

DEEPER TEACHINGS
(MEAT OF THE WORD)

#27A

THE SOCKETS AND BARS

By Sam Fife



According to the grace of God which is
Given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder,
I have laid the foundation, and another
buildeth thereon. But let every man take
heed how he buildeth thereupon.

1Co 3:10

SOCKETS OF SILVER AND BARS OF GOLD

Exodus 26:15-30 And thou shalt make boards for the tabernacle of shittim wood standing up. [16] Ten cubits shall be the length of a board, and a cubit and a half shall be the breadth of one board. [17] Two tenons shall there be in one board, set in order one against another: thus shalt thou make for all the boards of the tabernacle. [18] And thou shalt make the boards for the tabernacle, twenty boards on the south side southward. [19] And thou shalt make forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards; two sockets under one board for his two tenons, and two sockets under another board for his two tenons. [20] And for the second side of the tabernacle on the north side there shall be twenty boards: [21] And their forty sockets of silver; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board. [22] And for the sides of the tabernacle westward thou shalt make six boards. [23] And two boards shalt thou make for the corners of the tabernacle in the two sides. [24] And they shall be coupled together beneath, and they shall be coupled together above the head of it unto one ring: thus shall it be for them both; they shall be for the two corners. [25] And they shall be eight boards, and their sockets of silver, sixteen sockets; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board. [26] And thou shalt make bars of shittim wood; five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle, [27] And five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the side of the tabernacle, for the two sides westward. [28] And the middle bar in the midst of the boards shall reach from end to end. [29] And thou shalt overlay the boards with gold, and make their rings of gold for places for the bars: and thou shalt overlay the bars with gold. [30] And thou shalt rear up the tabernacle according to the fashion thereof which was shewed thee in the mount.

In this study, we desire to share with you the great truths that are revealed to us in the construction of the Tabernacle that Moses pitched in the wilderness.

In the previous studies, we have brought forth the foundational lines and precepts leading up to the truths in this message. We are reminded that the Tabernacle Moses pitched in the wilderness, which was a dwelling place for God, was but a type of the true Tabernacle God is building today as a dwelling place for His Spirit, which Tabernacle we are.

This Tabernacle Moses pitched had three divisions, "The Outer Court," "The Holy Place," and "The Holy of Holies." However, the Outer Court was not the Tabernacle. It was only the court the Tabernacle was placed in. The Tabernacle consisted of the Holy Place and Holy of Holies.

The construction of the Tabernacle, which was the Holy Place and Holy of Holies, consisted of boards overlaid with gold that were anchored in sockets of silver and held together by bars of gold.

First let us consider the golden boards. In the symbolism of scripture, wood is always symbolic of man, for we are called the trees of righteousness and the plantings of the Lord, and wood comes from trees. Gold is always symbolic of the perfect nature of God. Therefore, wooden boards overlaid with gold speak of man overlaid with God. Therefore, we are the boards of that Tabernacle. The boards were anchored in sockets of silver. Silver in the scripture is symbolic of Christ in His redemptive work at Calvary. Truly this is what all of us who are the boards of God's Tabernacle are anchored in, the blood of the new covenant and the redemptive work of Christ at Calvary. Each one of these silver bases with sockets in it, that the boards were set in, weighed one hundred and twenty-five pounds. Certainly, when anchored in such a strong heavy base it would take a very strong wind to blow one of those boards over. Even so, when we are anchored in our silver sockets, the redemptive work of Christ in the cross of Calvary, the winds of adversity

and testing may blow mightily against us but they cannot blow us over.

When every board was anchored in its sockets of silver, the whole Tabernacle rested on its silver base all the way around. It did not rest upon the earth, but it rested upon the silver sockets. It did not touch the earth and the earth did not touch it. It was completely separated from everything that was of the earth and earthy.

If all Christians who are the boards of God's Tabernacle would fulfill this type, and rest upon the finished work of Calvary, as the Tabernacle rested upon the silver-based sockets, they would truly enter into the rest that is ordained for the people of God. If they would cease to try to rest upon the earth and the earthy natural things, and rest upon the covenant of Calvary, of which those silver bases were a type, they would truly enter into their rest. If they would seek their rest in the redemptive work of Christ in the cross and the covenant of the cross instead of from the doctors and medicines and psychiatrists and all the natural things of the earth, they would get their sicknesses healed and take off their glasses and throw away their crutches and hearing aids and truly find their rest as the Tabernacle of God on the sockets of silver.

