

Exodus 25:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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

Analysis

The golden lampstand (מְנוֹרָה, menorah) is pure gold—no wood, only deity. Unlike the Ark and table (wood overlaid with gold), the lampstand is solid gold throughout, representing the absolutely pure light of God's nature. Its beaten work shows it's formed by hammer blows, perhaps prefiguring Christ's suffering that qualifies Him to be 'the light of the world' (John 8:12). Light is essential for fellowship; God's holiness requires illumination.

Historical Context

The lampstand was made from one talent (approximately 75 pounds) of pure gold, hammered into shape. Its seven lamps provided the only light in the Holy Place, as the tabernacle had no windows—God's revelation alone illuminates.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. Why is the lampstand pure gold throughout, unlike other furniture with wooden cores?
2. How did Christ's 'beaten' suffering qualify Him to be the light of the world?

Interlinear Text

תַּעֲשֶׂה הַ	הַמְנוּכָה	זָהָב	טָהוֹר	מְקֻשָּׁה הַ
And thou shalt make	a candlestick	gold	of pure	of beaten work
H6213	H4501	H2091	H2889	H4749
תַּעֲשֶׂה הַ	הַמְנוּכָה	יָרֵךְ הַ	זְקָנָה הַ	גְּבִיעֵי יְהוָה
And thou shalt make	a candlestick	his shaft	and his branches	his bowls
H6213	H4501	H3409	H7070	H1375
כְּפֹתֵי יְהוָה	וּפְרָחֵי יְהוָה	מִמֶּנָּה	יְהוָה:	
his knops	and his flowers	H4480	H1961	
H3730	H6525			

Additional Cross-References

Zechariah 4:2 (Parallel theme): And said unto me, What seest thou? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof:

1 Kings 7:49 (Parallel theme): And the candlesticks of pure gold, five on the right side, and five on the left, before the oracle, with the flowers, and the lamps, and the tongs of gold,

Revelation 1:12 (Parallel theme): And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;

Hebrews 9:2 (Creation): For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary.

Revelation 4:5 (Parallel theme): And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

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