

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

מְקַשׁ הַתְּעַשׁ הַמְּנוּבָה בְּזָה וּרְצָבָה
And thou shalt make a candlestick of pure gold
H6213 H4501 H2091 H2889 H4749

גְּבִיעַ יַבְנֵת הַמְּנוּבָה יְרַכְּכָה וְיַקְנֵת הַבְּנֵת
And thou shalt make a candlestick his shaft and his branches his bowls
H6213 H4501 H3409 H7070 H1375

כְּפַתְּרַבְּנָה וְפַרְבָּנָה יַבְנֵת מִמְּנָה
his knobs 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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