

Marveling at the Menorah

Intro:

Ex 25:9, 40

Heb 9:1-5

Every part is a picture - what is pictured here before entering the Holy of Holies...and is it relevant to us? I think you will find it is...

Problem:

Luke 1:26-38

This was not the first announcement of Christmas - there were other much earlier ones than this

Main Idea:

Behold the promise of true Bread

Behold the promise of true Light

Implication:

Behold the promise of Christmas

Application:

Let us marvel at the manger

Articles for further study:

<https://www.gotquestions.org/bread-of-the-presence.html>

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/table-showbread/>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/lampstand-Bible.html>

<https://www.oneforisrael.org/bible-based-teaching-from-israel/the-meaning-behind-the-menorah/>

<https://tabletalkmagazine.com/article/2017/12/the-lampstand/>

Marveling at the Menorah

text:

Behold the promise of true Bread

Ex. 25:23 ¶ "You shall make a table of acacia wood. Two cubits shall be its length, a cubit its breadth, and a cubit and a half its height.

Ex. 25:24 You shall overlay it with pure gold and make a molding of gold around it.

Ex. 25:25 And you shall make a rim around it a handbreadth wide, and a molding of gold around the rim.

Ex. 25:26 And you shall make for it four rings of gold, and fasten the rings to the four corners at its four legs.

Ex. 25:27 Close to the frame the rings shall lie, as holders for the poles to carry the table.

Ex. 25:28 You shall make the poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold, and the table shall be carried with these.

Ex. 25:29 And you shall make its plates and dishes for incense, and its flagons and bowls with which to pour drink offerings; you shall make them of pure gold.

Ex. 25:30 And you shall set the bread of the Presence (bread of the face) on the table before me regularly.

ex 24:9-11 (bread of presence - reminder of His constant presence before Him)

deut 8:1-6 (bread of provision - constant awareness of their daily needs)

(matt 4:1-4 - quoted by Jesus and temptation - its not about bread but provision)

(Matt 6:11, 25-34 (give us daily bread - God continually knows your needs)

(Matt 10:15 (whoever does not receive kingdom like a child shall not enter)

why does God want us so dependent? Because we are not made for autonomy - everything

we have is from Him - our air our food our cells - blood clotting - why do we think we are so self

sufficient?

lev 24:5-9 (bread of promise)

matt 14:13-21 (the presence, provision and promise were fulfilled in Christ)

matt 12:1-8 (they forgot who was standing right in front of them

the promise of true Bread promised in the tabernacle since the time of Moses)

Matt 1:21-23; (immanuel God with us - Behold the promise of Christmas)

(...celebrated in the Holy place since Moses)

(transliteration of the Hebrew beyt (house) lehem (of bread) house of Bread)

(placed in feeding trough

Matt 2:1, 7 (let us marvel at the manger)

Jn 6:25-35 (Behold the promise of true Bread)

here is the message from the manger - proclaimed loudly from the Holy place

you don't need a better marriage, a better job, better behaved children, you don't need better finances a

better body with better health - we need Christ He is what we have always needed - do you believe it?

Behold the promise of true Light

Ex. 25:31 ¶ "You shall make a lampstand (menorah) of pure gold. The lampstand shall be made of hammered work: its base, its stem, its cups, its calyxes, and its flowers shall be of one piece with it.

Ex. 25:32 And there shall be six branches going out of its sides, three branches of the lampstand out of one side of it and three branches of the lampstand out of the other side of it;

Ex. 25:33 three cups made like almond blossoms, each with calyx and flower, on one branch, and three cups made like almond blossoms, each with calyx and flower, on the other branch—so for the six branches going out of the lampstand.

Ex. 25:34 And on the lampstand itself there shall be four cups made like almond blossoms, with their calyxes and flowers,

Ex. 25:35 and a calyx of one piece with it under each pair of the six branches going out from the lampstand.

Ex. 25:36 Their calyxes and their branches shall be of one piece with it, the whole of it a single piece of hammered work of pure gold.

Ex. 25:37 You shall make seven lamps for it. And the lamps shall be set up so as to give light on the space in front of it.

Ex. 25:38 Its tongs and their trays shall be of pure gold.

Ex. 25:39 It shall be made, with all these utensils, out of a talent of pure gold.

Ex. 25:40 And see that you make them after the pattern for them, which is being shown you on the mountain.

rev 1:12-13, 20; 2:1, 5 (lampstand represents His presence)

Jn 1:5, 9-14 (fulfilled by Christ - no other light in the tabernacle - but one)

(the menorah is not about Hanukkah it is about Christ)

Jn 12:34-46 (they forgot who was standing right in front of them

the promise of true light promised in the tabernacle since the time of Moses)

lev 23:33-24:4 (kept burning regularly - God is always home (Behold the promise of Christmas)

Isaiah 9:2-7 (let us marvel at the manger)

Jn 8:12 (behold the promise of true light)

here is the message from the manger - proclaimed loudly from the Holy place