Incense Prayer And God's Eternal Purpose Cooperating With God in HIS Plans Using Man's Dominion To Initiate God's Sovereignty! Recognizing the Time For Incense Prayer January 10, 2017

It is not possible to separate the Altar of Incense from God's Eternal Purpose because it is at the **golden Altar of Incense** that God's Will and His Purpose is enforced (by the church) during the church age. It is at the **Altar of Incense** that man stands with God to get God's will done on earth as it is being done in heaven. It is in this "ministry and Priesthood Function" that we exercise our "authority" and opportunity and responsibility to further God's purpose upon the earth. God draws man into the circle of His sovereignty and man receives his apprenticeship training for governing with Christ in the Kingdom of God. Most all the other experiences in the Tabernacle <u>are preparatory</u> to this life and Priesthood Ministry. It **IS at the Altar of Incense that** Man can stand with God to get God's eternal purpose carried out on the earth. We could say that the reason for all the other Outer Court Experiences is our preparation for <u>functioning at the Altar of Incense</u>. It is for that reason that we are linking Incense Prayer to OUR participation in God's Eternal Purpose, now, during the church age.

It is in that context that we can ask this question; What has delayed God's End Time Purpose and the Next Restoration? I am speculating the correct answer is that this is because of our ignorance concerning Prayer in general and Incense Prayer in particular. However, the pressing need at the present time is for a New Covenant Priesthood to rise up who are equipped to Burn this specific Incense.

The seven outer court foundational experiences, in Jesus Christ, do not come to a static condition at the second veil but must continue to grow through our appointed Priesthood functions. Now, not only to grow continuously in the inner man but in our Priestly function and according to His predestined purpose! Sometime we must transition from our preparatory experiences into our Preparation for our Eternal Priesthood Function. However, we must continue to grow in our repentance, our deliverance, in our salvation, in our baptism into His death and the baptism of the Holy Spirit. We must continue to grow in our anointing, our consecration and our progressing revelation of Jesus Christ. That will lead to our growth in obedience and into another dimension of our prayer, praise, worship and thanksgiving. We must, also, grow more sensitive to hear His voice in order to Cooperate With God in the furtherance of His End Time Purpose! In other words, this function **IS** IN OUR INCENSE PRAYER!

The lack of growth in these primary and foundational experiences is the basic reason believers stop short of the Holy Place Life and Ministry. There cannot be a functioning Lampstand Church (the one He is Building) that stops short of the Holy Place life and ministry. Since the sole light for the Holy Place Ministry came from the seven flames of fire, on the Seven Lamps (the Seven Spirits of God) on the Lampstand, it is just logical that the Holy Place will be in darkness when there is no functioning Lampstand. Since it is the Lampstand that illuminates the Altar of Incense and the Table of Showbread it is clear that the restoration of the Lampstand Church must come first.

But, brother, we understand that there is NO Priesthood function in the New Covenant because the priesthood was done away with. The priesthood after the order of Aaron has ceased because it could bring no one to perfection.

Even though that is a common to mistake this priesthood, the scriptures are clear. 1Peter 2:9 But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR *God's* OWN POSSESSION, that you may proclaim

the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.

Exodus 19:5 'Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; 6 and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.'
These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel."

Rev 1:5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us, and released us from our sins by His blood, 6 and <u>He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father:</u> to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Rev 5:10 "And Thou hast made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth."

Romans 15:16 to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, <u>ministering as a priest</u> the gospel of God, that *my* offering of the Gentiles might become acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

## I am anticipating (but I am guessing) that THIS Holy Place restoration IS THE TARGET or GOAL for this or the next generation. Why?

Since all of God's creation was designed for the sole purpose of fulfilling God's needs according to His Eternal purpose, why has this been such a secret in the church? Even if salvation is necessary for man to begin this process, we should recognize that the sole purpose of man is to do the will of God, fulfill His Eternal Purpose and bring joy to God's heart! Why, then, has this not been the central and predominate message of the church? I am speculating that even if we have the knowledge of God's Purpose, the inner understanding of His Predetermined Plan only comes to us as revelation by eating from the Table of Showbread. Why?

The Priests eating the Showbread must correspond with the "food" of John 6. What the church needs now is a functioning Lampstand Church, holding the seven Spirits of God, that illuminate the Showbread to receive the Revelation to Burn Incense. Why? This "special food" of John 6 is scripturally linked to our function in completing the "works of God."

