

Doctrine of the Candlestick (Lampstand)

1. The golden lampstand which Zechariah saw was the same lampstand that was in Solomon's Temple, and before that, in the Tabernacle. The one exception was the oil reservoir on top.
 - *Exodus 25:31 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. 32 And six branches shall come out of the sides of it; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side: 33 Three bowls made like unto almonds, with a knop and a flower in one branch; and three bowls made like almonds in the other branch, with a knop and a flower: so in the six branches that come out of the candlestick. 34 And in the candlestick shall be four bowls made like unto almonds, with their knops and their flowers. 35 And there shall be a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, according to the six branches that proceed out of the candlestick. 36 Their knops and their branches shall be of the same: all it shall be one beaten work of pure gold. 37 And thou shalt make the seven lamps thereof: and they shall light the lamps thereof, that they may give light over against it. 38 And the tongs thereof, and the snuff-dishes thereof, shall be of pure gold. 39 Of a talent of pure gold shall he make it, with all these vessels. 40 And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount.*
 - *Exodus 37:17 And he made the candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work made he the candlestick; his shaft, and his branch, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, were of the same: 18 And six branches going out of the sides thereof; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side thereof, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side thereof: 19 Three bowls made after the fashion of almonds in one branch, a knop and a flower; and three bowls made like almonds in another branch, a knop and a flower: so throughout the six branches going out of the candlestick. 20 And in the candlestick were four bowls made like almonds, his knops, and his flowers: 21 And a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, according to the six branches going out of it. 22 Their knops and their branches were of the same: all of it was one beaten work of pure gold. 23 And he made his seven lamps, and his snuffers, and his snuff-dishes, of pure gold. 24 Of a talent of pure gold made he it, and all the vessels thereof.*
2. The lampstand was made from one lump of gold and so spoke of Jesus Christ who is precious and who is the Light of the World.
 - *1 Peter 2:6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.*
3. The lampstand was the only light in the Temple and in the Tabernacle. So Christ is the only true Light that lighteth every man that comes into the world (John 1:9). Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.

- *1 John 1:5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.*
 - *John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.*
4. The central branch of the lampstand represents the Lord Jesus Christ, while the six branches united to the central branch speaks of the believer in fellowship with the Lord. Seven is the number of perfection in the Bible while six is the number of man. When the believer is in union with Christ, he is complete.
- *Colossians 2:10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:*
5. The central branch of the lampstand had a light which is a symbol of God revealed to man. Christ is the revealed member of the Godhead.
- *John 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.*
6. Each of the six branches has a light and the Christian remembers to witness. Every believer has a purpose in time and that is to reflect the light and glory of Christ.
- *Matthew 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.*
 - *Ephesians 5:8 For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:*
7. The oil in the central branch speaks of the anointing work of the Holy Spirit in sustaining the ministry of Christ.
- Christ was conceived by the Spirit. *Matthew 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. 20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. 21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.*
 - Christ was filled with the Spirit. *John 3:34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.*
 - Christ was led by the Spirit. *Matthew 4:1 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.*

- Christ performed miracles by the power of the Spirit. *Matthew 12:28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.*
 - Christ was resurrected by the power of the Spirit. *1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:*
 - Christ was separated from the Spirit at Calvary. *Matthew 27:46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? That is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?*
8. The oil also speaks of the sustaining work of the Spirit in the life of the believer as the oil flows to all six branches.
- *Zechariah 4:6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.*
 - *Luke 24:49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.*
 - *Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*
9. The wick of the lampstand speaks of the vacuous believer who draws the oil in order to flame and burn in order for light to shine.
- *Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*
10. Once the wick is burned it leaves a dead residue which must be cut off. In the life of every believer there are dead works that much be purged and sins that must be confessed.
- *Exodus 25:38 And the tongs thereof, and the snuff dishes thereof, shall be of pure gold.*
 - *Hebrews 6:1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,*
 - *Hebrews 9:14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*
 - *1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

11. A fresh supply of oil is needed every day. Every day is a new day with the Lord.

- *2 Corinthians 4:16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.*

12. There were seven pipes to the seven lampstands which is significant because it teaches that God, in grace, has found a way for the believer to be empowered by the Holy Spirit in order to produce good works and have fellowship with the Lord.