

The Doctrine of God

Scripture reading: John 7:17

The plan of the church in the tabernacle is represented by seven pieces of furniture as follows:

1. THE BRAZEN ALTAR - Representing the cross or death to sin.
 - a. Justification - Made just as if you had never sinned.
 - b. Salvation - Redemption - Bought and paid for.
2. THE BRAZEN LAVER - Representing Death to Self typified in baptism - Entering into a Covenant relationship with God.
 - a. Baptism - Entering into a Covenant of death, burial and Resurrection with Christ.
 - b. Sanctification - Made clean and acceptable to God
 - c. Consecration - Putting aside that which is cleansed for the purpose of God's use alone.
3. THE GOLDEN CANDLESTICK or Lampstand - Representing the union in the spirit of man and God. It does not merely represent the baptism of the Holy Spirit, since one may be baptized in the Holy Ghost and not live in the Spirit, but it represents the bringing forth of the fruits of the Spirit. It represents man and God working together as one unit.
4. THE TABLE OF SHEWBREAD - Representing the feasting on the Body of Christ - God's dining table - The King's Table
 - a. Feeding on Christ in the Body
 - b. Feeding on Christ within one's own spirit
 - c. Feeding on Christ in Jesus, who is not only in us, but with us.
5. THE GOLDEN ALTAR OF INCENSE - Representing the offering of the soul.
6. THE MERCY SEAT - Representing the overshadowing of the Body of Christ.
7. THE ARK OF THE COVENANT - Representing the manchild.

These seven pieces of furniture represent:

1. The seven stages of progression in the history of the church which will eventually produce a perfect church, spoken of in Revelation 12:5 as the "MANCHILD."
2. The seven mysteries of the gospel which will be and are being revealed within man. As we walk in them, we receive the revelation of them. God is daring men and women to walk blindly by faith into the blazing light of the WORD. Jesus said in John 7:17, *"If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself."*
3. The opening of the seven mysteries is the opening of the Seven Seals, Revelation 5:2. As these mysteries of the gospel are opened, the world is being brought nearer to the final fulfillment of all things.

(Excerpt from *The Pattern*, pg. 41-43)

Thought for today: God is daring men and women to walk blindly by faith into the blazing light of the WORD.