

## Furniture In God's House

In the past messages we have studied the security of the believer as represented in the tabernacle of the congregation in the wilderness. Every believer who enters the door of the tabernacle by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ comes under the blood of the burnt offering, and finds within the tabernacle a complete provision and supply for eternal safety and security.

We saw in our last message how the brazen pins, driven deeply into the desert soil, to which the cords of the tabernacle are attached, are a picture of the love of God in providing the Lord Jesus Christ who by His death and resurrection has provided eternal Salvation for us.

We are now ready to enter the tabernacle proper by the door on the basis of the blood, and behold the glories which He has prepared for us in the wilderness.

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There were exactly seven articles of furniture in the tabernacle — two in the court of the Gentile; (the Bronze Altar) 7.5' long x 7.5' wide x 4.5' high made of acacia covered with bronze. the most used piece of furniture in the Tabernacle.

The next - the Bronze Laver, a basin for ceremonial cleansing. Size none indicated.

Three in the Holy Place (Sanctuary) - the Golden Lampstand - size and dimension are unknown. Made of one talent - weighed 75 pounds of pure gold.

The table of Showbread - a wooden rectangle overlaid with gold 3' long x 1.5' wide x 2.25' high had two rings at the corners to insert poles/

The Altar of Incense - the altar was square, size 1.5' long x 1.5' wide x 3' high made of wood and overlaid with gold. It had rings in the corners for poles.

The Veil separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies. Size at least 15 feet.

The Ark of the Covenant - symbolic of God's throne and presence. This is where God spoke to the High Priest.

Dimensions 44" long, 26.4" wide, 26.4" high. Carrying poles 15 feet long

Mercy Seat - the area where the winged cherubim face each other.

Seven pieces of furniture - exactly seven, and no more ! The number of perfection. Speaks of God's perfect provision for believers who are in Christ.

There are seven steps from the outside, where the sinner beholds Christ merely as a man, to the inner sanctum of full and complete rest, and victory in the Lord Jesus Christ.

(1 ) We begin with the altar, immediately after we enter the door. The door is a picture of Christ .

(2) then we come to the Laver of separation. Represents separation from the world and from flesh, from the things which defile us, through the laver of cleansing, by the washing of the water of the Word.

(3) Next we approach the table of the shewbread , the place of fellowship. After we have believed, and been separated, we enter the place of fellowship with other believers in the assembly, to be fed on Christ, the Bread, at the table of fellowship.

(4) the fourth step is testimony, represented by the candlestick, or lampstand, fed by the oil of the Holy Spirit. (Matt.5:16) "You are the light...."

(5) next we come to the golden incense altar - the symbol of prayer and intercession.

(6) Then we enter through the veil into the the most holy place, at the ark of the covenant surrender all.

(7) Sheltered under the mercy seat we find perfect peace and complete victory and rest.

Seven steps: Conversion, Separation, Bible Study, Testimony, Prayer, Full Surrender, and Victory.

### The Table

In studying the three pieces of furniture which stood in the holy place, we take up the table of shewbread, which stood on the north side of the holy place.

It had a golden crown or molding all around the edge to keep the twelve loaves of bread safely upon the table and to prevent them from falling upon the ground and thus being defiled .

There was four golden rings, two on each side of the table - which two bars or handles passed through of which the table was carried from place to place by the priests.

They needed food - this table and its bread provided for them in abundance. The needed guidance was provide by the golden lampstand, and they needed an inercessor and a protector, and this was found in the golden incense altar.

Both table and Bread upon the table represent The Lord Jesus Christ.

On it were place twelve loaves of bread, six each in two separate rows.

The bread flavored with frankincense -constituted food for the priest.

The priest worshiped and fellowship daily.

The bread also speaks of the Lord Jesus Christ.

(Jn. 6:35) "I AM the bread of life: he that cometh to Me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on Me shall never thirst."

(Jn.6:48:51) "I AM the bread of Life."

"I AM the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eats this bread he lives forever."

The table was the center of fellowship for the priests, the bread was the living Word, as revealed in the written Word.

We are the N.T. priests ministering unto the Lord Jesus Christ.

The table , therefore in the holy place, speaks of fellowship; the altar of incense, of worship, the candlestick represents light for service.

The believer cannot be independent and work alone; he/she needs the blessing of assembling with other believers, "for where two or three gather together in My Name."

We are not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together as a custom of some is." "Not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some."

### Basis Of Fellowship

The basis and center of this fellowship was the table of shewbread. Around this table the priest gathered daily.

All true fellowship must be around the person and the work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

They were to feed on Him as the Bread of Life, flavored with the frankincense of the Holy Spirit.

The sustaining food of the believer - is the Word of God, both the living Word and the written Word, the Bible and the Holy Spirit.

Read (Pg. 94-95)

The assembly of the saints should be first of all a time of worship and devotion and feeding and feasting upon the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Eat Standing Up

The priest were to eat standing up at this table.

There were no chairs for them to sit down. The house of God is not a place of ease and entertainment, but a place of work and service.

The same is true about the night of the Passover of Israel deliverance from Egypt - they were to eat standing up.

In the ordinance of the Lord's Supper, beautiful antitype of the table of shewbread, we gather in the fellowship of believers to feed upon Christ, and to wait for orders to move on. (1Cor.11:26).

Read Pg. 96).

