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Sunday School Times

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# A Golden Lampstand—Beautiful!

***Stuff For Today***

• Bob the Square

• Recall Notice

• Most Incredible Word Ever

**By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com**

***Exodus 25:31-39***

 ***31“Make a lampstand of pure gold. Hammer out its base and shaft, and make its flowerlike cups, buds and blossoms of one piece with them. 32Six branches are to extend from the sides of the lampstand—three on one side and three on the other. 33Three cups shaped like almond flowers with buds and blossoms are to be on one branch, three on the next branch, and the same for all six branches extending from the lampstand. 34And on the lampstand there are to be four cups shaped like almond flowers with buds and blossoms. 35One bud shall be under the first pair of branches extending from the lampstand, a second bud under the second pair, and a third bud under the third pair—six branches in all. 36The buds and branches shall all be of one piece with the lampstand, hammered out of pure gold.***

***37“Then make its seven lamps and set them up on it so that they light the space in front of it. 38Its wick trimmers and trays are to be of pure gold. 39A talent[[f](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=exodus%2025&version=NIV" \l "fen-NIV-2235f" \o "See footnote f)] of pure gold is to be used for the lampstand and all these accessories.***

Never before had the world witnessed an enormous nomadic nation travel across the countryside. With the visible presence of God ever before them in the form of a cloud by day and a pillar of fire at night, the Israelites moved with precision and order. The entourage was very organized and always moved in an identical manner. They never knew God’s plan for the upcoming day, until the morning. Their encampment could be for only the night, or they might remain for a year. When the cloud would lift and move, they would pack up everything they owned and follow. This required ease of mobility, and tents were fitting for the cause. Even with something as important as the building in which they centered their worship of God, there was the need for portability. God gave Moses the plans for a Tabernacle. It was, quite literally, a large tent and courtyard that could be broken down with relative ease and reassembled at the next camping spot. When a suitable site was determined, the carriers of the Tabernacle materials would erect the courtyard and tent. The entire assembly would then be allowed to come near to set up their tents. They were required to always camp in the same order, in a prescribed location, leaving the Tabernacle perfectly centered in the middle of the complete encampment. It was to be the focal point of everything they did. The Tabernacle was not exceptionally ornate, nor would it even be considered particularly beautiful from the outside, but it was very, very special. The building is, in fact, an astonishing picture of the character and attributes of Jesus Christ, the Messiah. We do not have the venue now to look at each detail. An entire book would be needed to discuss all that can be found in the chapters that chronicle the construction of the most amazing tent ever made.

A few moments will be spent here examining some furniture. The actual Tabernacle itself was a tent sitting just off center in a good sized courtyard enclosed by curtains. A rectangular structure, it was divided into two rooms. With only one entrance and no windows, curtains made of various types of hides and materials formed the ceiling and walls of the structure. The first room was called the Holy Place. Day to day activity occurred there continually. The second, slightly smaller room was known as the Holy of Holies. That room was to be entered only by the High Priest one day per year, the Day of Atonement. The two rooms were divided by a heavy curtain. An imaginary tour would be in order at this juncture to help explain what we will discover here.

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**Special Meal**

**March 1th**

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)



**Gripping**

 This well-known scene from the Sistine Chapel shows God reaching to touch the tip of the finger of man. For those who claim Christ as their Savior, the connection is more than just a touch. John 10:28-29 stipulates that we are in His grip. Imagine the strong arm of the Lord holding onto your own arm—and not letting go. Our salvation is not secured by our strength, but rather, it is bound by His hold on us

**Upcoming Dinner Theater**

The March 1th meal will be absolutely incredibly fun!!!!! Do not miss it. Critics have hailed as:

 *More fun than when the Penguins of Madagascar did that funny thing they did in the movie when the guy said that stuff and then the other guy laughed and then the penguins did that thing, and I laughed and laughed and it was sooooo great!*

As great as that was—this will be even better!