

# Exodus 40:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou shalt bring in the table, and set in order the things that are to be set in order upon it; and thou shalt bring in the candlestick, and light the lamps thereof.

## Analysis

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The table and showbread 'set in order' (וַיַּעֲרַכְתָּ אֶת־עֲרִכּוֹ, ve'arakhta et-erkho, arrange its arrangement) plus the candlestick with lamps 'set up' (וַיַּהֲלִיטָהּ, vaha'alita, cause to ascend/light) establish worship order. The Hebrew עָרַךְ (arakh, to arrange) emphasizes pattern and sequence—God's worship follows design, not improvisation. The bread (provision) and light (illumination) symbolize Christ who feeds (John 6:35) and illuminates (John 8:12) His people. The command's precision teaches that New Testament worship, though not ceremonially bound, still requires biblical order (1 Corinthians 14:40).

## Historical Context

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The table stood on the north side of the Holy Place, the lampstand on the south (Exodus 26:35), creating symmetrical design. The showbread's weekly replacement and lamps' daily tending established rhythms of priestly service. This ordered approach to worship contrasted with pagan religions' chaotic, ecstatic practices.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. How does 'set in order' worship challenge contemporary casual or chaotic approaches to corporate worship?
2. What does the table and lampstand providing nourishment and light teach about the church's sustaining ministry?

## Interlinear Text

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וְהָבֵאתָ	אֶת	הַשֻּׁלְחַן	וְעָרַכְתָּ	אֶת
And thou shalt bring	H853	in the table	and set in order	H853
H935		H7979	H6186	
עֲרָכָהּ	וְהָבֵאתָ	אֶת	הַמְּנֹכָה	
the things that are to be set in order	And thou shalt bring	H853	in the candlestick	
H6187	H935		H4501	
וְהַעֲלִיתָ	אֶת	נֵרֹתֶיהָ		
and light	H853	the lamps		
H5927		H5216		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Leviticus 24:8** (Parallel theme): Every sabbath he shall set it in order before the LORD continually, being taken from the children of Israel by an everlasting covenant.