

Doctrine of Shewbread

1. The shewbread consisted of twelve loaves placed in the Tabernacle on a table three feet in length, one and a half feet wide, and one and a half feet high.
2. The table was overlaid with pure gold, surrounded by a molding of gold, and equipped with four rings of gold, a ring at each corner, through which poles were passed, so that the table could be carried.
3. The description of the tabernacle furniture is recorded in Exodus 25.
 - *Exodus 25:23 Thou shalt also make a table of shittim wood: two cubits shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof. 24 And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, and make thereto a crown of gold round about.*
4. In the Tabernacle in the Wilderness, the table of shewbread had a special spot in the Holy Place, not far from God's special dwelling place, the Holy of Holies.
5. The shewbread was laid on the table in two rows, six in a row, of twelve units representing the twelve tribes of Israel in constant fellowship with God.
6. The Israelites considered themselves to be guests at His table. They were consecrated to Him. There was bread for life.
7. Every Sabbath the old bread was replaced by fresh loaves.
 - *1 Samuel 21:6 So the priest gave him hallowed bread: for there was no bread there but the shewbread, that was taken from before the Lord, to put hot bread in the day when it was taken away.*
8. The old loaves were to be eaten by the priests. They were "for Aaron and his sons," and not for everyone. (Lev. 24:9) The priests were to have constant fellowship with God. They were to receive physical strength for the spiritual work they were called to do.
 - *Leviticus 24:9 And it shall be Aaron's and his sons'; and they shall eat it in the holy place: for it is most holy unto him of the offerings of the Lord made by fire by a perpetual statute.*