Too many Christians, instead of resting in the covenant that God gave us at Calvary, are resting on the earthy natural provisions of this world.

Many Christians have no understanding whatever of the New Covenant of the cross that is given to us to rest upon, of which those silver bases are a type. Many do not know what a covenant is. A covenant is a contract between two parties. So many do not know the difference between the Old Covenant or contract given through Moses and the New Covenant. Hebrews in the New Testament says we of the New Testament age have a covenant that speaketh better things than that of Abel. Under the old contract, God gave the people His laws, and the conditions of the contract were, if they kept the laws, He would bless them, and if they did

not keep them He would whip them and sometimes kill them. If a man did not keep the law of the Sabbath, he was to be stoned to death. If a woman was taken in the act of adultery, she was to be stoned to death. This was a hard contract; the terms were, "If you keep the laws, I'll bless you, if you do not keep them, I'll whip you and sometimes kill you."

The New Contract we have with God is so much more glorious. In this contract, God says, "I want you to keep my laws ultimately. But while you are growing to where you can, whether you keep them or not, I'll still bless you and answer every prayer, if you will just believe and rest in the redemptive work of Calvary, the Blood of Jesus."

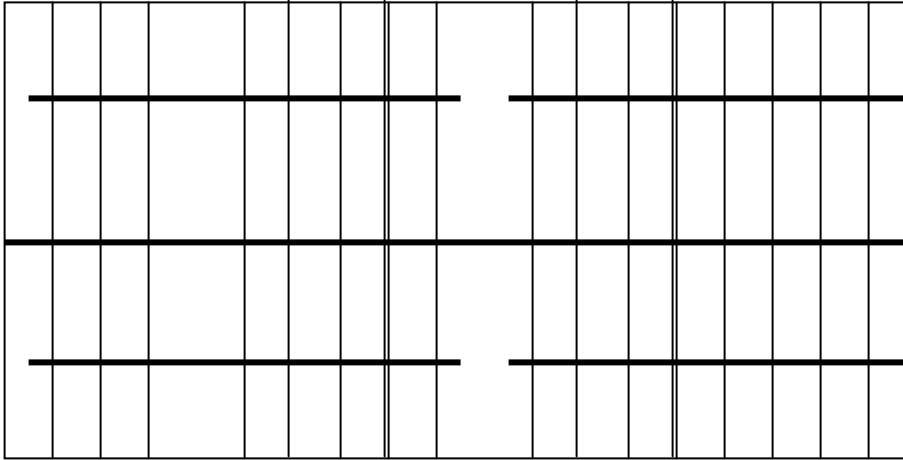
So many Christians today are living in the New Covenant age and depending on the Old Covenant of their own works to get God's blessing instead of resting on the silver sockets, the finished work of Calvary. Oh, that all might see, whether we are able yet to keep the law or not, we can still have the blessing of God just by believing for it is through the blood of Jesus, for we have a contract with God.

I would like to illustrate the power of this contract by relating one of my own experiences. Once some years ago, I was tricked by the enemy out of the will of God, and into something that would have brought much trouble upon me and was about to do so. After I had gotten back in the will of God, still the terrible results of my failure were about to come upon me. I knelt in prayer to ask God to prevent this. As I knelt in prayer, I knew I had nothing to present to God from myself that should persuade him to help me. I was guilty, I knew I was guilty and I knew He knew I was guilty, and I had no excuse. But I had a contract with God. So I just reminded Him that He gave me a contract that He would help me whether I deserved it or not, if I just believed that because of the shed blood of Jesus He must keep His end of the contract. As I prayed this way, He moved the terrible thing that was coming at me far away so that it never came near me. Oh, what a covenant! Oh, that we who are the true

Tabernacle, like the old type Tabernacle, would find our rest on our silver sockets, the redemptive Word of Christ at Calvary, not in our works, not in the natural earthy help of hospitals, doctors, medicines and psychiatrists, but in our own silver sockets, the Covenant of Calvary.