John 6:28 They said therefore to Him, "What shall we do, that **we may work the works of God?"** 

Immediately, Jesus used types and shadows to make a clear application to their FUNCTION! We don't even need to make an application to the functionless church today because this is already clear by these next verses.

John 6:32 Jesus therefore said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread out of heaven, but it is My Father who gives you **the true bread out of heaven.** 33 "For the bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven, and **gives life to the world.**" 34 They said therefore to Him, "Lord, evermore give us this bread." 35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me

shall not hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.

Of course we cannot eat the natural, physical and literal body of Jesus. Still, we MUST EAT from that which came down out of heaven which is the Living and Abiding Word of God! That is what BECAME His flesh.

John 6:48 "I am the bread of life. 49 "Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. 50 "This is the bread which comes down out of heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. 51 "I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he shall live forever; and the bread also which I shall give for the life of the world is My flesh." 52 The Jews therefore began to argue with one another, saying, "How can this man give us His flesh to eat?" 53 Jesus therefore said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in yourselves. 54 "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. 55 "For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. 56 "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. 57 "As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me. 58 "This is the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate, and died, he who eats this bread shall live forever."

The confusing thing about these verses it that we may not recognize when it is the Man, Christ Jesus, speaking and when it is the Living and Abiding Word of God, the Spirit of Christ, that is speaking in and through Him. It seems clear that this is the Living and Abiding Word of God speaking and it if of His SUBSTANCE that we must eat. It was the Living and Abiding Word of God that became the Flesh of the son of man. It is God's uncreated LIFE that was His Blood. Participating in THAT LIFE is what results in Eternal Life!

It would require another long paper to explain how THIS FLESH / Bread/ Life is related to the Showbread which was eaten by the Priests. It is more clear, at this point, how the Seven Spirits of God on the Lampstand Church can illuminate the Showbread! Why? In order to REVEAL and FOCUS upon this specific Bread!

It is essential that we interject another example to emphasize the Essential importance of having a functioning Lampstand Church that is Burning Brightly.

1Sam 2:12 Now the **sons of Eli were worthless men**; they did not know the LORD

1Sam 2:22 Now Eli was very old; and he heard all that his sons were doing to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who served at the doorway of the tent of meeting.

1Sam 3:3 **and the lamp of God had not yet gone out,** and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD where the ark of God *was*,

Of course, the sons of Eli were only interested in their own selves and their own benefits and let the Seven Lamps on the Lampstand go out. Immediately the Philistines attack and killed many from Israel. Therefore, Israel brought out the Ark of God for their protection.

1 Sam 4:10 So the Philistines fought and <u>Israel was defeated</u>, and every man fled to his tent, and the slaughter was very great; for there fell of Israel thirty thousand foot soldiers. 11 **And the ark of God was taken**; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, died.

From this it is not too difficult to evaluate the VALUE OF THE LIGHTED LAMPSTAND giving light in the Holy Place . When the lamps went out, the attack of the enemy began and as the battle raged Israel was totally defeated. The Ark, which they thought was their protection and salvation was taken from them by the enemy.

However, even though the Ark of the Covenant was removed from the tent and the Most Holy Place was empty, the religious rituals in the Tabernacle continued and all the Outer Court things continued to function. Still, when the High Priest entered into the Most Holy Place on the Day of Atonement, he had to know the Place was empty.

The application is this; Even if the Lampstand is out and there is no function in the Holy Place and the Ark is gone from the Most Holy Place, the Outer Court Rituals will then be the whole religious function.

Of course, we must FIRST have a Lampstand Church before the Seven Spirits of God can function in fullness!

Then why don't we quickly organize a Lampstand Church? That cannot happen! Why? That is because "the current MINISTRIES and believers" have been too involved in their own plans and personal blessings to complete even the basic foundational experiences to qualify the believers for the Holy Place life and ministry. It is also essential that the ministries must first enter and function in the Holy Place Life and Ministry before they will recognize the need for the visible church to become the Lampstand Church in every location. It seems that every "delay in God's Purpose" is caused by the lack of response and ignorance of the "ministries."

Brother, why are always condemning the ministers? I count myself among that group and I recognize my own failures. Therefore, since I am as guilty as any of the others, I feel justified in that evaluation.

The Holy Place life and ministry is the result of a Life Union with Jesus Christ through the Consecration Offering and the Second Veil experience. This s priesthood reality is the result of the vine-branch union [John 15:1] that results in the fruit of God's Eternal Purpose being recognized, followed and completed. A LIFE UNION is much different and much more intense than having "a relationship" or "a calling."

