

## Additional words, items suggested for fellowship: (week of 1/21/24)

When we see the lampstand, we should be impressed with **God's work!**

- God is the **architect** of the lampstand.
- **God intends that my lamp be on the lampstand!** Don't be a bushel brother; don't be an under-the-bed brother; don't be a vessel brother, or a cellar brother; but be a brother who puts the lamp on the lampstand.
- The making, the forming, and the shaping of the lampstand:
  - The lampstand is made of a single talent of **gold**, approximately 75 lb.
  - Appearance of an almond tree. We know from the Old Testament story of Aaron's rod that the almond is a sign of **life, resurrection**, and the **authority of life**.
  - The lampstand is **a hammered work of one piece**.

God works on you and develops/shapes you in the church for you to be a man according to His own heart.

- The examples of Abraham, and David.
- Your life will be hammered. **The point is not that you will suffer, but you will be shaped.**
  - When you are shaped, you will become the cup, the bulb, the blossom, and the fruit.
  - Corporately the church is a display of God's work, His shaping.
  - The hammering process may not be what you want, but through grace, how happy we are when we begin to see the result, the lampstand testifying God!

### ❖ Further inspiration:

- The lampstand appears as a living, growing, almond tree with branches, buds, and blossoms. It signifies the church, **bearing the image of life and growth.**
- The form and shape of the lampstand testify of **God's work, God's process, the hammering work.**
  - In our practical living we have experienced initial salvation, the lighting of our lamp. Then God's intention is that we put our lamp onto the lampstand and experience his work, the shaping, hammering, work of the Spirit to produce the shining lampstand.
- Our consecration for God's purpose includes **receiving Him**, (lighting of the lamp) **putting the lamp on the lampstand**, and experiencing God's work, his shaping and hammering to produce the shining lampstand! A city set on the hill cannot be hidden!