Another great truth revealed in these silver socket bases is in the fact that these silver bases completely separated the boards of the Tabernacle from the world. The silver sockets stood between the boards and the earth. Not one board touched the dirt of the earth and none of the dirt of the earth touched the boards. Even so, we who are the boards overlaid with gold, to fulfill this type, must live completely separated lives from the world. Nothing of the dirt of this world should touch our lives, neither should we touch it. This is far from what Christians are manifesting today. But God is restoring a true vision of the Holiness and separation that is required of us, that is so much purer than the vision of outward Holiness our Pentecostal brethren preached. And in these last days, He is going to have a people that will fulfill that vision.

Now not only were the boards anchored in sockets of silver, but they were held together by Golden Bars. These five golden bars were a type of the five Spirit ministries that Jesus put in the body of Christ to hold it together-Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers. The diagram below shows the order in which these golden bars held the boards together.



You will notice in the order that the bars were set in the Tabernacle, all the bars did not run the full length of the Tabernacle holding all the boards together. Only the one long bar in the center did. For this is a type of the Apostle, whose ministry is to the whole body of Christ all over the world. But the other four bars did not cover all the boards, but held only local segments of the boards together. This is because they are a type of the four ministries, Prophets, Evangelists, Elders or Pastors, and Teachers, who are to operate in each local body in every city and village in the Lord where there is a local Assembly of the Boards of God's Tabernacle.

The long center bar ran the full length of the Tabernacle touching all the bars, for it is the Apostles' ministry to travel the world from local body to local body helping to pull all the boards together and make them one Tabernacle, not only the boards in each local body, but also helping to draw all the local bodies into that union with one another in God's Divine Order that shall one day bring forth one body that shall manifest the Christ in the earth.

You will also note that though the boards stood upright, the bars lay down horizontally along the side of the Tabernacle. This is to proclaim that the five-fold ministry

has to lie down and die-to-self in order to hold the true Tabernacle of God together.

Now each board down near the earth had its own individual silver socket, and rested on its own individual silver base. But as the boards rose up from the earth into the air where they were joined together by the golden bars, they lost their individuality and became one Tabernacle.

Even so, each one of us, when we are first born of the Spirit and at the root of our Christian life, down at the bottom, we each have our own individual relationship with Christ through the Spirit and are anchored in our own individual silver socket through the redemptive work of Christ at Calvary. But as we begin to grow up into the air (pneuma or spirit) then we will be joined together by the five golden bar ministries to make one Tabernacle, one body of Christ. It is well to look upon ourselves as individual Christians and allow denominationalism and sectarianism in our lives in the lower levels of our Christian life, down on the earthy levels where we first get anchored in the silver which is Christ's redemptive work of the cross. The Greek word for the Holy Spirit in the New Testament is air or wind, and just as the boards of the Tabernacle, as they rose up into the air, lost their individualism and were joined together by the five golden bars, making one Tabernacle, so as we grow up into the pneuma, the air of the Spirit, we must lose our sectarianism and denominationalism, and be joined together by a five-fold ministry into one Tabernacle, one body of Christ.

Now we need to consider the three different kinds of lights that light up that Tabernacle. The only light that ever shone in the Outer Court was the light of the natural sun. When the light of the natural sun would rise each day, its rays would shine over the top of the tent curtains in the Tabernacle, and as they were reflected back from the burnished brass of the Brazen Altar and Brazen Laver it was a glorious light. But the light in the Holy Place was a different light. It was not the natural light of the natural sun, but it was the light of

the Seven-branched Candlestick, which is a type of the sevenfold supernatural gifts and operations of the Spirit that are given to us to light up our way, after we have received the Baptism of the Spirit and entered into the Holy Place.

No natural light ever shone in that Holy Place. Only the supernatural light of the Candlestick. Even so, when we have left behind the Outer Court church system, with its program and ritual, and received the Baptism of the Spirit and entered into God's Holy Place, the light that lights our way must not be the naturalism of the letter of the Word and Bible Schools, Seminaries, doctors degrees, but the light that lights our way must be the supernatural light of the Candlestick, shining through five supernatural Spirit ministries, and nine supernatural Spirit gifts, to light our way on into the Holy of Holies, Perfection in Christ.

