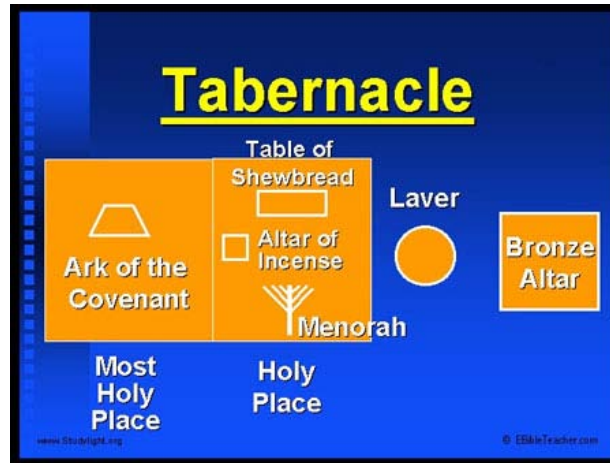


Keeping the Holy

Leviticus Chapter 24



Lev 24:1

1) The Holy Oil vs 1-4

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

Lev 24:2

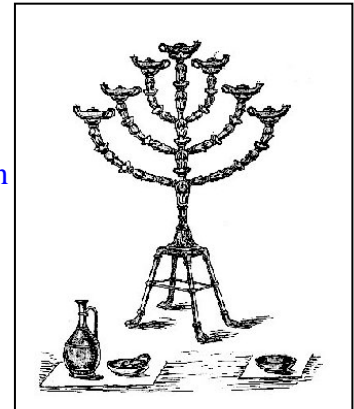
"Command the sons of Israel that they bring to you clear oil from beaten olives for the light, to make a lamp burn continually.

Lev 24:3

"Outside the veil of testimony in the tent of meeting, Aaron shall keep it in order from evening to morning before the LORD continually; *it shall be* a perpetual statute throughout your generations.

Le 24:4

"He shall keep the lamps in order on the pure *gold* lampstand before the LORD continually.



- Oil represents the Holy Spirit.
 - In the tabernacle there is no natural light (from the sun)
 - Gives light.
 - Lamp is a picture of the Scripture, The Word of God and Jesus;
 - But it is revealed by burning oil of the Holy Spirit.

Psalms 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path."

Psalms 119:130 "The entrance of thy words giveth light"

Proverbs 6:23 "For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light;"

John 1:1-9 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. There came a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the Light, but he came to testify about the Light. There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man."

- The congregation brings the Holy Oil.
 - Spurgeon: "Great congregations make great preachers."
 - Oil is to be beaten from olives.
 - Oil is to be "clear" "pure"
 - Congregation comes filled with the Holy Spirit. Purity, Expectation, Service
 - The priest makes sure:
 - The wicks are trimmed (so flame burns appropriately)
 - The tends to the lamp (word) (so flame burns continually)
- The Priests cannot do their jobs without the Oil & Light

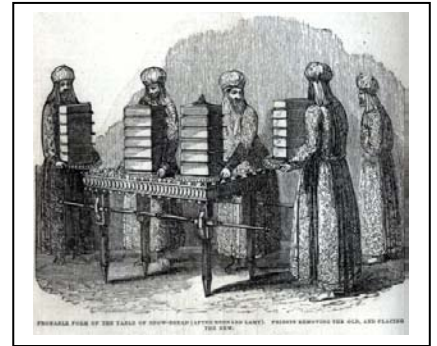
- Christians can appear to be light as well. This is because we know the Lord and are devoted to do His will.
 - **Philippians 2:14-16** "*Do all things without grumbling or disputing; so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life*"
 - **Matthew 5:14-16** "*You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.*"
 - So then we too as lamps providing light need to have oil, continual filling of oil and to have our wicks trimmed.

Lev 24:5 **2) The Holy Bread** vs 5-9

"Then you shall take fine flour and bake twelve cakes with it; two-tenths of an ephah shall be in each cake.

Lev 24:6 "You shall set them in two rows, six to a row, on the pure gold table before the LORD.

Lev 24:7 "You shall put pure frankincense on each row that it may be a memorial portion for the bread, even an offering by fire to the LORD. .



