

## We Are to Keep It Burning Forever

*“<sup>20</sup>Also you are to command Bnei-Yisrael, that they are to bring to you pure olive oil beaten for the light, to cause a lamp to burn continually. <sup>21</sup>In the Tent of Meeting, outside the curtain which is before the Testimony, Aaron and his sons will set it in order, to burn from evening to morning before Adonai. It will be a statute forever throughout their generations, on behalf of Bnei-Yisrael” (Ex. 27:20-21)*

In *Parashat Terumah* Moses was told to SPEAK to the Children of Israel that they would voluntarily bring a *Terumah* (a *voluntary offering* from their *compelling hearts*) for the construction of the Tabernacle, including the *Menorah*. Now here in *Parashat Tetzaveh*, *Adonai's* tone has completely changed. It is no longer, SPEAK but COMMAND; it is no longer voluntary it is now obligatory. The problem though, there was a long-term commitment to be made, the *Menorah*, for which, now that is constructed, its light had to burn continuously, and this required a daily supply of oil. They had already brought the pure olive oil needed to be lit but was there enough to be maintained? Would human nature allow the people to step up to the plate and make a voluntary commitment to supply that oil on a daily basis? Obviously not! Long-term commitments are hard to fulfill by our human nature. Therefore, we get the command!

The *Menorah* is one of those extremely important revelations to the Body of Messiah, and even more so to *Kol Simcha*. In last year's 20Feb21, message I quoted from my 9Feb20, message re the *Menorah*:

The *Menorah* stands alone as the one and only truly Biblical symbol of government, revelation, the nation, and the *Messiah*. 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 our *Messiah* who is the same “*yesterday, today and forever*” (*Heb. 13:8*).

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. *Seven lamps* (*Josh. 6:4, Zech. 4:10, Acts 6:1-4, Rev. 1:4, 3:1, 4:5, 5:6*) and we see *12 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 *6 branches* three bowls and a knob (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 6 branches* one bulb or *6* (*Ex. 25:35*), which equals  $54 + 12 + 6 = 72$ .

When one builds a house, the first thing that must be laid is its foundation: “*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 superstructure 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 *12* facets with each decorated differently. How many tribes are 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 represents 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 *72*. The number of people that served in the Sanhedrin was also seventy and two (*71 + cohen gadol representing God*).

We in *Kol Simcha* are (by faith) one of those *Menorot* spoken of by John the Revelator in the Book of Revelation. *Adonai* has commanded us to be lit with the Holy Spirit oil continually so we can *Keep this Menorah Burning Forever*. I want us together to also develop a burning heart for *Adonai* and His *Messiah* this year as we strive to fulfill our calling in this season. I know we will! *Shabbat Shalom!*