When we have received the Baptism of the Spirit and entered into the Holy Place, all naturalism must be purged out of our lives. Only through the operation of the sevenfold supernatural gifts and operations of the Spirit of God must we go on. The present writer has received much resistance all over the U.S.A. as he has preached that robed choirs, music ministers, church socials, and all other forms of naturalism must be purged out of the lives of all who have entered into the Holy Place through the doorway of the Baptism of the Spirit. But he must go on preaching it, for there was no natural light in that Holy Place, and all naturalism must be purged out of the lives of those who enter therein.

Sixty-seven years ago, God led the Pentecostals out of the Outer Court and into the Holy Place. They left behind naturalism and began to walk in the supernatural gifts of the Spirit emanating from the Holy Candlestick. But tragedy of tragedies, now most of their ministers have slidden back into Outer Court life and are restoring the robed choirs and church social to replace the one-time operation of the supernatural manifestations of the Spirit.

Each year on Israel's day of atonement, when the High Priest went through the Tabernacle into the Holy of Holies, he had twelve stones on his shoulders with the names of the twelve tribes of Israel engraved in them, thus signifying he was carrying the people in on his shoulders. When he walked out of the Outer Court through the door into the Holy of Holies, the people, on his shoulders left behind forever the natural light of the Outer Court. It was the light of the Seven-branched Candlestick that lighted their way from there. Even so, when Jesus our High Priest takes us by His Spirit through the door of the Baptism of the Spirit into the Holy Place, we should leave behind forever the natural light of the Outer Court which consists of forms, rituals, programs, collars turned backward, titles, degrees, long robes, letter of the Word messages. Our light to light our way forward is the supernatural light of the Candlestick, five supernatural Spirit ministries and nine supernatural gifts. We should get so filled and anointed with the Spirit that God can bring these forth in each local body and bring them to a Divine Order Operation and the Spirit will light our way forward through them.

The Table of Shewbread in the Holy Place was a type of the Hidden Manna of God's Word that Jesus spoke of in Revelations 21 when He said, "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the Hidden Manna." It was a type of the Hidden Manna of God's word, the Spirit of the Word as contrasted to the letter that we get in the Outer Court. The light that shone on that Shewbread was the supernatural light of the Candlestick. It gave the light so the Shewbread could be seen. Even so, in this Holy Place it is going to be the supernatural light of the anointing that is going to uncover the Hidden Manna (truths) of God's Word, not the natural light of the seminary educations and doctors' degrees.

The Golden Altar of Incense, where daily the incense was burned up till it was no longer a material substance but spiritual odors wafting into the Holy of Holies into the presence of God, was a type of the altar where we must go

through the fires of testing and tribulation, until all our dross and flesh is burned out and we are no longer a fleshy material man but a spiritual son of God, ready to enter into the Holy of Holies, Perfection in Christ. The light that shone on that Golden Altar to light the way of the High Priest with the people on his shoulders, was the light of the Candlestick. Even so, the light of the Candlestick, shining through five supernatural Spirit ministries, and nine supernatural Spirit gifts is the light that is going to take us through the fires of testing and tribulation during the days of the antichrist that is going to purge out all our dross and make us the perfect man of Ephesians 4.

The reason the five golden bars were set in the order they were, on each side of the tabernacle to hold the boards together was so that in no place could the boards spread apart and allow a crack so that natural light could get into the Holy Place. For then there would be a mixture of natural light and the light of the Candlestick. The long center bar, type of the Apostles' ministry, ran all the way across the center holding all the boards together in the center. Two short bars were over it on each end holding the boards together at the top, and two short bars were underneath it holding the bars together at the bottom. This signifies to us, who are the ministry, that God has set us in the Tabernacle in such an order that we cannot do without one another. The Apostle could not hold all the boards together by himself. Neither could any of the other bar ministries. It takes all five, each in his place. This is the answer to why the power of God has diminished in what has been called Pentecost. The ministry made no effort whatsoever to hold the boards of the Tabernacle together, but each one looked on himself as an individual and his church or his denomination as an individual unit, and the boards were spread wide apart, leaving room for all kinds of natural light to come in and mix with the supernatural light of the Candlestick. Now most Pentecostal Churches have so much naturalism in them, you

go in one and you would think you are back out in the Outer Court Baptist Church.

