

**Message Four**  
**The Intrinsic Significance,**  
**Subjective Experience, and Organic Maintenance**  
**of the Golden Lampstand for a New Revival**

*EM Hymns: 822*

Scripture Reading: Exo. 25:31-40; Zech 4:1-14; Rev. 1:10-13, 20; 2:1, 7

- Exo 25:31 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.
- Exo 25:32 And there shall be six branches going out of its sides; three branches of the lampstand out of one of its sides, and three branches of the lampstand out of its other side;
- Exo 25:33 Three cups made like almond blossoms in one branch, a calyx and a blossom bud; and three cups made like almond blossoms in the other branch, a calyx and a blossom bud-so for the six branches going out of the lampstand.
- Exo 25:34 And there shall be on the lampstand four cups made like almond blossoms, its calyxes and its blossom buds;
- Exo 25:35 And a calyx under two branches of one piece with it, and a calyx under two branches of one piece with it, and a calyx under two branches of one piece with it, for the six branches going out of the lampstand.
- Exo 25:36 Their calyxes and their branches shall be of one piece with it; all of it one beaten work of pure gold.
- Exo 25:37 And you shall make its lamps, seven; and set up its lamps to give light to the area in front of it.
- Exo 25:38 And its tongs and its firepans shall be of pure gold.
- Exo 25:39 It shall be made of a talent of pure gold, with all these utensils.
- Exo 25:40 And see that you make them according to their pattern, which was shown to you in the mountain.
- Zech 4:1 Then the angel who spoke with me returned and roused me as a man is roused from his sleep.
- Zech 4:2 And he said to me, What do you see? And I said, I see that there is a lampstand all of gold, with its bowl on top of it and its seven lamps upon it, with seven pipes for each of the lamps on top of it;
- Zech 4:3 And there are two olive trees beside it, one to the right of the bowl and one to the left.
- Zech 4:4 And I answered and spoke to the angel who spoke with me, saying, What are these, sir?
- Zech 4:5 And the angel who spoke with me answered and said to me, Do you not know what these are? And I said, No, sir.
- Zech 4:6 And he answered and spoke to me, saying, This is the word of Jehovah to Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, says Jehovah of hosts.
- Zech 4:7 Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become a plain, and he will bring forth the topstone with shouts of Grace, grace to it.
- Zech 4:8 Moreover the word of Jehovah came to me, saying,
- Zech 4:9 The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house, and his hands will finish it; and you will know that Jehovah of hosts has sent Me to you.
- Zech 4:10 For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice when they see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel; they are the eyes of Jehovah running to and fro on the whole earth.
- Zech 4:11 Then I answered and said to him, What are these two olive trees on the right of the lampstand and on its left?
- Zech 4:12 And I answered a second time and said to him, What are the two olive branches that are by the side of the two golden spouts, which empty the gold from themselves?
- Zech 4:13 And he spoke to me, saying, Do you not know what these are? And I said, No, sir.
- Zech 4:14 And he said, These are the two sons of oil, who stand by the Lord of the whole earth.
- Rev 1:10 I was in spirit on the Lord's Day and heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet,
- Rev 1:11 Saying, What you see write in a scroll and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamos and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.
- Rev 1:12 And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me; and when I turned, I saw seven golden lampstands,
- Rev 1:13 And in the midst of the lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment reaching to the feet, and girded about at the breasts with a golden girdle.
- Rev 1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw upon My right hand and the seven golden

lampstands: The seven stars are the messengers of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Rev 2:1 To the messenger of the church in Ephesus write: These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, He who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:

Rev 2:7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.

**I. In order to enter into a new revival, we need to see the supereminent Christ according to the highest peak of the divine revelation, know the all-inclusive Christ for a Godman living, and minister the unsearchably rich Christ to others in shepherding them for the building up of the Body of Christ to consummate the city of God, the wife of the Lamb—Phil. 3:8, 10; Eph. 3:8-11; Rev. 21:2, 9-10.**

Phil 3:8 But moreover I also count all things to be loss on account of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, on account of whom I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as refuse that I may gain Christ

Phil 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

Eph 3:8 To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel

Eph 3:9 And to enlighten all that they may see what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things,

Eph 3:10 In order that now to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenlies the multifarious wisdom of God might be made known through the church,

Eph 3:11 According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Rev 21:2 And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Rev 21:9 And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, Come here; I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.

Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

**II. We need a spirit of wisdom and revelation to understand the intrinsic significance of the golden lampstand (the highest peak of the divine revelation), which was designed by God Himself and portrays the goal of His eternal economy—Eph. 1:17; Zech. 4:1-6; Rev. 1:2, 9-12:**

Eph 1:17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the full knowledge of Him,

Zech 4:1 Then the angel who spoke with me returned and roused me as a man is roused from his sleep.

Zech 4:2 And he said to me, What do you see? And I said, I see that there is a lampstand all of gold, with its bowl on top of it and its seven lamps upon it, with seven pipes for each of the lamps on top of it;

Zech 4:3 And there are two olive trees beside it, one to the right of the bowl and one to the left.

Zech 4:4 And I answered and spoke to the angel who spoke with me, saying, What are these, sir?

Zech 4:5 And the angel who spoke with me answered and said to me, Do you not know what these are? And I said, No, sir.

Zech 4:6 And he answered and spoke to me, saying, This is the word of Jehovah to Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, says Jehovah of hosts.

Rev 1:2 Who testified the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ, even all that he saw.

Rev 1:9 I John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and endurance in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

Rev 1:10 I was in spirit on the Lord's Day and heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet,

Rev 1:11 Saying, What you see write in a scroll and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamos and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to

Laodicea.

Rev 1:12 And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me; and when I turned, I saw seven golden lampstands,

A. The golden lampstand signifies the Triune God:

1. The pure gold substance signifies God the Father in His divine nature—Exo. 25:31.

Exo 25:31 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.

2. The form of the lampstand signifies God the Son as the embodiment of God the Father—2 Cor. 4:4; Col. 1:15; 2:9.

2 Cor 4:4 In whom the god of this age has blinded the thoughts of the unbelievers that the illumination of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, might not shine on them.

Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,

Col 2:9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily,

3. The lamps signify God the Spirit as the seven Spirits of God for the expression of the Father in the Son—Exo. 25:37; Rev. 4:5.

Exo 25:37 And you shall make its lamps, seven; and set up its lamps to give light to the area in front of it.

Rev 4:5 And out of the throne come forth lightnings and voices and thunders. And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God;

B. The golden lampstands signify the local churches as the reproduction of Christ and the reprint of the Spirit:

1. The lampstand in Exodus 25 signifies Christ as the embodiment of God—vv. 31-40.

Exo 25:31 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.

Exo 25:32 And there shall be six branches going out of its sides; three branches of the lampstand out of one of its sides, and three branches of the lampstand out of its other side;

Exo 25:33 Three cups made like almond blossoms in one branch, a calyx and a blossom bud; and three cups made like almond blossoms in the other branch, a calyx and a blossom bud—so for the six branches going out of the lampstand.

Exo 25:34 And there shall be on the lampstand four cups made like almond blossoms, its calyxes and its blossom buds;

Exo 25:35 And a calyx under two branches of one piece with it, and a calyx under two branches of one piece with it, and a calyx under two branches of one piece with it, for the six branches going out of the lampstand.

Exo 25:36 Their calyxes and their branches shall be of one piece with it; all of it one beaten work of pure gold.

Exo 25:37 And you shall make its lamps, seven; and set up its lamps to give light to the area in front of it.

Exo 25:38 And its tongs and its firepans shall be of pure gold.

Exo 25:39 It shall be made of a talent of pure gold, with all these utensils.

Exo 25:40 And see that you make them according to their pattern, which was shown to you in the mountain.

2. The lampstand in Zechariah 4 signifies the sevenfold intensified life-giving Spirit as the reality of Christ—vv. 2, 6, 10; Rev. 5:6.

