

The Lampstand

“Make a lampstand of pure gold and hammer it out, base and shaft; its flowerlike cups, buds and blossoms shall be of one piece with it. Six branches are to extend from the sides of the lampstand — three on one side and three on the other. Three cups shaped like almond flowers with buds and blossoms are to be on one branch, three on the next branch, and the same for all six branches extending from the lampstand. And on the lampstand there are to be four cups shaped like almond flowers with buds and blossoms. One bud shall be under the first pair of branches extending from the lampstand, a second bud under the second pair, and a third bud under the third pair — six branches in all. The buds and branches shall all be of one piece with the lampstand, hammered out of pure gold.”

- Exodus 25:31-36

“Then make its seven lamps and set them up on it so that they light the space in front of it. Its wick trimmers and trays are to be of pure gold. A talent of pure gold is to be used for the lampstand and all these accessories. See that you make them according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.”

- Exodus 25:31-40

The Golden Lampstand

The Names — Lampstand, Menorah, Candlestick,

The Design

- One talent of pure gold — about 75 pounds

“They made the lampstand and all its accessories from one talent of pure gold.”

- Exodus 37:24

- Center branch and three branches on each side — seven branches
- Very ornate — cups, buds and blossoms
- Seven bowls with wicks — filled daily with oil

The Placement

- Stood on the left inside the tabernacle

The Usage

- It provided light in the Tabernacle

The History of the Lampstand

1100 BC — *Samuel* —

“One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.” - 1 Samuel 3:2,3

538 BC — *Daniel* —

“Suddenly the fingers of a human hand appeared and wrote on the plaster of the wall, near the lampstand in the royal palace. The king watched the hand as it wrote.”

- Daniel 5:5

165 BC — Judas Maccabees —

70 AD — Titus of Rome — Temple of Peace

455 AD — Genseric — to Carthage

533 AD — Belisarius to Constantinople — then to Jerusalem — then ?

The Meaning of the Lampstand

- It is a picture of Christ — *It was pure gold, seven branches, the only light.*

“While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

- John 9:5

“The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.”

- Revelation 21:23

- It is a picture of the Holy Spirit — *Seven branches and the oil*

“Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing in the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, [that is, the seven-fold Spirit of God] sent out into all the earth.”

- Revelation 5:6

“Take the anointing oil and anoint him by pouring it on his head.”

- Exodus 29:7

- It is a picture of Truth (the Word of God).

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.”

- Psalm 119:105

“Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.”

- Matthew 5:15

- More than anything it was the picture of the presence of God!

“Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.”

- Revelation 2:5

The Lessons We Learn

1. After we have been cleansed by the blood (altar) and the water (basin) we can expect the presence of our Lord.

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations... baptizing them... And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

- Matthew 28:20

2. Remaining in the presence of God involves daily effort.

3. We are to reflect His light to those around us.

“In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”

- Matthew 5:16

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