

**Levítico 24:5 Y tomarás flor de harina, y cocerás de ella doce tortas; cada torta será de dos décimas de efa. 6 Y las pondrás en dos hileras, seis en cada hilera, sobre la mesa limpia delante de Jehová. 7 Pondrás también sobre cada hilera incienso puro, y será para el pan como perfume, ofrenda encendida a Jehová. 8 Cada día de reposo lo pondrá continuamente en orden delante de Jehová, en nombre de los hijos de Israel, como pacto perpetuo. 9 Y será de Aarón y de sus hijos, los cuales lo comerán en lugar santo; porque es cosa muy santa para él, de las ofrendas encendidas a Jehová, por derecho perpetuo.**

**El pan estaba hecho de flor de harina.** La flor de harina se obtiene golpeando y moliendo el trigo. Cuanto mayor es la calidad de la harina, más golpes ha soportado el trigo. Así sucede con tu propósito. A menudo, este solo se manifiesta a través de un proceso de preparación, y dicha preparación puede ser profunda e incluso traumática. El pan más selecto se elabora con los mejores ingredientes, cuya preparación suele requerir tiempo y esfuerzo. No hay otro camino. La flor de harina del Antiguo Testamento es siempre una figura de Jesús, quien soportó una tribulación inmensa para ver su propósito manifestado y cumplido.

**Hornea doce panes.** Una vez que el trigo ha sido golpeado hasta convertirse en harina, se somete al fuego. Se trata de pan sin levadura, similar a las galletas modernas que carecen de ella. No había nada en él que lo hiciera hincharse o parecer más grande de lo que realmente era. Eran doce panes. ¿Por qué doce? Porque había doce tribus en Israel. Había suficiente pan de propósito para todas las tribus. El mensaje del propósito es para todos, para todas las tribus de Dios.

**Usa dos décimas de efa para hornear cada pan.** La esencia del propósito reside en todos nosotros en igual medida. Puede que no tengas el mismo impacto que otra persona, pero tu propósito es igual de significativo y crucial.

**Colócalos en dos hileras.** Dios ordena el propósito según su voluntad soberana. Él nos sitúa en nuestro lugar conforme a su plan. Algunos creen que, en realidad, se trataba de pilas de pan y no de hileras ordenadas. Eso sería coherente con el proceso de descubrir y cumplir tu propósito: no siempre es un proceso pulcro y ordenado.

**Ponlos sobre la mesa de oro delante del Señor.** La mesa de oro era una mesa de madera recubierta de oro puro. Sin necesidad de muchas explicaciones, esta mesa simbolizaba a Jesús: era hombre (madera) y Dios (oro). Tu propósito se asienta sobre el fundamento de Jesús, quien fue un hombre de propósito. Nos definimos en el contexto de Jesús, que cumplió la voluntad perfecta de Dios. Hablaremos más de esto más adelante.

**Coloca incienso a lo largo de cada hilera como memorial.** Cuando actúas conforme a tu propósito, eres un aroma agradable, un sacrificio fragante para el Señor. Cuando intentas ser algo que no eres, sólo puedes hacerlo mediante las fuerzas de tu propia carne. La carne no huele bien ante el Señor, pero su incienso es agradable. Es interesante que los sabios llevaban incienso como regalo al niño Jesús.

**El incienso era una ofrenda hecha por fuego al Señor.** Cuando actúas conforme a tu propósito, te rodea un fuego que arde pero no te consume. Eres como una zarza ardiente y lo que haces, lo haces para Dios; ello asciende ante Él como un sacrificio de aroma agradable.

**El pan se disponía sábado tras sábado.** ¿No resulta interesante que el pan de la presencia se cambiara cada sábado? Cuando actúas conforme a tu propósito, hayas descanso. Dejas de

esforzarte con tus propias fuerzas y óperas mediante la energía divina que surge al cumplir tu propósito. El descanso no siempre implica cesar la actividad, sino realizar una actividad que, de hecho, te revitaliza mientras la llevas a cabo. Jesús a menudo cumplía su propósito sin comer ni descansar, y aun así era eficaz.

**El pan era para todos los israelitas.** Cuando descubres tu propósito, animas a los demás a encontrar el suyo. Mi propósito es como una garantía para ti: si yo puedo encontrar el mío, tú puedes encontrar el tuyo.