Zech 4:2 And he said to me, What do you see? And I said, I see that there is a lampstand all of gold, with its bowl on top of it and its seven lamps upon it, with seven pipes for each of the lamps on top of it;

Zech 4:6 And he answered and spoke to me, saying, This is the word of Jehovah to Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, says Jehovah of hosts.

Zech 4:10 For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice when they see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel; they are the eyes of Jehovah

- running to and fro on the whole earth.
- Rev 5:6 And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures and in the midst of the elders a Lamb standing as having just been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.
3. The lampstands in Revelation 1 are the reprint, the reproduction, of this Spirit-Christ—vv. 11-12, 20.
- Rev 1:11 Saying, What you see write in a scroll and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamos and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.
- Rev 1:12 And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me; and when I turned, I saw seven golden lampstands,
- Rev 1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw upon My right hand and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the messengers of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

### **III. We need to subjectively experience the detailed aspects of the golden lampstand (the God-man living) so that we can become the reproduction of the lampstand, the expression of the Triune God:**

- A. The lampstand is of pure gold, signifying the eternal, incorruptible, divine nature of God—Exo. 25:31:
- Exo 25:31 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 calyces, and its blossom buds shall be of one piece with it.
1. We need to pay the price to gain more gold, more of God in His divine nature—2 Pet. 1:4; Rev. 3:18; Zech. 4:12-14; Matt. 25:8-9.
- 2 Pet 1:4 Through which He has granted to us precious and exceedingly great promises that through these you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption which is in the world by lust.
- Rev 3:18 I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined by fire that you may be rich, and white garments that you may be clothed and that the shame of your nakedness may not be manifested, and eyesalve to anoint your eyes that you may see.
- Zech 4:12 And I answered a second time and said to him, What are the two olive branches that are by the side of the two golden spouts, which empty the gold from themselves?
- Zech 4:13 And he spoke to me, saying, Do you not know what these are? And I said, No, sir.
- Zech 4:14 And he said, These are the two sons of oil, who stand by the Lord of the whole earth.
- Matt 25:8 And the foolish said to the prudent, Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.
- Matt 25:9 But the prudent answered, saying, Perhaps there will not be enough for us and for you; go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.
2. Mixture in our Christian life brings in darkness, but when our Christian life is purified through the divine nature, we have light—cf. Deut. 22:9.
- Deut 22:9 You shall not sow your vineyard with two kinds of seed, lest the full produce, the seed which you sow, be forfeited to the sanctuary, as well as the increase of the vineyard.
- B. The lampstand is of beaten work, signifying sufferings—Exo. 25:31:
- Exo 25:31 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 calyces, and its blossom buds shall be of one piece with it.
1. To be beaten is to participate in Christ's sufferings for the producing and building up of the Body of Christ—1 Pet. 4:1; Phil. 3:10; Col. 1:24; Acts 16:6-7.
- 1 Pet 4:1 Since Christ therefore has suffered in the flesh, you also arm yourselves with the same mind (because he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin),

