

## Exodus 53 – Menorah: His Spirit of Watchfulness

Exodus (Names) – Changing the World

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### The Tabernacle

Tabernacle - Outside



Tabernacle - Inside



Holy Place

Holy of Holies

### Weighty Light of Pure Gold

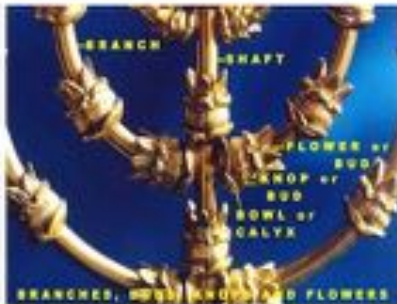
- The Menorah has often been translated in English as:
  - Light stand
  - Candle stand
  - Lamp stand
- None of these do the original justice - Menorah only
- Made out of about 75 lb. of gold - NO wood

## Seven Branched Light

- The Menorah was to be of hammered gold only
- There was a central light
  - Three pairs of lights branched from the central light
  - Each was decorated with representations of almonds
  - Each top (bowl) designed to throw light in one direction
- The lights lit each evening for light during the night

## Menorah Described in Bible

Ancient Tabernacle (Biblical)



Future Temple (Unbiblical)



## Why Almonds?

- Tu B'Shevat - Festival of Spring celebrated by eating almonds, one of the first trees to rejuvenate, bud
  - Judaism believed that the Menorah represented the Tree of Life (עץ החיים)
  - This is not one of the festivals given by God (Gnosticism)
- Hebrew for almond, *shakeid* (שקד), is a play on the Hebrew *shakad*, watchfulness or waiting, (שקד)

[http://www.hebrew4christians.com/Holidays/Winter\\_Holidays/Tu\\_B\\_Shevat/Almond\\_Tree/almond\\_tree.html](http://www.hebrew4christians.com/Holidays/Winter_Holidays/Tu_B_Shevat/Almond_Tree/almond_tree.html)

## Word Play in Jeremiah (Je 1:11-12)

- God asks Jeremiah what he sees – *Almond branch*
- God agrees saying, “I am *watching (waiting)* over my *Word* to perform it” (Je 1:12-13)
  - Carries the connotation of both: watching and waiting
  - Christ often used these concepts talking of last times
  - Ten virgins and their lamps waiting for bridegroom (Mt 25:1-13)

## Menorah May Point to Moses and Aaron

- Menorah could have also reminded Moses of His calling at Burning tree
- Jews believe Aaron’s rod that budded was almond staff, budding of almond flowers, waiting on God (humility)



## Ritual of the Menorah

- Priest came into the Holy Place every morning to:
  - Clean the bowls
  - Refill with pure olive oil
  - Trim or replace the wicks
- At the evening service the priest would light the wicks
  - These would burn during the night
  - Casting light onto the Table of Bread of the Faces

## Remember the Veil

- Thick veil separated Holy Place from Holy of Holies
  - Shekinah of God stood over the Seat of Examination
  - Shekinah light did not pass the veil (Holy vs unholy)
  - Menorah alone provided light in the Holy Place (Ex 41:6-7)
    - (Day) Adam walked sinlessly with God (Sun)
    - (Night) Sinful Man who walked in God's Word needed light from God to maintain his way (Moon) (Ge 1:1-5, 14-19)

## Oil Represents God's Holy Spirit

- Anointing with oil was codified in the Law for the Priests; however, the prophets also used anointing oil to designate one chosen by God and receiving God's blessing (Ps 99:20)
- This anointing continued in the New Testament with Christ receiving the Holy Spirit to fulfill His ministry in the power of the Spirit, as we are to do (Mk 3:16-17; Ac 10:38)

## Anointing of Spirit is New Covenant

- Pentecost - Pouring out of God's Spirit on all believers in Christ as they worshiped in the Temple (Ac 2:1-2)
  - Reference to "tongues of flame" on each person's head
  - Ref. the flame at the top of each bowl of the Menorah
  - Six is the number of man - Six branches (Ps 137:16)
  - Seven is God's number - Six branches connected to one central branch (Christ) (Ps 137:16)

## Christ Among Lampstands (Re 1:12-13)

- Church teaches Christ among the lampstands yet no biblical foundation
- Enshrined as traditions Christendom has caused great harm masquerading as God's true gospel (Just as True and false Jews)



## Menorah for the Church (Re 1:12-13)

- Menorah as vital for church as for Tabernacle
- Each church must be linked directly to Christ via the Spirit; if separated from Christ their light goes **dark** (Mt 6:22-23)



## Zechariah's Vision (Zc 4)

- Vision of Menorah with olive tree each side giving pure oil continuously
- Each believer is an olive tree producing for God (Ps 52:8, Jc 11:16-17)
- The two witnesses are examples of this (Re 11:1-12)



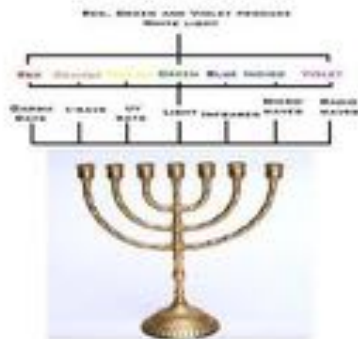
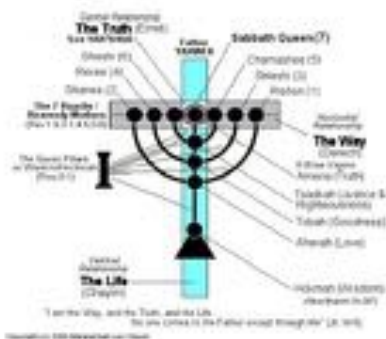
# Menorah Applied to "Series of Sevens"



# Menorah Pressed into Gnosticism



# Perverting/Trivializing the Menorah



## God's Spirit in Old Testament

- During creation the Spirit was present (Ge 1:1-2)
- Antediluvian - God's Spirit was at work (Ge 6:3)
- God's wisdom realized via God's Spirit (Isa 11:24-30)
- David realized his dependence on God's Spirit (Ps 51:11-12)
- New Covenant hallmark is the indwelling Spirit (Jeh 3:28-29)

## God's Spirit in New Testament

- Christ in the flesh performed His ministry solely in the power of the Holy Spirit *after* His baptism (Mt 3:13-17)
- Church began with the giving of the Holy Spirit (Ac 2:1-4)
- God's Spirit teaches His people maturity (1Co 2:10-13)
- God's Spirit guides His churches (Ro 12, 11, 17, 19, 36, 13:23)

## Admonished to Make as Shown

- God clearly told Moses to make the Menorah exactly as shown as it represents the Holy Spirit in Heaven: (Ex 9:23,24)
  - Indicative of God's Spirit lighting the way in dark world
  - It is the Spirit that brings salvation (Jo 1:9, 16:13, 16:12)
  - Rejecting the Spirit means **no** salvation (Jh 1:9,10)
- Thus, as almonds (αμύγδαλα), we are to be watchful (αγρυπνῶντες), waiting for Christ to return, completing His work in us (1Co 13:12, 1Th 5:4-8)