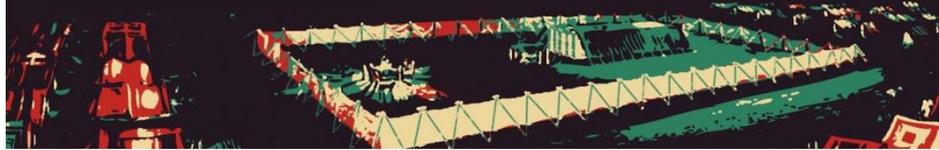


"The Lampstand, Christ Our Sight"

Exodus 25:31-37

The Tabernacle of Testimony



I. A LESSON CONCERNING THE SAVIOR

A. CHRIST IS THE LIGHT (EXODUS 25:31)

John 1:4, "In him was life; and the life was the light of men."

John 9:5, "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

Inside that tabernacle it was to be pitch dark; there was to be no illumination except the illumination of the golden lampstand. God is teaching about two kinds of light: Natural light and Supernatural light. While the world lives in natural light; the Christian dwells in supernatural light. In order to see this light, you have to come to the inside.

1 Cor 2:14, "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

B. CHRIST IS THE LORD (EXODUS 25:31)

Shimmering, glorious, pure gold is a symbol of Deity. Note that it was beaten gold.

Is. 53:5, "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."

C. CHRIST IS THE LIFE (EXODUS 25:31)

The knops, the bowls, and the flowers are speaking of the bud, the flower, and the fruit that grows on a branch; specifically, the almond.

In the Near East, they call the almond tree the "wakeful tree," or, "the tree that awakens first," because it speaks of resurrection; it speaks of life.

Numbers 17:8, "And it came to pass, that on the morrow Moses went into the tabernacle of witness; and, behold, the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi was budded, and brought forth buds, and bloomed blossoms, and yielded almonds."

II. A LESSON CONCERNING THE SAINT (EXODUS 25:32)

Six is the number of man. Six branches come out of the side of the one shaft. One is the number of Deity, or the number of unity.

Deuteronomy 6:4, "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:"

The central shaft, representing the vine has, coming out on either side, three branches making six total. So, man and God are in perfect union.

John 15:5 & 7, "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. . . . If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you."

It is only as these six branches abide in the central vine that they could either give light or bear fruit.

John 9:5, "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

Matthew 5:14, "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid."

John 1:4, "In him was life; and the life was the light of men."

The lampstand pictures light and life at the same time. As we abide in Christ, we both give forth light and we also bear fruit. One central shaft + six branches = seven, the number of perfection. Perfect Fruit, Perfect Light.

III. A LESSON CONCERNING THE SPIRIT (EXODUS 27:20)

The Jews did not use candles in their worship. They used lampstands that were fed by oil. Oil is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. Aaron, the high priest, when he was sanctified, was anointed, having oil poured on his head. That was but a prophecy of the Holy Spirit being poured out upon the Lord Jesus Christ and upon the Church. Jesus Christ did all that He did in the power and the anointing of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 10:38, "How God anointed (poured out the oil of the Spirit) Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him."

Jesus' ministry was in, and through, and by the Spirit (**Luke 3:21-22**).

Hebrews 1:9, "Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows."

(**Luke 4:1**) Jesus was filled with the Spirit and He was being led by the Spirit.

(**Luke 4:14**) Jesus defeated the devil and came out of that temptation experience in the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus then stood in the synagogue and opened the Word of God. We see what He read in **Luke 4:18**.

Hebrews 9:14, "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

Jesus died in the power of the Holy Spirit, and was raised by the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:11, "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you."

CONCLUSION: The very Spirit that caused Jesus to be a bright and shining light, and caused Jesus to be the light of the world, causes me to be the light of the world. The very same Spirit that energized Jesus and gave Him life can energize me and give me life. The very same Spirit that caused Jesus to be fruitful can cause me to be fruitful, as long as I abide in the vine (Christ) and receive the oil (The Holy Spirit).