### chap. 13

#### The Golden Candlestick

“And thou shalt make a candlestick of pure gold: of brazen work shall the candlestick be made: his shaft, and his branches, his bowl, his knops and his flowers, shall be one of the same.

“And six branches shall come out the sides of it, three branches of the candlestick out of one side, and three branches of the candle stick out of the other side:

“And thou shalt make the seven lamps thereof and they shall light the lamps thereof, that they may give light over against it. (Exod. 25:31; 32, 37)

The candlestick was the symbol of a person.

The personal pronoun is applied to this lamp or candlestick.

The person it represents is the Lord Jesus Christ. who Him self said: “ I AM the light of the world.” (Jn.9:5)

This golden candlestick stood on the south side of the holy place, opposite the table of the shewbread with the altar on incense between.

The oil in the light, representing the Holy Spirit, was the only source of light by which the priest was to serve in the tabernacle. The light of the candlestick points both to the Lord Jesus Christ, and also to the written Word of God the two being inseparable.

“The word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” (Psa.119:105)

The believer is to walk only, therefore, by the light of the Word of God.

### The Light of Reason

The light of nature on the outside is the light of human reason, philosophy and speculation.

It is a light that shuts out God in the tabernacle, and binds the worshiper to the things which are spiritual. the light of nature is the light of human reason.

Man following reason instead of faith rejects the Word of God entirely, invents all sorts of human philosophies and theories of man's natural wisdom.

The light of human reason blinds the man on the outside of the vision of the altar, and the need of the precious blood of Christ.

Instead of faith he -substitutes reason and philosophy

Instead of the blood as the only remedy for sin - he substitutes religion, morality, ethics, ordinances, education, psychology, and psychiatry.

Paul says:

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

But the believer inside the tabernacle, which is Christ, is to walk in the light, even as He is in the light. The light of the Word of God is the only true light, the only infallible light, the only safe guide and rule of life and conduct and practice for the believer.

### The Oil

We notice next that the candlestick was fed by the oil of the sanctuary, specially ordered and prepared of God.

“And thou shalt command the children of Israel, that they bring thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamp to burn always.” (Exod.27:20).

Oil was also used for anointing the priests. The Lord Jesus Christ is the Light of the world, and is the anointed One. The word “Messiah,” translated “Christ,” means literally “The Anointed One.” Isaiah says of Him,

“ The spirit of the Lord is upon Me; because the Lord hath anointed Me.” (Isaiah 61:1).

Peter tells us that:

“God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power.”

The lamp, therefore, represents the Lord Jesus Christ; the oil the Holy Spirit. When Jesus began His ministry, the Holy Spirit came upon Him, and he went forth to defeat

The Devil and Satan in the wilderness, filled with the same Holy Spirit.

### The Body Of Christ

But the golden candlestick speaks not only of Christ as the Head, but also of the Church, which is His body. The candlestick was seven - branched — a central upright shaft with three branches coming out of either side. The central upright shaft represents Christ as Head of the Body, and the six branches which came out its side are the members of the Body of Christ, who came out of His wounded side, and by the blood which gushed forth are made one with Him.

We may also say that Christ represents the vine, and the six branches the Church.

Jesus said in (John 15:5). “ I’m 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.”

The one central shaft , then, represents the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and the Head of the Church. One is the number of deity and sovereignty.

He said to Israel:

Hear, O Israel: the Lord your God is one Lord . (Deut. 6:4).

The Bible opens with the statement of sovereignty of God. “ In the Beginning God”!

This God was Christ, the verse says: “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. (Gen. 1:1).

And John tells us that it was Christ Himself who was this Creator:

“All things were made by Him; without Him was not any thing made that was made.”

(John 1:3).

There were six branches, however, attached to this central shaft. Six is the number of man. The six branches are the men and women, boys and girls, united to Christ by Faith, made one in Him.

Seven branches, but one candlestick. Seven is the number of perfection, and all believers are by their union to Christ made perfect in Him, nourished by the oil of the Holy Spirit, and kept Him forever.

The candlestick, then is the picture of the Church, Christ as Head, and we as members, one in Christ and one with Christ.

As the candlestick received all of its light from the oil, and not from the outside light of nature, so too the Church, the Body of Christ, is to shed forth the light of revelation, and not the light of nature.

The Church, indwelt by the Holy Spirit, is to shine with the light of the Holy Spirit of God. In (Matt.5:14) "Ye are the Light of the world."

Paul said: "Ye shine as lights in the world." (Phip. 2:15).

It is, then, the function of the Church to hold aloft Christ as the light of the world, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

(Read pg.101) About. the Function of the Church. I question ! His comments.

I would say or Phrase it;

The first function of the Church is - to preach the new birth, get people saved, born again, and to train and educate and cultivate them in the worship of God and in the winning of souls.

I believe in the Social Gospel - If the Black Church would not have educated our people - who knows where we would be!

#### Individual Application

The only spiritual light that men have today must come, therefore, from those who are joined and united as branches of the true candlestick to the Lord Jesus Christ.

When He was in the world - He said; "As long as I Am in the world, I AM the light of the world." (Jn. 9:5)

The Hymn writer wrote;

(The whole world was lost in the darkness of sin; the light of the world is Jesus)

He is not here anymore - He left and went to heaven some 2021 year ago -

But He made provision for this and said to His disciples before He Left:

“Ye are the light of the world” - (Matt.5:14)

“ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” (Matt.5:16).

All the world can see is us - and through us.

They must see Him in us or be forever shut out from His vision. We are the Light of the world today.