We can put this into perspective by seeing where the Altar of Incense is in relationship with the Ark of the Covenant. The Ark speaks to us of the Kingdom of God, the government of God, the presence of God, the glory of God and of God, Himself. The ark speaks of the throne of God, His Absolute Sovereignty, and all that means. It is the place where Jesus sat down with His Father. Since the veil between the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place was torn when Jesus was crucified, the Altar of Incense is directly before the Ark of the Covenant. When you are facing the Altar of Incense you are facing the presence and glory of Go

AT THE INCENSE ALTAR, you are standing directly in the circle of His sovereignty. This is the source of the glory, the power and authority given to man to administrate the Dominion given to mankind. From the Altar of Incense we would expect to see Him, as He is. Just a quick glance through the Torn Veil should reveal to us that this is the place where God's voice is clearly heard, His will is BEING revealed and done and His Purpose is in the process of being completed.

2Cor 3:18 But we all, with **unveiled face** beholding as in a mirror **the glory of the Lord**, are being <u>transformed into the same image from glory to glory</u>, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

Where else could this take place except at the Altar of Incense and the Torn Veil? Some tremendous work is accomplished in us, subjectively, at the Gold Altar, while burning Incense? This Inner Work is in addition to the objective work that is done on the earth through the Priestly Ministry of Burning this particular Incense on the Gold Altar. God has revealed a New Covenant fact about the Present location of the Gold Altar in the Scriptures.

Exodus 30:6 "And you shall **put this altar in front of the veil** that is near the ark of the testimony, in front of the mercy seat that is over *the ark of* the testimony, where I will meet with you.

In the Tabernacle of Moses the Altar of Incense was directly in FRONT of the Third Veil and in the Holy Place. It had to be here because the Priests must burn incense morning and evening and they had NO ACCESS beyond the second veil. This is the Old Covenant limitation!

However, in the Book of Hebrews and in the New Covenant times, the Altar of Incense is BEHIND the Third Veil that was torn when Jesus died on Calvary. It is THIS LOCATION that reveals the significance of the New Covenant Priesthood Burning Incense within the Reality of New Covenant. Why? That is because, following Calvary and the coming of the Holy Spirit, who arrived as the Priest of the Most High God who **IS** the King of Righteousness, **we have ACCESS**, **by the Altar of Incense**, to the Most Holy Place!

This <u>Confidence</u> (boldness or assurance) to enter the Holy Place is the word **parrhesia** which means a freedom of speech. From Bible Dic. G3956 and a derivative of G4483 all out *spokenness*, that is, *frankness*, *bluntness*, *publicity*; by implication *assurance:* - boldness of speech, confidence, freely, openly, plainly.

This means that we have a freedom of access to the Most Holy Place by our speech **AT THE ALTAR OF INCENSE.** Since Our God is a consuming Fire, and He dwells in the Everlasting Fire, physical access "or sitting on His lap" is quite dangerous!

Hebrews 9:1 Now even the first *covenant* had regulations of divine worship and the **earthly sanctuary**. 2 For there was a tabernacle prepared, the outer one, in which *were* the lampstand and the table and the sacred bread; **this is called the holy place**. 3 And **behind the second veil**, there was a tabernacle which is called the Holy of Holies.

This refers to the Second Veil In the TENT / Sanctuary which is the One that was Torn when Jesus died. Now the writer is referring to the Most Holy Place in which, NOW, has the Gold Alter of Incense, directly in the Manifested Presence of God and also, now, The Man, Christ Jesus, our Great High Priest!

Verse 4 a tabernacle which is **called the Holy of Holies**, **having a golden altar of incense** and <u>the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold</u>, in which was a golden jar holding the manna, and Aaron's rod which budded, and the tables of the covenant. 5 And above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat; but of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

We can speak a very little, now, about the Two Cherubim, because that becomes another study.

At least, from these few facts, it is clear that Burning Incense upon the Altar of Incense is the key to the success of the church in fulfilling the purpose of God, for the church age during our time upon the earth! Why? It is at this

Altar that God does an eternal work **both in us because of His Presence and through us by the Incense!** Therefore, let us gather some facts about the Altar and the Incense from the Word of God.

HEB 9:3 And **behind the second veil**, there was a tabernacle which is called <u>the Holy of Holies</u>, 4 *having a golden altar of incense* and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which {was} a golden jar holding the manna, and Aaron's rod which budded, **and the tables of the covenant**.

