

“WORD OF LIFE”

March 31, 2024

43. CHRIST IN HIS PERSON (23) –

In the Fulfillment of the Types and Figures of the Old Testament

O 17. The Tabernacle with All the Furniture

[The Tabernacle, the Showbread Table, the **Lampstand**, the Incense Altar, and the Ark]

c. The **Lampstand**

Hymns: #205 / #233 / #13

✚ “In my heart I have treasured up Your word...” (Psa. 119:11)

[Type/Figure]

Exo. 25:31-47 - And you shall make a **lampstand** of pure gold. The lampstand with

- ✓ its **base** and its **shaft** shall be made of beaten work;
- ✓ its **cups**, its **calyxes**, and
- ✓ its **blossom buds** shall be of one piece with it.
- ✓ And there shall be six **branches** going out of its sides;...
- ✓ ...its **lamps** to **give light** to the area in front of it...

[Fulfillment]

John 1:4 - In Him was **life**, and the life was the **light** of men..

John 8:12 - ... I am the **light** of the world; he who follows Me shall ... have the **light of life**.

✚ “...For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of Jehovah, ...” (Isa. 11:9)

❖ The **lampstand** in the tabernacle **signifies** the Triune God **embodied** in Christ (Exo. 25:31-40).

- With the **lampstand** we see three important things: the gold, the stand, and the lamps.
 - The **gold** signifies the Father as the substance with which the lampstand is made,
 - the **stand** signifies the Son as the embodiment of the Father, and
 - the **lamps** signify the Spirit as the expression of the Father in the Son.
 - As a type, the lampstand implies the **Triune God**.
- Christ as the **shining light of life** (John 1:4; 8:12) is the **lampstand**.
 - The **light** comes out of our enjoyment of Christ as our life supply.
 - When we enjoy Christ as our food, we have light because the “*life was the light of men*” (John 1:4).
 - The **light of life** shines within man by the inner sense of life to deliver man from sin.
 - The **light of life** is the light for the new creation.

✚ “And having gift that differ..., let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;” (Rom. 12:6)

✚ The **lampstand** in the tabernacle **signifies** the Triune God embodied in Christ. **Gold** is the substance with which the lampstand is made, the **stand** is the embodiment of the gold, and the **lamps** are the expression of the stand.

✚ As a type of Christ, the **lampstand** portrays Christ as the **resurrection life** growing, branching, budding, and blossoming to shine the light. The fact that the **lampstand** has branches, buds, and blossoms indicates that it is a **growing entity**. Since the **lampstand** typifies Christ, it **indicates** that Christ is the One who is growing. Christ grows first **in Himself**, **signified** by the **stalk** of the **lampstand**, and then also **in us**, signified by the **branches**.

{{Reference: The Conclusion of the New Testament Ch. 43 letter O – point 17c}}
[Preparing this “word of life” (SUPPLYING THE WORD IN MEETINGS OF MUTUALITY) was motivated by:
The Elder’s Training Book 8, Ch. 4, and The Administration of the Church and the Ministry of the Word, Ch. 11]]

Hymn 205

- 1 **Jesus**, Thou Joy of loving hearts,
Thou **Fount of life**,
Thou **Light** of men,
From the best bliss
that earth imparts,
We turn unfilled to Thee again.
- 2 Thy **truth** unchanged
hath ever stood;
Thou savest those that on Thee **call**;
To them that **seek** Thee,
Thou art good,
To them that **find** Thee, all in all!
- 3 We taste Thee,
O Thou living **Bread**,
And long to feast upon Thee still;
We **drink** of Thee,
the Fountain-head,
And thirst our souls
from Thee to fill!
- 4 Our restless **spirits** yearn for Thee,
Where'er our changeful lot is cast;
Glad when Thy
gracious smile we see,
Blest, when our **faith**
can hold Thee fast.
- 5 O **Lord**, be Thou
our strength and stay!
Make all our moments
calm and bright,
Chase all dark thoughts
of sin away,
Shed o'er us here Thy holy **light**.

Hymn 233

- 1 O what a miracle, my **Lord**,
That I'm in Thee and Thou in me,
That Thou and I are really one;
O what a wondrous mystery!
- 2 For me Thy **body** Thou didst give,
That I may ever share in Thee;
For me Thy precious **blood** was shed,
That from my sins I might be free.
- 3 By **resurrection** Thou didst change
Thy form and as the **Spirit** come;
Thou wouldst that I
be filled with Thee
That all Thy riches mine become.
- 4 Now as the **symbols** we behold,
Thy loving self we see anew;
We thank Thee for Thy heart's desire
As all Thy **travail** we review.
- 5 We **eat** the **bread** and **drink** the **wine**,
And to Thy sweetness we are led;
In spirit each receiving Thee,
Our **spirits** with Thyself are fed.
- 6 We long to **eat** and **drink** e'en more,
To take Thyself in **spirit** thus,
Till Thou shalt **all our being fill**
And **true remembrance** have from us.

Luke 22:19 - And He took a **loaf** and
gave thanks, and He broke *it* and
gave *it* to them, saying,
This is My **body** which is being
given for you; do this in
remembrance of Me.

Luke 22:20 - And similarly the **cup**
after they had dined, saying,
This **cup** is the new **covenant**
established in My **blood**, which is
being poured out for you.

Hymn 13

- 1 Thou art **love**
and Thou art **light**, Lord,
In the **Son** as **life** Thou art;
Love expressing, **light** illum'ning,
Thou dost life to us impart.
- Chorus 1:**
Thou art **love**! Thou art **light**!
In the **Son** as **life** Thou art;
Love expressing, **light** illum'ning
Thou dost **life** to us impart.
- 2 **Love** bespeaks Thy very being,
What Thou dost is shown by **light**;
Love is inward, **light** is outward,
Love accompanies the **light**.
- 3 **Love** by **grace** is manifested,
And the **light** by truth is shown;
By Thy **love** we may enjoy Thee;
By Thy **light** Thou,
Lord, art known.
- 4 Thru Thy **love**,
which led to **Calvary**,
We receive the **life** of **God**;
Light our understanding opens,
That we may apply the blood.
- 5 Thru Thy **love**, as **life** Thou enter'st
Fellowship with Thee to give;
Thru Thy **light**
we take Thy cleansing
And in fellowship may live.
- 6 By the **light**
and blood which cleanses,
The anointing we shall know;
Then the **life** of love Thine essence,
More and more in us will flow.
- 7 By Thy **love** we are Thy children,
Abba Father calling Thee;
Light **disperses all our darkness**,
Till, like Him, Thy **Son**, we see.

Chorus 2:
O what **grace**! O what **truth**!
Love is seen and **light** is shown!
We would praise Thee never ceasing,
Thou by **love** and **light** art known!