

December 18, 2022
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"Gospel Pictures: The Golden Lampstand"

Exodus 25:31-40

Memory Verse: Psalm 27:1

Big Idea: God designed the golden lampstand to teach his people that he provides light and life for them.

I. What Was It?

- A. The tabernacle was a tent four layers thick. It was dark underneath all those layers.
- B. The priest who entered the Holy Place would be swallowed in darkness.
- C. But God, who never leaves his people in the dark, set up a light in his dwelling place, the golden lampstand.
- D. The golden lampstand was made from a talent (75 pounds) of pure gold.
- E. It had one central stem which broadened out at the bottom to form a base. Six branches spread out from the lampstand, three on each side.

II. What Does It Mean?

A. God is light for his people.

- 1. "But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes" (1 John 2:11).
- 2. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:5).
- 3. "The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" (Psalm 27:1)
- 4. "This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all" (1 John 1:5).
- 5. "Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).

B. God is life to his people.

- 1. The lampstand was designed to look like a living tree or a tree of life.
- 2. "It signifies life, continued existence and productivity for the people of God as they stand before him. In one sense, then, the lampstand is a metaphor for the tree of life that was in the garden of Eden. God gives life to his people" (John Currid).
- 3. Genesis 2:9; Genesis 3:24
- 4. Ephesians 2:4-7
- 5. Revelation 22:1-5, 14

Conclusion

- A. Jesus Christ is the light of the world (John 8:12).
- B. Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life (John 11:25; John 14:6; John 17:3).
- C. The two themes of light and life are tied together in John 1:1-5, 9-13.
- D. "Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; but whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him" (John 3:36).
- E. The Gospel Definition