**El pan pertenecía a Aarón y a sus hijos.** En esta era del evangelio, todos somos sacerdotes para el Señor; ya no existe una familia que herede el sacerdocio por linaje. El pan de la presencia —el pan del propósito— está ahí para nutrirte en tu servicio a Dios y para Dios. El propósito no es algo exclusivo de una sola generación ni algo especial que ocurre solo en momentos concretos de la historia; es algo para todas las generaciones.

**El pan se reemplazaba y se comía cada sábado.** No basta con hablar del propósito; para vivir conforme a él, debes asimilarlo. Tu propósito debe convertirse en parte esencial de quién eres. Al comerlo, recibes alimento y descanso: aquello que el sábado debía brindar al ser humano.

**Se comía en el Lugar Santo.** Existe un «lugar» específico donde cumples tu propósito. Puede ser entre un grupo de personas, en un país determinado o en unas circunstancias concretas. Mi propósito es poner orden en el caos; me encuentro en el Lugar Santo cuando estoy en medio del caos estableciendo orden. Ahí es donde me encuentro con el Señor y donde Su presencia es especial para mí. Dondequiera que eso sea para ti, es un lugar santo. Es allí donde te alimentas de tu propósito y donde este te nutre para seguir sirviendo.

**Era una parte santísima de las ofrendas habituales consumidas por fuego para Aarón.** Tu propósito es especial; es santo y está apartado para Dios. No hay nada igual para ti. Te alimentas de él junto con todo lo que Dios ha hecho en tu vida, y eso te sustenta. No vivir conforme a tu propósito equivale a privarte de algo que te nutre espiritualmente.

**Se encontraba en el atrio interior, justo antes de la entrada al Lugar Santísimo, junto con el candelabro y el altar del incienso.** Tu propósito trae nueva luz (Saulo halló su propósito en la brillante luz del camino a Damasco). Te aparta para Dios (ver Hechos 13:1). Renueva tu vida de oración (simbolizada por el altar del incienso) porque cuando oras acerca de tu propósito y cómo alcanzarlo, ¡Dios te escucha!

***Leviticus 24:5 “And you shall take fine flour and bake twelve cakes with it. Two-tenths of an ephah shall be in each cake. 6 You shall set them in two rows, six in a row, on the pure gold table before the Lord. 7 And you shall put pure frankincense on each row, that it may be on the bread for a memorial, an offering made by fire to the Lord. 8 Every Sabbath he shall set it in order before the Lord continually, being taken from the children of Israel by an everlasting covenant. 9 And 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 offerings of the Lord made by fire, by a perpetual statute.”***

1. **The bread was made of fine flour.** You make fine flour by beating and grinding wheat. The higher the quality of flour, the more beating the wheat has endured. That is how it is with your purpose. Often it is only released through a process of preparation and that preparation can be deep and even traumatic. The finest bread is made of the finest ingredients, which often take time and effort to prepare. There is no other way. The fine flour of the Old Testament is always a type of Jesus, who endured tremendous tribulation to see His purpose released and fulfilled.
2. **Bake twelve loaves.** After the wheat is beaten into flour, it is then exposed to fire. This bread is unleavened bread, similar to modern crackers, which had no leaven. There was nothing in it to puff it up and make it look bigger than it was. There were twelve loaves. Why twelve? There were 12 tribes in Israel. There was enough bread of purpose for all the tribes. The message of purpose is for everyone, all God's tribes.
3. **Use two-tenths of an ephah to bake each loaf.** The essence of purpose is in all of us in equal measure. You may not have the same effect as someone else, but your purpose is just as significant and critical.
4. **Set them in two rows.** God orders purpose according to His sovereign will. He puts us in place according to His plan. Some believe there were actually stacks of the bread and not neat rows. That would be consistent with finding and fulfilling your purpose: it isn't always a neat and orderly process.
5. **Set them on the table of gold before the Lord.** The table of gold was a wood table that was covered in pure gold. Without a lot of explanation, this table was a type of Jesus. He was a man (wood) and God (gold). Your purpose rests on the foundation of Jesus, who was a man of purpose. We define ourselves in the context of Jesus who did the perfect will of God. More on that later.
6. **Put some incense along each row as a memorial.** When you function in your purpose, you are a pleasing aroma, a fragrant sacrifice to the Lord. When you try to be something you're not, you can only do that in the strength of your flesh. Flesh doesn't smell so good in God's nostrils, but His incense is pleasant. It is interesting that the wise men brought frankincense to the baby Jesus as a gift.
7. **The incense was an offering to the Lord by fire.** When you function in your purpose, there is a fire about you that burns but doesn't consume you. You are like a burning bush and what you do, you do for God. It rises before God as a fragrant sacrifice.