The Covenant, referenced here, is the Old Covenant which was enacted at Mount Sinai. Now, during the Church age this is the location of New Covenant PROVISION, which now includes a New Covenant Mountain. That is Mount Zion, the Throne and God's Manifest Presence! Now, Zion may still will require more explanation but that is a different study. However, the New Covenant location of the Altar of Incense corresponds with this Understanding of Mount Zion. Still, this new location obviously contradicts what is clearly said in the book of Exodus.

Exodus 30:6 "And you shall **put this altar in front of the veil** that is near the ark of the testimony, in front of the mercy seat that is over { the ark of} the testimony, where I will meet with you.

How can this Altar be in both these places? Hebrews says it is in the Most Holy Place and Exodus says it is in the Holy Place. Which is it? During the time of the earthly tabernacle and the Old Covenant Law, **the Altar of Incense had to be in the Holy Place** because the Levitical priests had to burn incense day and night. Since they had no access into the Most Holy Place, except once a year on the Day of Atonement, the Altar must be in front of the second veil that separated the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place. This second veil is what we are calling Jesus the Life! This veil was torn when Jesus laid down His life.

The reality is that God's intention was always to have the Altar of Incense in His immediate presence. During the Old Covenant times that was not possible. However, when Jesus was crucified the veil was torn from top to bottom so that the Altar could, now, be directly in God's presence, behind the Third Veil. Even though the Altar was in the Holy Place, the incense was never for the Holy Place but exclusively for the Most Holy Place. This fact is the basis for the revelation of the Altar of Incense.

The revelation given is this; The incense is for God alone but the Burning of the Incense is assigned to the Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedek. Creating, forming and preparing this specific Incense is essential but this has not been REVEALED yet to the New Covenant Priesthood yet! Why? I am guessing that this specific Priesthood is not yet functioning! The fearful thing is that there may not even be a priesthood fully prepared yet!

EXO 30:34 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Take for yourself spices, stacte and onycha and galbanum, spices with pure frankincense; there shall be an equal part of each. 35 "And with it you shall make incense, a perfume, the work of a perfumer, salted, pure, {and} holy. 36 "And you shall beat some of it very fine, and put part of it before the testimony in the tent of meeting, where I shall meet with you; it shall be most holy to you. 37 "And the incense which you shall make, you shall not make in the same proportions for yourselves; it shall be holy to you for the Lord. 38 "Whoever shall make {any} like it, to use as perfume, shall be cut off from his people."

The incense is not for man but for God. When we understand the incense

represents prayer etc, we see that our present level of prayer falls far short of this Incense Prayer! Why? Our "prayer" is mostly for us and for our benefit. Most of us have never considered that real Incense Prayer is wholly for God's benefit and to activate His Will and to complete His Purpose. We also will remember that far too much prayer is just perfume for us to smell. If we are alert during public prayer it is easy to discern what is just "perfume prayer."

Then you may ask what is the Real Purpose of Incense Prayer? It is designed to meet God's need and fulfil God's purpose and to cause the will of God to be done on earth as it is being done in heaven. This "Prayer" is related to His Kingdom and enforcing His Government upon the earth. This is related to God's Absolute Sovereignty which is enacted upon earth through our cooperation with God at the Incense Altar. Why? That is because God gave man dominion upon the earth and over the things on it.

God is now ruling the universe according to His sovereignty and according to His purpose. That is working well! The contrast in seen upon earth where man has been given dominion. This "dominion" has been assigned to the Church He is Building! However, it appears that the "church" has neglected her duties of cooperating with God in this "ruling ministry." How do you know that?

We should be aware that things on the earth are in disarray, disaster, in rebellion and anarchy, and generally in a big mess.

Well, brother, we should try to get all the churches together to pray and ask God to bring revival! I hope most ministers can understand why that time has passed and God wants to restore a functioning DOMINION to the church that was never taken away, just not used. Getting all the man built churches together to pray is NOT THE SAME THING as somebody, who is functioning as a New Covenant Priest, after the Order of Melchizedek, who can begin BURNING THE REAL INCENSE!

If man is going to participate in His Kingdom government and rule with Christ, he also must rule within God's sovereignty and according to His purpose. Man generally prays as if he were instructing the king about His responsibilities and what He needs to get done! This "prayer" is just about what we want Him to do! We act like God is the servant that is supposed to do man's will. That is far from incense prayer and reflects the ignorance of the believers. Why is it that way? That is because the "ministries" have not advanced into the realm of Incense Prayer and cannot help the believers by example.

Nevertheless, God has ordained that man should rule over all the works of His hands. But where is the place that man learns to rule? **At the altar of incense!** How will man learn to rule? By apprenticeship training in the Holy Place life and ministry!