- Phil 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,
- Col 1:24 I now rejoice in my sufferings on your behalf and fill up on my part that which is lacking of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for His Body, which is the church;
- Acts 16:6 And they passed through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia.
- Acts 16:7 And when they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, yet the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them.
2. We must be beaten together with others into one entity, blended together through the cross and by the Spirit (1 Cor. 12:24), to shine forth the light of God for His corporate testimony.
- 1 Cor 12:24 But our comely members have no need. But God has blended the body together, giving more abundant honor to the member that lacked,
- C. The lampstand being without measurement signifies that the divinity of Christ and the light He shines are immeasurable—John 3:34; cf. 7:18; 1 Cor. 2:13.
- John 3:34 For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for He gives the Spirit not by measure.
- John 7:18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of Him who sent Him, this One is true, and unrighteousness is not in Him.
- 1 Cor 2:13 Which things also we speak, not in words taught by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things with spiritual words.
- D. The lampstand's base for stability and its shaft for strength signify that the Lord Jesus was always stable and strong—Matt. 8:24; cf. 2 Cor. 1:18; Rev. 1:9.
- Matt 8:24 And behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, so that the boat was covered by the waves; but He was sleeping.
- 2 Cor 1:18 But as God is faithful, our word toward you is not yes and no.
- Rev 1:9 I John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and endurance in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.
- E. The lampstand's having cups shaped like almond blossoms with calyxes and blossom buds signifies that the Triune God is a living, golden tree, growing, budding, and blossoming in resurrection—Exo. 25:31:
- Exo 25:31 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.
1. The cups shaped like almond blossoms signify the resurrection life blossoming—Num. 17:8; Jer. 1:11-12:
- Num 17:8 And on the next day Moses went into the Tent of the Testimony, and there was the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi: it had budded; it even put forth buds and produced blossoms and bore ripe almonds.
- Jer 1:11 Then the word of Jehovah came to me, saying, What do you see, Jeremiah? And I said, I see a rod of an almond tree.
- Jer 1:12 And Jehovah said to me, You have seen well, for I am watching over My word to perform it.
- a. The blossoming of resurrection life is the shining light, the expression of the life of God, the fruit of the Spirit and the fruit of the light—John 1:14; Gal. 5:22; Eph. 5:9.
- John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.
- Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
- Eph 5:9 (For the fruit of the light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth),
- b. If we would shine forth the light of life, we must be in resurrection, not in our natural life—Phil. 3:10; S. S. 2:8-9, 14; cf. Ps. 73:16-17.

- Phil 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,
- S.S. 2:8 The voice of my beloved! Now he comes, / Leaping upon the mountains, / Skipping upon the hills.
- S.S. 2:9 My beloved is like a gazelle or a young hart. / Now he stands behind our wall; / He is looking through the windows, / He is glancing through the lattice.
- S.S. 2:14 My dove, in the clefts of the rock, / In the covert of the precipice, Let me see your countenance, / Let me hear your voice; / For your voice is sweet, / And your countenance is lovely.
- Psa 73:16 When I considered this in order to understand it, / It was a troublesome task in my sight,
- Psa 73:17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God; / Then I perceived their end.
- c. Christ as the resurrection life is growing, branching, budding, and blossoming in us, by us, and with us to shine the light—Col. 2:19.
- Col 2:19 And not holding the Head, out from whom all the Body, being richly supplied and knit together by means of the joints and sinews, grows with the growth of God.
- d. How much light there can be in the church depends on the extent to which Christ has a way to grow in us and through us.
2. As those who believe in Christ, we are a part of this wonderful golden tree in resurrection and with the divine nature, the divine life, the Spirit, and the shining light.
- F. The pure gold tongs and firepans for trimming the charred wicks signify the dealing with the old and charred natural life by the divine nature so that the shining of the resurrection life may be bright and pure—Exo. 25:38.
- Exo 25:38 And its tongs and its firepans shall be of pure gold.
- G. The lampstand with all its utensils was one talent of pure gold (approximately one hundred pounds), signifying that Christ as the divine lampstand shining the divine light in resurrection is perfectly and completely weighty—v. 39; John 7:45-46; 18:37-38; cf. 1 Tim. 2:2; Titus 2:7.
- Exo 25:39 It shall be made of a talent of pure gold, with all these utensils.
- John 7:45 The attendants therefore came to the chief priests and Pharisees, and these said to them, Why did you not bring Him?
- John 7:46 The attendants answered, Never has a man spoken as this man has.
- John 18:37 Pilate said therefore to Him, So then You are a king? Jesus answered, You say that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, that I would testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.
- John 18:38 Pilate said to Him, What is truth? And having said this, he again went out to the Jews and said to them, I find no fault in Him.
- 1 Tim 2:2 On behalf of kings and all who are in high position, that we may lead a quiet and tranquil life in all godliness and gravity.
- Titus 2:7 Concerning all things presenting yourself as a pattern of good works: in your teaching showing incorruption, gravity,
- H. The seven lamps of the lampstand are the seven Spirits of God as the seven eyes of Jehovah (Zech. 4:10), the seven eyes of the redeeming Lamb (Rev. 5:6), and the seven eyes of the building stone (Zech 3:9) for the full expression of the Triune God:
- Zech 4:10 For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice when they see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel; they are the eyes of Jehovah running to and fro on the whole earth.
- Rev 5:6 And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures and in the midst of the elders a Lamb standing as having just been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.
- Zech 3:9 For here is the stone that I have set before Joshua-upon one stone are seven eyes. I will engrave its engraving, declares Jehovah of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

