

Worship of the One True God – The Golden Candlestick

Altar of Brass – Exodus 27:1-8 Laver of Brass - Exodus 30:17-21

The Laver is a bowl where the priests wash before performing ministry: sacrifices, keeping the fire burning, offering incense

Altar of Brass mainly for atonement for sin; Laver for washing and sanctifying for service. Clearly this is our path to God through Jesus Christ. Our sins are atoned for by the shedding of his blood on the altar of the cross, and we are washed and cleansed by the blood and by the word. We find that each time we prepare to enter into the presence of the Lord, we must offer ourselves up for examination. Search me, Lord, and if there be anything in me that hinders my access to you, purge me, wash me and lead me in the way of righteousness.. I want to be able to stand before you with clean hands and a pure heart (Psalm 24:3, 4).

Now we enter into the holy place of the tabernacle, behind the linen curtain where is first found

The candlestick (lampstand), table of showbread (table of the presence), and the altar of incense, all made of acacia wood and gold.

Lampstand Exodus 25:31-37; table of showbread Ex. 25:23-30 and Lev. 24:5-9; altar of incense Ex. 30:1-8; 34-38

In the lampstand or the menorah there are seven places for oil to produce seven flames. Seven is God's number of perfection and completion, or full enlightenment. Many times God manifested himself by fire: Exodus 3:2 – Moses' first encounter with God by burning bush; Exodus 13:21-32 – God demonstrating his presence with Israel by pillar of cloud and pillar of fire; Lev. 9:24 - God's consuming of the burnt offering.

According to Leviticus 6:13, the fire was never to go out at the altar. According to Bishop Charles Blake in his book Encountering God, "The ever burning fire on the altar symbolized God's acceptance of the sacrifice of the people, His favor, His forgiveness, His presence, His power, His purity and His holiness. It symbolized the continual worship of the people of God and their never-dying zeal to do His will ."

God sent the fire but the people had to keep it burning with olive oil. Only his fire was to be used to light the candlestick and as the fire on the Altar of Incense. It was serviced in the morning and at sunset (Ex.27:20-21; Lev.24:3,4)

Psalm 119:42 – His Word is a lamp and light

John 1:1-9; 14 – Jesus is the light and in him the glory of the Lord is fully manifested ; John 8:12 – Jesus identifies himself as the light. Mathew 5:14 – Jesus says we are the light. John 12:36

Acts 2:1-4 – tongues of fire

Rev. 1:12-16 – Candlestick a type of Christ shining in the fullness of the Spirit.