

Exodus 39:37

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The pure candlestick, with the lamps thereof, even with the lamps to be set in order, and all the vessels thereof, and the oil for light,

Analysis

The pure candlestick (מִנְרַת הַטָּהוֹר, menorat haTahor, pure lampstand) with lamps 'to be set in order' (לְהַעֲלוֹת, leha'alot, lit. to cause to ascend—i.e., trimmed and filled) and oil for light provided illumination in the Holy Place. The seven lamps symbolize perfect/complete light; the pure gold signifies divine glory. The phrase 'set in order' teaches that light requires maintenance—priests daily trimmed wicks and replenished oil. Christ, the light of the world (John 8:12), gives perfect illumination. Believers, as lights (Matthew 5:14-16), require Spirit-oil to shine.

Historical Context

The lampstand's seven lamps burned continually, requiring daily priestly tending (Exodus 27:20-21; Leviticus 24:2-4). The olive oil, pure and beaten (processed), symbolized the Holy Spirit's illumination. The Holy Place's windowless construction meant the lampstand provided the only light.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does the daily lamp tending illustrate that sustained spiritual light requires consistent spiritual disciplines?
2. What does Christ as the perfect light and believers as dependent lights teach about your witness?

Interlinear Text

אֶת	הַמִּנְּךָ הַ	הַטְּהוֹרָה הַ	אֶת	נֵרֹת	
H853	candlestick	The pure	H853	thereof even with the lamps	
	H4501	H2889		H5216	
	נֵרֹת	הַמְּעֻבָּדִים הַ	כָּל	וְאֵת	כָּל יְהוָה
	thereof even with the lamps	to be set in order	H853	H3605	and all the vessels
	H5216	H4634			H3627
וְאֵת	שֶׁן	הַמְּאֹרֹת:			
H853	thereof and the oil	for light			
	H8081	H3974			

Additional Cross-References

Philippians 2:15 (Light): That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;