1. “No Spirit, no church. More Spirit, more church” (*The Church—the Reprint of the Spirit*, p. 18)—cf. Zech. 4:6.  
 Zech 4:6      And he answered and spoke to me, saying, This is the word of Jehovah to Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, says Jehovah of hosts.
2. The seven eyes of the Lamb infuse us with Christ as the judicial Redeemer, and the seven eyes of the stone infuse us with Christ as the organic Savior for God’s economical move on earth through His redemption and by His organic salvation for the goal of His building—John 1:29; Acts 4:11-12; Rom. 5:10; 1 Cor. 3:12.  
 John 1:29      The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!  
 Acts 4:11      This is the stone which was considered as nothing by you, the builders, which has become the head of the corner.  
 Acts 4:12      And there is salvation in no other, for neither is there another name under heaven given among men in which we must be saved.  
 Rom 5:10      For if we, being enemies, were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more we will be saved in His life, having been reconciled,  
 1 Cor 3:12      But if anyone builds upon the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, grass, stubble,
3. The Lord’s seven eyes are as a flame of fire for watching, observing, searching, and judging by enlightening and infusing—Rev. 1:14; 5:6; Dan. 10:6.  
 Rev 1:14      And His head and hair were as white as white wool, as snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire;  
 Rev 5:6      And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures and in the midst of the elders a Lamb standing as having just been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.  
 Dan 10:6      His body also was like beryl, His face like the appearance of lightning, His eyes like torches of fire, His arms and His feet like the gleam of polished bronze, and the sound of His words like the sound of a multitude.
4. Within us we have two lamps—the sevenfold intensified Spirit of God within our spirit—Prov. 20:27; Rev. 4:5; 1 Cor. 6:17:  
 Prov 20:27      The spirit of man is the lamp of Jehovah, / Searching all the innermost parts of the inner being.  
 Rev 4:5      And out of the throne come forth lightnings and voices and thunders. And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God;  
 1 Cor 6:17      But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.
  - a. In order for us to be transformed, we must fully open to the Lord in prayer to allow the lamp of the Lord with the seven lamps of fire to search all the chambers of our soul, shining on and enlightening our inward parts to supply them with life—2:11a; Eph. 6:18.  
 1 Cor 2:11a      For who among men knows the things of man, except the spirit of man which is in him? ...  
 Eph 6:18      By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,
  - b. The one who experiences the greatest transformation is the one who is fully open to the Lord.
5. The more we experience the detailed aspects of the Triune God depicted in the lampstand, the more we will see the reproduction of the lampstand, which will pave the way for the Lord’s coming back to possess the whole earth.

**IV. The organic maintenance of the golden lampstand is Christ’s heavenly ministry to cherish the churches in His humanity and nourish the churches in**

**His divinity to produce the overcomers through His organic shepherding—  
Rev. 1:13; 2:1, 7; John 10:11, 14; 1 Pet. 2:25; 5:4; Heb. 13:20:**

Rev 1:13 And in the midst of the lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment reaching to the feet, and girded about at the breasts with a golden girdle.  
 Rev 2:1 To the messenger of the church in Ephesus write: These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, He who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:  
 Rev 2:7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.  
 John 10:11 I am the good Shepherd; the good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.  
 John 10:14 I am the good Shepherd, and I know My own, and My own know Me,  
 1 Pet 2:25 For you were like sheep being led astray, but you have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.  
 1 Pet 5:4 And when the Chief Shepherd is manifested, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.  
 Heb 13:20 Now the God of peace, He who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, in the blood of an eternal covenant,

A. Christ as the Son of Man is in His humanity, the golden girdle signifies His divinity, and the breasts are a sign of love:

1. Christ was girded at the loins, strengthened for the divine work (Exo. 28:4; Dan. 10:5) to produce the churches, but now He is girded about at the breasts, caring for the churches, which He has produced by His love.