Now we need to go on to the third light that was in the Tabernacle, the light that lit up the Holy of Holies. When the High Priest left the Holy Place on the Day of Atonement and entered into the Holy of Holies, there was no natural light, neither was there any Candlestick. But he was not left in the dark. He had plenty of light to see exactly where to sprinkle the blood on the Mercy Seat, for it was the Shekinah glory of God Himself that lit up that Holy of Holies.

We are now walking in the light of the Candlestick. It is a glorious light as we come together and the Spirit gifts and ministries begin manifesting and we receive light to light our way through preaching, a prophecy, a tongue and interpretation, a vision, and all the other operations of the Spirit that come from the Candlestick. It is a glorious light. But, we must not stop there as the Pentecostals did. God wants to take us through the third veil into the Holiest of All. As He does, He will overlay our insides with the gold of His nature and as we go into this place we will be filled with the Shekinah light of God Himself. Then you will not need a sermon or a prophecy or a vision to keep your light shining but the Shekinah glory light of God will be lighting you up from inside continually as it did the Holy of Holies. As we go forth as the Sons of God, when people come into our presence, we will not have to preach to them or prophesy to them, but the Shekinah glory of God will descend upon them and they will know they are standing in the presence of God.

If the scientists of our day had been back with Moses, they could have searched every comer of the Holy of Holies with their microscopes and scientific instruments, and they could not have found where that Shekinah light was coming from, for it was the light of God Himself.

Even so, there shall emerge Sons of God in the last days with a light shining in and through them that not even the scientist shall discover from whence it comes, for it is the Shekinah light of God's glory.

When the light of the natural sun would rise over the tent curtains of the Tabernacle each morning and was reflected back from the burnished brass of the Brazen Laver and Altar, the Outer Court Priest rejoiced in that light and in that glory. But about six o'clock in the afternoon that natural sun would begin to go down and soon they were left in darkness. The light of the Candlestick in the Holy Place shone on all night long. Even so today, the Priest-preachers in the Outer Court Church rejoice in the natural light and glory of their big organizations, their doctors' degrees, their million-dollar church building with plush carpeted floors and pews, their beautifully robed choirs and well-planned programs. But soon that natural sun is going to go down. The antichrist system is going to rise up and darkness is going to come on the face of the earth. When they discover they have no pretribulational rapture to lift them out, they will be in great darkness. But the light of the Candlestick, the supernatural gifts and operations of the Spirit will still be shining right on, leading those who are walking in that light through the trials and test of the tribulations.

Even so, we do not want to depend on that light forever. Because it was still possible for the Candlestick in the Holy Place to go out if the High Priest did not keep oil in it. We have seen the Candlestick light go out in some Pentecostals who did not have someone else to keep pouring the oil of the Spirit to them with a prophecy, or a sermon, or a tongue and interpretation. But when we have gone on into the Holy of Holies, and the Shekinah light is inside us, it does not depend on somebody oiling us up with a sermon or a prophecy, and it cannot go out, for its source of power is the everlasting God. It will shine forever. It cannot be moved. God said in the book of Hebrews, "Yet once more will I shake not the earth only but the heavens also so that everything that can be shaken will be removed, and only that which cannot be shaken will remain.

That great shaking is soon coming upon us. God is going to shake the heavens and the earth. Every temporal thing

that can be shaken is going to be removed. Satan is going to test every light to see if it can be put out. Those who have been depending on natural light will find themselves in darkness. Even the light of the Candlestick will not stand that last shaking. But those who have gone on into the Holiest of All and have their insides filled with the Shekinah Glory light of the indwelling nature of God Himself cannot be moved, and they will remain forever. Hallelujah! The Lord God Omnipotent Reigneth. Amen.