8. **The bread was set out Sabbath after Sabbath.** Isn't it interesting that the bread of the presence was changed every Sabbath. When you function in your purpose, there is rest for you. You stop striving in your own strength and operate in the divine energy that comes when you function in your purpose. Rest isn't always a cessation of activity, but activity that actually rejuvenates you as you engage in it. Jesus often functioned in His purpose without food or rest and was effective.
9. **The bread was for all the Israelites.** When you find your purpose, it encourages others to find theirs. My purpose is like a down payment to you. If I can find mine, you can find yours.
10. **The bread belonged to Aaron and his sons.** In this gospel age, we are all priests unto the Lord. There is no family of priests who inherit the priesthood through their family. The bread of the presence, the bread of purpose, is there to nourish you in your service to and for God. Purpose is not just for one generation, something special that only happens at certain points in history, but rather it is for every generation.
11. **The bread was replaced and eaten every Sabbath.** It isn't enough to talk about purpose. If you are to live by it, you must digest it. Your purpose must become part and parcel with who you are. In eating it, there is nourishment and rest, things the Sabbath was to provide for man.
12. **It was eaten in the holy place.** There is a specific "place" where you fulfill your purpose. It may be among a group of people, in a certain country, or in a certain set of circumstances. My purpose is to bring order out of chaos. I am in the holy place when I am in chaos bringing order. That is where I meet the Lord and where His presence is special for me. Wherever that is for you, it is a holy place. That is where you eat your purpose and where it nourishes you for more service.
13. **It was a most holy part of the regular offerings by fire for Aaron.** Your purpose is special, it is holy and set apart for God. There is nothing else like it for you. You eat it along with all that God has done in your life and it sustains you. To not function in your purpose is to cut yourself off from something that will feed you spiritually.
14. **It was located in the inner court, just prior to the entrance to the Holy of Holies, along with the lamp stand and the altar of incense..** Your purpose brings new light (Saul found his purpose in the bright light on the Damascus road). It sets you apart for God (see Acts 13:1). It renews your prayer life (symbolized by the incense altar) because when you pray about your purpose and how to achieve it, God listens!

***Berean Literal Bible***

***And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us. And we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. JOHN 1:14***

Referred to as showbread in the King James, is translated as the bread of the presence in the New International Version. Your purpose is your bread of the presence for you. You could do it all day, lose track of time and not eat, and you would be sustained.

***Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty. But as I told you, you have seen me and***

***still you do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:35-40).***

#### **"I am the bread of life"**

Jesus identifies Himself as the sole source of true, sustaining life.

- In John 6:48–51 He repeats, "I am the bread of life," linking Himself to the manna God provided in Exodus 16—yet He surpasses it because He "comes down from heaven, so that anyone may eat of it and not die."
- John 1:4 affirms, "In Him was life, and that life was the light of men." Physical bread keeps a body alive for a day; Christ supplies eternal life.
- Like the bread on Israel's table of showbread (Leviticus 24:5–9), Jesus stands in the presence of God as continual nourishment for His people.

#### **"Whoever comes to Me"**

Approach is personal and intentional.

- Jesus invites all: "Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened" (Matthew 11:28).
- He promises acceptance: "The one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37).
- John 10:9 pictures the same movement: entering through the door (Christ) to find pasture.
- Coming is more than proximity; it is surrender and reliance.

#### **"Will never hunger"**

A permanent satisfaction is guaranteed.

- Psalm 107:9 declares, "For He satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things."
- Isaiah 55:2 asks, "Why spend money on what is not bread...?" Christ answers that plea with Himself.
- Earthly appetites return daily; spiritual hunger ends when fed by the Savior.
- The verb "never" underscores an ongoing, unending provision—once you partake, you remain filled.

#### **"And whoever believes in Me"**

Belief equals wholehearted trust.

- John consistently equates believing with receiving life (John 3:16; 5:24).
- Acts 16:31 shows the same simplicity: "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved."
- Faith rests not in rituals or works but in the Person and finished work of Jesus (Ephesians 2:8–9).

#### **"Will never thirst"**

The promise extends from hunger to thirst—the whole person satisfied.

- Jesus told the Samaritan woman, "Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst" (John 4:14).

- Revelation 22:17 echoes the invitation: “Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who desires, take the water of life freely.”
- The Spirit applies this living water (John 7:37–39), quenching the deepest emptiness.
- Just as physical thirst signals need, spiritual thirst signals the soul’s need for Christ—once met, it is eternally quenched.