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In Scripture, gold represents deity or divine glory.

“And Moses...said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold” (Exodus 32:31)

“They lavish gold out of the bag...and hire a goldsmith; and he maketh it a god: they fall down, yea, they worship” (Isa. 46:61).

The Golden Candlestick (Menorah) was made from a talent (c.100 lbs.) of one piece of beaten pure gold (Exodus 25:31-40, 37:17-24).

37 And thou shalt make the seven lamps thereof: and they shall light the lamps thereof, that they may give light over against it.
39 Of a talent of pure gold shall he make it...
40 And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount (Exo. 25:37, 39-40).

“It pleased the Lord to bruise him” and “He was bruised for our iniquities” (Isaiah 53:5, 10).

“I am the vine, ye are the branches” (John 15:5).
“As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world” (John 9:5).

“Ye are the light of the world” (the branches, Mat. 5:14)

- 1. Bowl-like almond nut
- 2. then a knop (bud)
- 3. and last—a flower: 3 sets on each branch, Exo. 25:33

There were 4 sets on the center shaft with a knop (bud) under each branch (Exo. 25:34-36).

“behold, the rod of Aaron...brought forth buds, and bloomed blossoms, and yielded almonds” (Num. 17:8).

As Messiah Jesus told us the Old Testament was about Himself, the application and understanding must be about our Lord. (Luk. 24:27, 44)

Thus, its meaning: The perfect light (7) of the world who is actually 100% God (pure gold) will be beaten...and die.

Yet don't despair, the almond nuts, buds, and flowers bear testimony that — like Aaron's rod that lived again — He will be resurrected!

Of course, since God is a Spirit (John 4:24), the only way he can be “beaten” is for him to first become a man.

Yet although the primary interpretation as to the significance of the Golden Candlestick is and must be about the person of Christ Jesus as demanded by the Luke 24:27 and 44 passages, there is a strong possibility of a secondary meaning.

That is to say, the number and arrangement of the *ornaments* on the branches imply that the Candlestick not only represent the *living* Word, they also signify the *written* Word: "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psa. 119:105). And just what is meant by this?

The Golden Candlestick had a central shaft with three branches on both sides. Each branch had 3 sets of 3 ornaments for a total of 9 ornaments on each branch (3 sets of 3). The central shaft had 4 sets of 3 for a total of 12.

Thus, there were 12 ornaments on the central shaft (3 x 4) and 27 on either of its sides (3 x 9) for a total of 66 (27 + 12 + 27). Consequently, we see that the 27 ornaments on the left and 12 on the central shaft sum to 39 – the exact number of books in the Old Testament (the 27 works comprising the Law and Prophets plus the 12 "minor prophets").

As there are 66 books in the Bible, this strongly suggests that the 27 on the right side represent the books of the New Testament (66 – 39 = 27). Surely all this cannot be a mere coincidence.

Therefore, the Golden Candlestick must also be taken as signifying the number of books that would eventually be included in the canon of Scripture.

Of course, this doesn't tell us which books they would be, but it does indicate there would only be 66 and no more. Selah.

Even so, it is not intended that the reader understand the number and arrangement of these ornaments merely refer to the number of *books* that would become the canon, but rather that they indicate the number of written witnesses who would bear *testimony* as to the person of the Messiah, even Jesus of Nazareth. Luke 24:27 and 24:44 demand this:

27 And beginning at Moses & all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.
 44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

Finally, the Candlestick was given expressly to the Jews – thus, the above indicates that *all* Scripture would come through them and them alone – and the New Testament bears this out (Rom. 3:1-2). Therefore we see that, in the wisdom of God, the Golden Candlestick was a representation that had profound prophetic implications. (Floyd Nolen Jones, Th.D., Ph.D.)

