

Exodus 40:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he put the candlestick in the tent of the congregation, over against the table, on the side of the tabernacle southward.

Analysis

The lampstand 'over against the table on the side of the tabernacle southward' creates balanced symmetry—provision (north) opposite illumination (south). This spatial relationship teaches that God's people need both spiritual nourishment (bread/Christ as sustenance) and spiritual insight (light/Christ as illumination). The phrase 'over against' (נִזְבֵּח, nokach, opposite/facing) indicates intentional design, not random placement. The Holy Place's ordered layout prefigures the church's balanced ministry—feeding and enlightening believers through Word and Spirit.

Historical Context

The lampstand's south side position (Exodus 26:35) meant it faced the table across the Holy Place. The priest entering saw bread on his right (north), lampstand on left (south), incense altar straight ahead (west, before the veil). This symmetrical design created visual beauty and functional balance.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What does the balanced placement (provision opposite illumination) teach about the church's dual ministry feeding and enlightening?
2. How do table and lampstand together illustrate Christ as both Bread (sustenance) and Light (understanding)?

Interlinear Text

וְיָשַׁם	אֶת	בְּמִנְבָּרָה	בְּאֹהֶל	מִזְבֵּחַ	בְּכָתָם
And he put	H853	the candlestick	in the tent	of the congregation	over against
H7760		H4501	H168	H4150	H5227

בְּמִשְׁמָךְ	עַל	פְּשָׁלַט	תַּנְבֵּה:
on the side	of the tabernacle	southward	

| **the table** | H5921 | H3409 | H4908 | H5045 | |
| H7979 | | | | | |

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