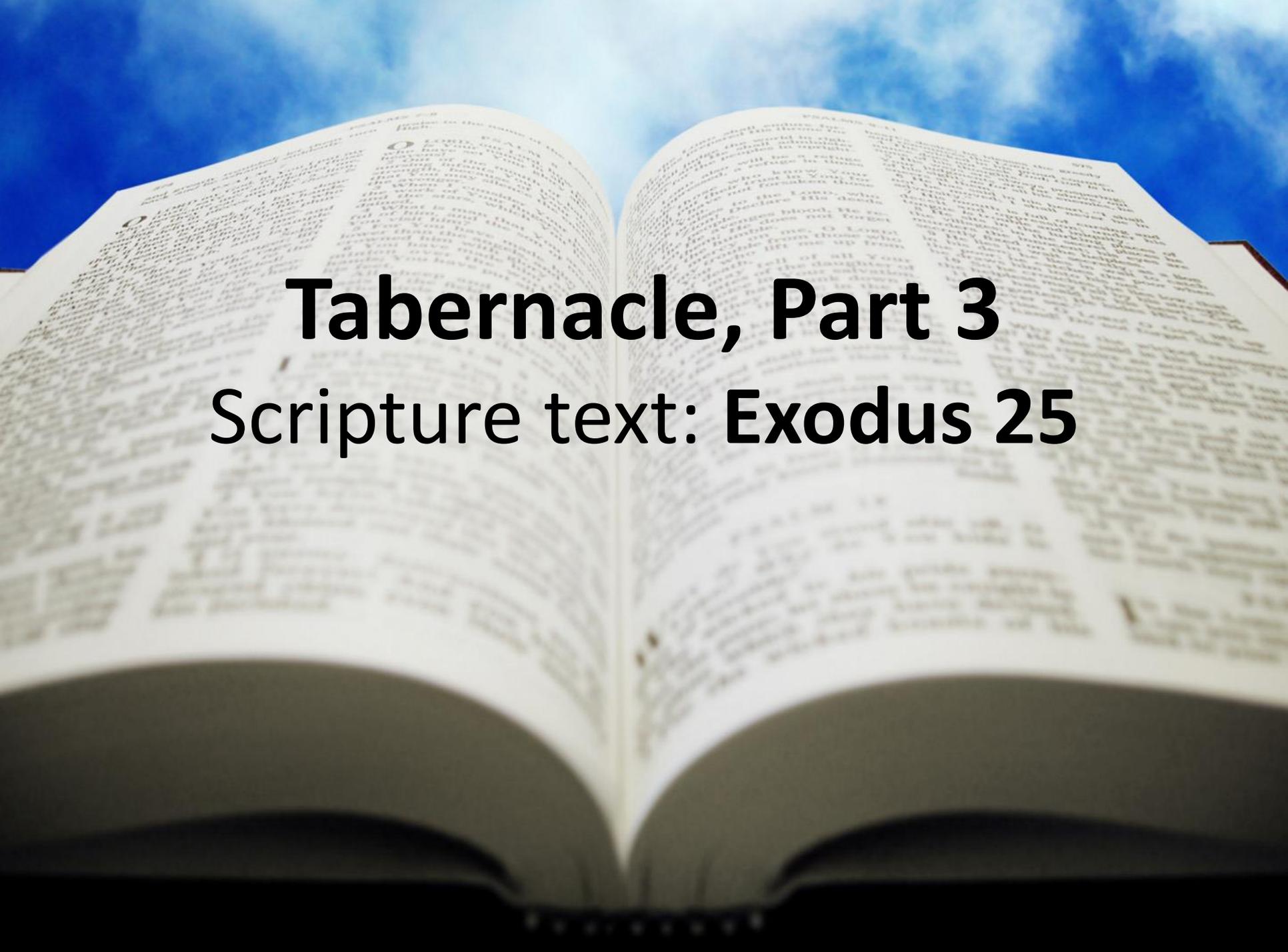


Welcome to Promise Land Bible Church
We're glad you're here!



An open Bible is shown from a low angle, looking up at the pages. The pages are filled with text, but it is out of focus. The background is a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. The text is centered over the open pages.

Tabernacle, Part 3
Scripture text: Exodus 25

The Table of Showbread (25:23–30)

The twelve tribes of Israel were represented in the **tabernacle in three ways**: by **their names** on the two engraved stones **on the high priest's shoulders** (Ex. 28:6–14); by **their names** on the twelve stones on the **high priest's breastplate** (28:15–25), and **by the twelve loaves of bread on the table in the holy place.**

These loaves were a reminder that the tribes were constantly in the presence of God and that God saw all that they did (see Lev. 24:5–9).