Exo 28:4 And these are the garments which they shall make: a breastplate and an ephod and a robe and a tunic of checkered work, a turban and a girding sash. So they shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother and for his sons that he may serve Me as a priest.

Dan 10:5 I lifted up my eyes and I looked, and there was a certain man, clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with the fine gold of Uphaz.

2. The golden girdle signifies Christ's divinity as His divine energy, and the breasts signify that this golden energy is exercised and motivated by and with His love to nourish the churches.

B. Christ takes care of the churches in His humanity as the Son of Man to cherish them—Rev. 1:13a:

Rev 1:13a And in the midst of the lampstands One like the Son of Man, ...

1. He dresses the lamps of the lampstands to make them proper, cherishing us that we may be happy, pleasant, and comfortable—Exo. 30:7; cf. Psa. 42:5, 11:

Exo 30:7 And Aaron shall burn on it fragrant incense; every morning when he dresses the lamps he shall burn it.

Psa 42:5 Why are you cast down, O my soul? / And why are you disquieted within me? / Hope in God, for I will yet praise Him / For the salvation of His countenance.

Psa 42:11 Why are you cast down, O my soul? / And why are you disquieted within me? / Hope in God, for I will yet praise Him, / The salvation of my countenance and my God.

a. The Lord's presence provides an atmosphere of tenderness and warmth to cherish our being, giving us rest, comfort, healing, cleansing, and encouragement.

b. We can enjoy the cherishing atmosphere of the Lord's presence in the church to receive the nourishing supply of life—Eph. 5:29; cf. 1 Tim. 4:6; Eph. 4:11.

Eph 5:29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ also the church,

1 Tim 4:6 If you lay these things before the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, being nourished with the words of the faith and of the good teaching which you have closely followed.

Eph 4:11 And He Himself gave some as apostles and some as prophets and some as evangelists and some as shepherds and teachers,

2. He trims the wicks of the lamps of the lampstand, cutting off all the negative things that frustrate our shining—Exo. 25:38:

Exo 25:38 And its tongs and its firepans shall be of pure gold.

- a. The charred part of the wick, the snuff, signifies things that are not according to God's purpose and need to be cut off, such as our flesh, our natural man, our self, and our old creation.
  - b. He trims away all the differences among the churches (the wrongdoings, shortages, failures, and defects) so that they may be the same in essence, appearance, and expression—cf. 1 Cor. 1:10; 2 Cor. 12:18; Phil. 2:2.
    - 1 Cor 1:10 Now I beseech you, brothers, through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be attuned in the same mind and in the same opinion.
    - 2 Cor 12:18 I entreated Titus and sent with him the brother. Titus did not take advantage of you, did he? Did we not walk in the same spirit? In the same steps?
    - Phil 2:2 Make my joy full, that you think the same thing, having the same love, joined in soul, thinking the one thing,
- C. Christ takes care of the churches in His divinity with His divine love, signified by the golden girdle on His breasts, to nourish the churches—Rev. 1:13b:
- Rev 1:13b ... clothed with a garment reaching to the feet, and girded about at the breasts with a golden girdle.
- 1. He nourishes us with Himself as the all-inclusive Christ in His full ministry of three stages so that we may grow and mature in the divine life to be His overcomers to accomplish His eternal economy.
  - 2. As the walking Christ, He gets to know the condition of each church, and as the speaking Spirit, He trims and fills the lampstands with fresh oil, the supply of the Spirit—2:1, 7.
    - Rev 2:1 To the messenger of the church in Ephesus write: These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, He who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:
    - Rev 2:7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.
  - 3. To participate in His move and enjoy His care, we must be in the churches.