

According to Their Pattern

⁹ You are to make it all precisely according to everything that I show you—the pattern of the Tabernacle and the pattern of all the furnishings within—just so you must make it... ⁴⁰ See that you make them according to their pattern being shown to you on the mountain” (Ex. 25:9, 40)

Why do you suppose *Adonai* was so meticulous in the items in the Tabernacle in the Wilderness (*mishkan*)? These things were not left to the imagination or to an artist’s rendition, but rather they were “according to their pattern being shown to you on the mountain.” These items are destined to become the Biblical Symbols for *Bnei-Yisrael* and the representations of the *people of God*. While the Germans in WWII branded the Jews with the six-pointed Star of David, despite its prominence on the flag of Israel and *kiddush* cups, the *Magen David* is a more of a modern representative of Judaism and the Jewish People. What is the preeminent symbol of God’s chosen people? It is the seven-branched candlestick (*menorah*) that was first revealed to Moses in this week’s *Parashat Terumah*, first seen in the *mishkan* of Moses, and later in the Temple of King Solomon in Jerusalem.



³¹ “You are to make a menorah of pure gold, by hammered work. Its base, stem, cups, bulbs and flowers are to be one piece. ³² There are to be six branches coming out of the sides, three branches of the menorah out of one side, and three branches out of the other. ³³ There are to be three cups shaped like almond blossoms in one branch, each with a bulb and flower, then three cups made like almond blossoms in the next branch, each with a bulb and flower, and so forth for the six branches coming out of the menorah. ³⁴ Within the menorah will be four cups made like almond blossoms, with bulbs and flowers. ³⁵ There is to be a bulb under two branches of the first piece, a bulb under two branches of the second piece, and a bulb under two branches of the third piece, for the six branches coming out of

the menorah. ³⁶ Their bulbs and their branches are to be one piece—all of it a single hammered work of pure gold. ³⁷ “You are also to make the seven lamps for it, and set the lamps up to shed light over the space before it” (Ex. 25:31-37).

Wisdom in Real Biblical Symbols

The Almighty’s wisdom is perceived from studying true Biblical symbols, and in particular, from the *menorah*. Scriptural references to such objects since provide the basis for such discernment: (1) the visible reveals the invisible: “²⁰ His invisible attributes—His eternal power and His divine nature—have been clearly seen ever since the creation of the world, being understood through the things that have been made” (Romans 1:20, cf. Ps. 19:1-6; Jer. 5:21-22), (2) they foreshadow the heavenlies: “...foreshadower of the heavenlies—one that is just as Moses was instructed by God when he was about to complete the tabernacle” (Hebrews 8:5, cf. Exod. 25:9; 26:30; 27:8; Num. 8:4, Heb. 10:1), and (3) they foreshadow the Messiah (lit. the Body of Messiah): “¹⁷ These are a foreshadowing of things to come, but the reality is Messiah” (Col. 2:16-17). In fact, of all the Judeo-Christian symbols, the *menorah* stands alone as the one and only truly Biblical symbol of government, revelation, a nation, and *Messiah Yeshua*. Moses did not design it – *Adonai* Himself revealed to him on Mt. Sinai. Notice that this was part of *Adonai*’s heavenly pattern – a representation of how things are arranged around His throne. Thus, it is not surprising that the patterns revealed in the *menorah* will be evident in all of *Adonai*’s affairs with His people forever – from Exodus 25 all the way to Revelation. This will also be a pattern for business used by *Messiah Yeshua* Himself because the *menorah* represents the Messiah, His work, His body and His kingdom. More than a fish, or a scroll, or even an execution tree, the *menorah* makes evident the eternal revelation of Messiah who is the same *yesterday, today and forever* (Heb. 13:8).

Details of the Menorah

The light of the world is *Messiah Yeshua* (John 8:12) and His *Menorah* Body (Matt. 5:14-15). In the Temple *menorah* we see one central shaft since – “*I am the vine and you are the branches*” (John 15:5, Jer. 23:5) and we see the principle of *echad* – one anointed leader for His people. We see seven lamps (Josh. 6:4, Zech. 4:10, Acts

6:1-4, Rev. 1:4, 3:1, 4:5, 5:6) and we see twelve foundations / Tribes of Israel / Apostles / gates (Genesis, Eph. 2:20, Rev. 21:14). In total we see seventy-two adornments consisting of bowls, bulbs (knops), and flowers (Ex. 24, Nu. 10, Isa. 25, Eze. 8, Dan. 9, Zech. 7, Luke 10): (1) on each of the six branches three bowls and a knop (bulb) and a flower or $9 \times 6=54$ (Ex. 25:33); (2) on the central shaft four bowls each with a bulb (knop) and a flower or 12 (Ex. 25:34); and (3) under each of the six branches one bulb or 6 (Ex. 25:35), which equals 72, that is $54 + 12 + 6$.

When one builds a house, the first thing that must be laid is its foundation. Since “*Wisdom has built her house. She has carved out her seven pillars*” (Prov. 9:1), what is the foundation of Adonai’s Wisdom? Fortunately, Scripture gives us the answer. The foundation of the house of wisdom is: “*The fear (respect) of Adonai is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding*” (Proverbs 9:10). Thus, supporting the super-structure of the *house of wisdom* we have seven mighty pillars, or columns. Can you see a menorah-like structure supporting the house of Adonai’s wisdom? Coincidence, huh?

At the base of the menorah are twelve facets with each decorated differently. How many tribes in *Bnei Yisrael*? How many apostles did Yeshua have? How many gates in the city in Revelation? We ourselves are built on the foundation of apostles with Yeshua Himself being the cornerstone (Eph. 2:20).

At the top of the menorah we have seven lights, which represent the seven spirits of God (Rev. 1:4, 3:1 4:5, 5:6) and the eyes of Adonai: “*For who despises the day of small things? These seven—which are the eyes of Adonai that run back and forth throughout the whole earth—will rejoice when they see the plumb line in Zerubbabel’s hand*” (Zech. 4:10). We also know that the number seven represent perfection and completion.

There were seventy prophets appointed by Moses within the camp and two outside the camp (Ex. 24:1, 24:9, Nu. 11:24) and the number of disciples sent two by two by Yeshua in Luke 10 was also seventy and two. The number of people that served in the Sanhedrin was also seventy and two ($71 + cohen gadol$ representing God).

When Yeshua appeared unto John in Revelation 1, the Father divinely and sovereignty chose the staging for His Son to speak His Revelation unto His body. The Father chose seven *menorahs* (*sheva menorot* in Hebrew). This was not random or insignificant, but in Yeshua’s own words, a mystery. He revealed it to them and is revealing it to us in Messiah’s communities. The Father knew that His Son, Yeshua, would be completely and totally comfortable among *menorahs*. In the *menorah* pattern, we can see Him clearly, we can understand Him, we can worship Him, we can have intimacy with Him and in Him we have all we need. Therefore, “*Do not be afraid! I am the First & the Last, (Alpha and Omega, i.e., the Alef & Tav)... One who lives. I was dead, but look I am alive forever & ever!*” Shabbat Shalom!