIFE”

March 24, 2024

43. CHRIST IN HIS PERSON (23) –

In the Fulfillment of the Types and Figures of the Old Testament

O 17. The Tabernacle with All the Furniture

[The Tabernacle, the **Showbread Table**, the Lampstand, the Incense Altar, and the Ark]

b. The **Showbread Table**

Hymns: # 509 / # 223 / # 12

✚ “In my heart I have treasured up Your word...” (Psa. 119:11)

[Type/Figure]

Exo. 25:23-24 - And you shall make a **table** of **acacia wood**:...And you shall **overlay** it with **pure gold**...

Exo. 40:22-23 - Then he put the **table** in the Tent of Meeting...And he arranged the **bread** in order upon it...

[Fulfillment]

John 6:35-57 - **Jesus** said to them, I am the **bread** of life; he who comes to Me shall by no means hunger,...
..., so he who **eats** Me, he also shall live because of Me.

✚ “...For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of Jehovah, ...” (Isa. 11:9)

❖ The **showbread table** signifies **Christ** as the nourishing feast for the believers

- This **table** was the **first item** set up in the **Holy Place** within the tabernacle.
 - In particular, the **showbread table** signifies **Christ** as **the feast** for **God’s priests**,
 - this table indicates that Christ is a feast **for God’s priests**
 - **because only priests** were qualified to be in the **Holy Place**.
 - In the Bible a **table** signifies a **corporate feasting** (1 Cor. 10:16, 21; cf. Psa. 23:5).
 - Christ as the **food of God’s priests** is for a corporate feasting **within** God’s **dwelling place**.
 - The **showbread table** was made of **acacia wood overlaid with gold** (Exo. 25:23-24).
 - The **acacia wood** signifies that **within** Christ’s humanity is the basic element for Him to be our feast.
 - The **gold overlaying** the table signifies the expression of God, **upon** Christ’s divinity.
 - On the showbread table **twelve loaves of bread** were displayed.
 - (*twelve*) **signifies** our enjoyment of Christ as the **showbread table** is **eternal**.
- In the New Testament all the believers are **priest**.
 - ✓ We are being built up as a **spiritual house** into a holy **priesthood** (1Pet. 2:5)
 - ✓ We are a chosen race, a **royal priesthood**, a holy nation, a people acquired for a possession,...(1Pet 2:9)
 - ✓ We were made us a kingdom, **priests** ...and we will reign on the earth (Rev. 1:6; 5:10)
- In John 6, the **showbread table** signifies **Christ** as our **life supply** (vv. 35, 57).
 - Christ, the **bread of life** is the **life supply** in the form of food.
 - To **eat** the Lord Jesus is to **receive** Him into us that He may be **assimilated** by us in the **way of life**.
 - Then we live by Him whom we have received; it is by this that He, the resurrected One, **lives in us**.

✚ “And having gift that differ..., let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;” (Rom. 12:6)

✚ The **table of the bread of the Presence** signifies Christ as the nourishing feast for us. This **table** signifies a corporate **feasting** within God’s dwelling place, the church.

✚ **Within** Christ, His **humanity** is the basic element for our enjoyment, and **upon** Him is **divinity** as the expression of God. If we enjoy Christ, we shall express God. As we enjoy the **Lord Jesus** as the **life supply** with which we serve God, the outcome will be gold, Christ’s divinity as the expression of God.

{(Reference: The Conclusion of the New Testament Ch. 43 letter O – point 17b)}

[Preparing this “word of life” (SUPPLYING THE WORD IN MEETINGS OF MUTUALITY) was motivated by:
The Elder’s Training Book 8, Ch. 4, and The Administration of the Church and the Ministry of the Word, Ch. 11]

Hymn 509

1 A flowing river and a tree,
Eden's outstanding features are,
Man to **supply** with **food** and drink
That he may live fore'er.

Chorus:

God is in **Christ** to be my **supply**,
God as the **Spirit** nourisheth me;
If upon **Christ** in spirit I **feed**,
Filled with His life I'll be.

2 The tree the glorious
Christ does show
As **living food** to man supplied,
That he God's riches may enjoy,
Thus to be satisfied.

3 The river does the **Spirit** show,
Coming man's spirit to **supply**,
That with God's riches he be filled,
Holy to be thereby.

4 The **Christ** of glory is my life,
He as the **Spirit** lives in mine,
That I with **God** be fully blent
And in His image shine.

5 I would exalt this glorious **Christ**,
Ever the **Spirit** I'd obey,
Making His glory fully known,
Filled with His grace for aye.

Hymn 223

1 On the **table** of Thy love,
With the **bread**, the **cup** is spread.
By partaking of these **signs**,
We with Thee are richly fed.
How we thank Thee for this **cup**,
For the **cup** of blessing, Lord,
Cup of Thy Salvation full,
Cup of all Thou dost afford.

2 'Tis the **blood** Thou shedd'st for us,
That our sins may be **forgiv'n**;
'Tis the **cov'nant** made for us,
That Thy blessings may be giv'n.
Thou didst drink the **cup** of wrath,
Thou hast tasted **death** for us,
Thus the **cup** of **blessing** bought,
As the portion gained for us.

3 In this portion we have **God**,
Whom we lost thru **Adam's fall**;
By the shedding of Thy **blood**,
God becomes our all in all.
In this portion all we have—
Life and peace, **redemption** sure;
All that **God** has planned and willed,
In this portion we secure.

4 An **eternal portion**, 'tis,
Overflowing **cup** divine;
Heav'nly taste do we enjoy
In this **cup** of God's design.
Here in love we drink this **cup**
In remembrance, **Lord**, of Thee;
Thus in spirit we partake
All Thy work on Calvary.

Mark 14:22 - And as they were **eating**,
He took **bread** and blessed *it*, and
He broke *it* and gave *it* to them, and
said, Take; this is My **body**.

Mark 14:23 - And He took a **cup** and
gave thanks, and He gave *it* to
them; and they all drank of it.

Mark 14:24 - And He said to them,
This is My **blood** of the **covenant**,
which is being **poured out**
for many.

Mark 14:25 - Truly I say to you, I shall
by no means **drink** of the product of
the **vine** anymore until that day
when I **drink** it new in
the **kingdom of God**.

Hymn 12

1 O **God**, Thou art the **source of life**,
Divine, and rich and free!
As living water flowing out
Unto eternity!

2 In love Thou in the **Son** didst flow
Among the human race;
Thou dost as **Spirit** also flow
Within us thru Thy **grace**.

3 Though we in sin and wickedness
Went far from Thee apace,
Yet in the **Son** Thou didst redeem,
Bestowing **life** and **grace**.

4 Though we have often slighted Thee,
Thy **Spirit** often grieved,
Yet Thou dost still as **Spirit** come
As **life** to be received.

5 Thou as the **Spirit** in the **Son**
Hast mingled heretofore;
Thou wilt thru **fellowship** anoint
And increase more and more.

6 The **love** of **God**, the **grace** of **Christ**,
The **Spirit's** flowing free,
Enable us **God's** wealth to share
Thru all eternity.

7 The **Father**, **Son**, and **Spirit**—one,
So richly care for us;
Thy **love** with one accord we sing
And e'er would praise Thee thus.