Leviticus 24:5-9 "You shall take fine flour and bake **twelve loaves** from it; two tenths of an ephah shall be in each loaf. And you shall set them in two piles, six in a pile, **on the table of pure gold before the LORD.**

And you shall put pure frankincense on each pile, that it may go with the bread as a memorial portion as a food offering to the LORD. **Every Sabbath day** Aaron shall arrange it before the LORD regularly; it is from the people of Israel as a covenant forever. And it shall be for Aaron and his sons, and **they shall eat it in a holy place,** since it is for him a most holy portion out of the LORD's food offerings, a perpetual due."

The bread was a reminder too that God fed His people (“**give us this day our daily bread**”), that **His people were to “feed on” God’s truth** (Matt. 4:4), and that Israel was to “feed” the Gentiles and witness to them. God called Israel to be a blessing to the Gentiles, just as bread is food for humanity; but **the people of Israel did not always fulfill their calling**. The loaves were changed each week and only the priests were allowed to eat this holy bread. See Lev. 22. David was allowed to eat the bread because he was God’s anointed king, and the bread was no longer on the table. God is more concerned with meeting human needs than protecting sacred rituals (Matt. 12:3–4).

Leviticus 22:10-13 "A lay person shall not eat of a holy thing; no foreign guest of the priest or hired servant shall eat of a holy thing, but if a priest buys a slave as his property for money, the slave may eat of it, and anyone born in his house may eat of his food. If a priest's daughter marries a layman, she shall not eat of the contribution of the holy things. But if a priest's daughter is widowed or divorced and has no child and returns to her father's house, as in her youth, she may eat of her father's food; yet no lay person shall eat of it.

Matthew 4:4 But he answered, "It is written, "'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Matthew 12:3-6 He said to them, "Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, and those who were with him: how he entered the house of God and ate the bread of the Presence, which it was not lawful for him to eat nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests? Or have you not read in the Law how on the Sabbath the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath and are guiltless? **I tell you, something greater than the temple is here.**

The Golden Lampstand (25:31–40)

The word “candlestick” is misleading, for this was a lampstand whose light was fed with oil (see Lev. 24:2–4; Zech. 4).

Local churches are represented by individual golden lampstands (Rev. 1:12–20), giving God’s light to the dark world. The lampstand in the holy place speaks of **Jesus Christ**, the light of the world (John 8:12). **The oil for the lamps reminds us of the Holy Spirit**, who has anointed us (1 John 2:20).

Hebrews 9:1-4 Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly place of holiness. For a tent was prepared, the first section, in which were **the lampstand and the table and the bread of the Presence**. It is called **the Holy Place**. Behind the second curtain was a second section called **the Most Holy Place**, having the **golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant** covered on all sides with gold, in which was a golden urn **holding the manna, and Aaron's staff that budded, and the tablets of the covenant**.

Leviticus 24:2-4 "Command the people of Israel to bring you **pure oil from beaten olives for the lamp, that a light may be kept burning regularly.** Outside the veil of the testimony, in the tent of meeting, Aaron shall arrange it from evening to morning before the LORD regularly. **It shall be a statute forever throughout your generations.** He shall arrange the lamps on the lampstand of pure gold before the LORD regularly.

Zechariah 4:2-3 And he said to me, "What do you see?" I said, "I see, and behold, a lampstand all of gold, with a bowl on the top of it, and **seven lamps on it,** with seven lips on each of the lamps that are on the top of it. And there are **two olive trees by it,** one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left."

Revelation 1:16-20 In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and **I have the keys of Death and Hades.** Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. As **for the mystery** of the **seven stars** that you saw in my right hand, and the **seven golden lampstands**, the **seven stars are the angels of the seven churches**, and the **seven lampstands are the seven churches.**

John 8:12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

1 John 2:20-22 But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge. I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth. Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son.

Some students see the golden lampstand as a picture of the Word of God that gives us light as we walk in this world (*Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*).

Israel was to be a light to the Gentiles (Isa. 42:6; 49:6) but failed in their mission.

Today, each believer is God's light (Matt. 5:14–16), and each local church is to shine in this dark world (Phil. 2:12–16).

Isaiah 42:6-7 "I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a **light for the nations**, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

Isaiah 49:6 he says: "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; **I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.**"

Matthew 5:13-16 "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. **"You are the light of the world.** A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. **In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.**

Ephesians 5:6-14 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for **because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.** Therefore do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but **now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light** (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and **try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.** Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, **but instead expose them.** For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is **exposed by the light,** it becomes visible, for **anything that becomes visible is light.** Therefore it says, "**Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.**"

Act 26:14-18 And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.' And I said, '**Who are you, Lord?**' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles--to whom I am sending you **to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'**

Philippians 2:12-16 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling**, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Do all things without grumbling or questioning, **that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God** without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.