

The Sanctuary – Holy Place (Lampstand) II

ST Series 10

The Seven-Branded Lampstand

Beaten from a single sheet of **gold**, the branches and the stem have **one nature**. They picture God's plan,

“for Whom are all things, and by Whom are all things, in bringing many sons into glory, to make the Captain of their salvation perfect through suffering. For both He that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all one; for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brethren” (Heb. 2:10, 11; cf Eph. 5:30).

In the epistle of 2 Peter 1:3,4 we find how we become “partakers of the **divine nature**.” For “as He is, so are we [to be] in this world” (1 John 4:17).

The Lampstand & Its Ornamentation (Exodus 25:31-37; 37:17-22)

1. The lampstand (Candlestick, KJV) as outlined in Scripture: *(Turn to Exodus 25 and lets read)*

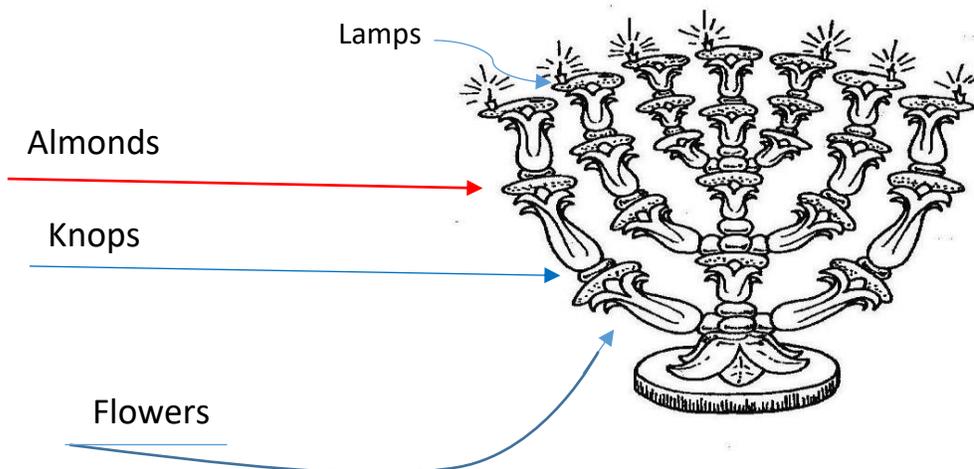
Contained **one main shaft**, with three branches projecting from each side.

These **six branches** were alike, each having “three bowls made after the fashion of almonds, ...a knop and a flower,” “resembling lilies” PP 348—nine ornaments in each branch.

The main shaft had four bowls made like almonds, his knops, and his flowers,
--twelve ornaments.

Thus, the shaft and the six branches had **sixty-six ornaments**. Under each of the three pairs of branches on the shaft was a knop—three more ornaments.

On the central shaft there were four sets of three, bringing total to 70.



Though the inspired description is so minute, yet the caution is added:

“Look that thou make them after their pattern, which was showed thee in the mount.” Ex. 25:40

Why all this detail, re-enforced by special words of caution?

Because, any variation from God’s exact plan would _____ or mar the meaning, and thus fail of teaching important spiritual truth pertaining to the plan of salvation.



The shaft (central pillar), also known as “thigh” (*yarak*, loins, Gen 46:26; Ex 1:5; see Ex 37:17) is used as a symbol of creative power from which seed is procreated (Ex 1:5, margin; Judges 8:30, margin). From this the “branches” emerge (Ex.25:31; 37:17). Christians are the “branches” begotten through the Spirit to be lights in the world through their holy lives (2 Peter 1:4; 1 Peter 1:23).

The branches of the lampstand were so critical to the function and balance of the furniture, that if one branch was missing, the lampstand would fall over.

Application: This teaches an important truth re. maintaining balance and unity in the church, for when “a church” is off kilter, “imbalanced [divided], it will not stand.”
{cf Matt.12:25}

The Lampstand symbolizes Christ in its entirety, (primarily)- John 15.1,2
Also, as “the light of the world” it refers to His people (secondarily)- Matt.5:14

This talent of pure gold, “heated and beaten”, weighed about 120 lbs.

Application Question

When we study the Lampstand in the Holy Place, we need to seriously ask ourselves:
How closely do we identify with our Lord in lifting Heaven’s lamp of truth and love high enough for all to see?

2. Seventy Ornaments

Upon each of the six boughs were three triads of opening buds, delicate blossoms and ripe almonds (Ex. 25:31-36). These triple threes signal the fullness of heaven’s blessing.

What do these triple threes signify?

The work of _____, _____, _____

The seventy ornaments represent

- >> the seventy Christ appointed to go “into every city and place, whither He Himself would come.” (Luke 10:1,17)
- >> the first seventy elders appointed when the covenant of God was ratified at Sinai. (Ex.24:1,9), whom God gave the Spirit to that was upon Moses. (Num.11:14,16,17)

3. Almond Ornaments

Why were the ornaments to be made “like unto almonds”?

- The Hebrew word for almond > means “to hasten”, for the almond tree Blossoms very early in the season—it hastens to put forth blossoms.

This was a striking picture of the resurrection.

Almond ornaments are an emblem of Christ, “the Resurrection and the Life”
(John 11:25)

Christians are to “hasten” to proclaim this message to the world. For He is ‘the Firstborn from the dead, and has become “the First Fruits” of those who sleep in the grave (1 Cor15:20, 23; James 1:18; Rom 8:29; Heb. 12:23).

In Him, **once slain** in mankind’s place, **the Source** of the **abundant life** is first disclosed, and then made **the guarantee** of the **disciple’s resurrection**.

Various Scripture supports this definition:

- “The King’s business requires haste.”(I Sam.21:8)
- “The word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Jeremiah, what seest thou? And I said, I see a rod of an almond tree. Then said the Lord unto me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it.” (Jer. 1:11,12)
- The word for almond also means “wakeful”.
This beautifully illustrates the work of Christ for us: “He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.” (Ps.121:4)
- The word “zeal” is also in the root of the word almond—to be zealous; to watch eagerly as a leopard; to be intent upon something; to be awake and vigilant.
Jer.5:6 The seven lamps which were before the throne were “lamps of fire”—
Rev.4:5, His church which the Holy Spirit fires with zeal.

4. Bud and Flower Ornaments

Aaron’s rod pictured life in all its forms. The bud (knops or knobs, Ex.25:31,33,36) represented the babe eager to live, with abundant possibilities. “Its branches were ornamented with exquisitely wrought flowers, resembling lilies” (PP 348 cf. *Vulgate and LXX*; cf Matt 6:30; Isa 40:6 1 Pet 1:24). These blossoms stood for ephemeral youth fragrant with promise.

Each lovely, living part of each branch, thrice repeated, was designed to uphold the **living flame**. But all this **radiance** must begin with a **resurrection**, for only nascent life can radiate **newly lit glory**.

Application:

We are to lift the living Torch high, for this **glorious task** alone the **lampstand was fashioned**, the church called, and we are born again.

Additional Material:

- Prayer –Challenge the group. Ask the class, how much time do you Spend In prayer daily?
Increase your prayer time during your studies and for Your studies, particularly—comprehension and application in your life personally.

- Psalm 119
Twenty-two Stanzas, eight verses in each stanza
Each begins with a different letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

Why?

- Shine for Jesus – Give Holy Spirit permission to give you one soul this week that will cross your path to share with them the joy of Jesus in your heart.