- Moses, according to verse 1, is speaking to the sons of Israel.
- They are the ones to take fine flour and make the cakes (showbread) for the priests to place on the golden table in the Holy Place.
- These are laid out in 2 rows of 6 with frankincense.
- Exodus 25:30 calls this the "Showbread" or the "Bread of the Presence" Literally it was the bread of the face. This was about a face to face relationship.
- 12 loaves represented the 12 tribes or families of Israel. (Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Zebulun, Issachar, Dan, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Joseph (Manasseh & Ephraim), Benjamin)
- These were a memorial. A remembrance. The Lord and the Sons of Israel were to remember their covenant relationship.

Lev 24:8 "Every sabbath day he shall set it in order before the LORD continually; it is an everlasting covenant for the sons of Israel.

Lev 24:9 "It shall be for Aaron and his sons, and they shall eat it in a holy place; for it is most holy to him from the LORD'S offerings by fire, his portion forever."

- The bread was changed every week on the Sabbath. New bread replaced the old.
- God desired the relationship to be fresh. It seems a weekly ceremony was a sufficient amount to keep this fresh. (for the sons of Israel, not just the priests)
- The priest would eat the older bread. One could imagine how stale this bread would become if they didn't do this weekly, or if they skipped a week.
- **John 6:51-58** "*I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread also which I will give for the life of the world is My flesh. Then the Jews began to argue with one another, saying, "How can this man give us His flesh to eat? So Jesus said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in yourselves. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also will live because of Me. This is the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live forever.*"
- In the same way, our relationship with the Lord can become stale without an adequate amount of time spent with him.

- Lev 24:13 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
- Lev 24:14 "Bring the one who has cursed outside the camp, and let all who heard him lay their hands on his head; then let all the congregation stone him.
- God takes blaspheming His Name very seriously.
 - **Why a death penalty?** God in a few verses will speak of an eye for an eye, a life for a life. Blaspheming God's Holy Name is as Murder. For salvation is by no other Name. And if God's Name is allowed to be reduced to mere profanity, people will doubt the Power in that Name and will not believe unto salvation.
 - **Philippians 2:9-11** "For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."
 - **Acts 4:12** "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved."
- Lev 24:15 "You shall speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'If anyone curses his God, then he will bear his sin.
- Lev 24:16 'Moreover, the one who blasphemes the name of the LORD shall surely be put to death; all the congregation shall certainly stone him. The alien as well as the native, when he blasphemes the Name, shall be put to death.
- All the congregation participates in the execution. The offence was an offence against God as well as an offence against the congregation.
 - This also is a demonstration of the seriousness of this offence. Deuteronomy 17 requires 2-3 witnesses. And the entire congregation executes this punishment.
- Lev 24:17 **4) The Equity of Punishment** vs 17-23 *lex talionis*
- 'If a man takes the life of any human being, he shall surely be put to death.
- Lev 24:18 'The one who takes the life of an animal shall make it good, life for life.
- Lev 24:19 'If a man injures his neighbor, just as he has done, so it shall be done to him:
- Lev 24:20 fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth; just as he has injured a man, so it shall be inflicted on him.
- Lev 24:21 'Thus the one who kills an animal shall make it good, but the one who kills a man shall be put to death.
- Lev 24:22 'There shall be one standard for you; it shall be for the stranger as well as the native, for I am the LORD your God.'
- God demands that crimes will be punished in proportion appropriate to the crime. But...
 - ...Eye for Eye; Tooth for Tooth was to limit the excesses of punishment that man inflicts. This is a show of regard for human life. This does not devalue human life. If human life was devalued one might be sentenced to death for trespassing or damaging their property.
 - **Matthew 5:38-42** "You have heard that it was said, 'AN EYE FOR AN EYE, AND A TOOTH FOR A TOOTH.' But I say to you, do not resist an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. If anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, let him have your coat also. Whoever forces you to go one mile, go with him two. Give to him who asks of you, and do not turn away from him who wants to borrow from you."
- Lev 24:23 Then Moses spoke to the sons of Israel, and they brought the one who had cursed outside the camp and stoned him with stones. Thus the sons of Israel did, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.
- The sons of Israel heard the decision of the Lord and obeyed. These laws were not just divine guidelines. They were law.