The first thing we must learn is that Man cannot rule according to his own will or his own ideas because God has retained His sovereignty over His creation. Therefore, man must be stripped of his ego centric lifestyle and his attachment to this earth / dirt realm as the center of his ministry! Why? Man must rule **according to God's plan and UNDER GOD'S ABSOLUTE SOVEREIGNTY**.

The real question is this; Is this rulership available to the true Christian now in this age? Yes! Where? **By his Cooperation with God at the Altar of Incense!** Altar of Incense Prayer is NOT man praying as an independent agent of change!

"The Holy Place life and ministry" means the functioning Lampstand for illumination, the Table of Showbread for revelation and the Altar of Incense to enforce God's Absolute Sovereignty and Christ's victory at Calvary over both Heaven And Earth.

All ministry in the Holy Place realm is under the scrutiny of our Great High Priest who is walking among the Lampstand Churches.

Well, brother, if God is Sovereign, why doesn't God do that "ruling" Himself? We will just Trust God to do His will. We will exercise our faith for that t happen. That is exactly what has happened so we are waiting for God and God is waiting for us.

Psalm 8:4 What is man, that Thou dost take thought of him? And the son of man, that Thou dost care for him? 5 Yet Thou hast made him a little lower than God, And dost crown him with glory and majesty! 6 Thou dost make him to rule over the works of Thy hands; Thou hast put all things under his feet, 7 All sheep and oxen, And also the beasts of the field, 8 The birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, Whatever passes through the paths of the seas. 9 O LORD, our Lord, How majestic is Thy name in all the earth!

The revelation we must have for things to begin to happen is this; God has given man dominion and He has included man in His Eternal Purpose, which is to rule over all the work of His hands. That means over the universe! Therefore, God **will not act** except when man asks! Why? Because He has given man dominion upon the earth to rule over it for God. But why? This is God's way of training man to rule in His eternal Kingdom. This church age is ON THE JOB TRAINING, though various and diverse methods, situations, trials and testings, to equip man for eternity. This was God's Plan from the foundation of this earth.

GEN 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle **and over all the earth,** and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

In order to emphasize this point of having authority over the fish, the storms, birds, food, water etc we will ask a strange question; Did Jesus command he fish, stop the storms and feed the 5000 because He was the Son of Man or because He was the Son of God? Did He cast out the creeping and crawling things like demons, serpents and scorpions and take power and authority over all the power of the enemy because He was the Son of God or did He do that as the Son of Man? It is essential that discover the correct answer to this question. If the disciples had no authority or dominion over these things, WHY DID JESUS REBUKE THEM FOR NOT ACTING? He, actually, had to reassure them that they had that authority over serpents and scorpions and over ALL the power of the enemy, ETC.

He was the Son of Man and THE LAST ADAM and demonstrated the Authority God gave to the first Adam. This, really is not complicated and should be common

knowledge in the church. There are 84 times the Son of Man is used in the New Testament.

For Example; Mat 13:41 "The **Son of Man** will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness,

It is my opinion that this power, authority and dominion will be demonstrably restored and manifested at the Altar of Incense {like Jesus in the wilderness} when we begin to function as a New Covenant Priesthood.

It is not possible to speak of a functioning Lampstand Church without speaking of

the Priestly Ministry of Burning Incense. That is what the Holy Place Life and Ministry Function really includes. But how will man know what to burn on the altar? That revelation comes from the Showbread. The combination of functioning at the three pieces of furniture is what is meant by the Holy Place life and ministry. The three functions being (1) illumination {Lampstand—Seven Spirits} (2) revelation—{Eating the Showbread} (3) enforcing God's will and sovereignty—{Altar of Incense}.

If we could look down on the Tabernacle of Moses from above we would see the progressive goal of all the Outer Court and Holy Place experiences for the church age is the Altar of Incense. Of course our eternal goal is the Ark of the Covenant which becomes a reality for the bondservants, who are overcomers and are perfected as the bride of Christ. This becomes a reality following the millennium and when the Tabernacle of God is finally formed and the first earth and the first heaven have passed away. Another "trial period" is the one thousand years ruling by Christ Jesus and His Saints upon this present earth.

All the furniture in the Holy Place speaks to us of "LIFE" and the priesthood speaks to us of "ministry or function." Both Nadab and Abihu were consecrated priests with the proper garments and with the anointing of oil. They were **consecrated to burn incense and ordained** "into the priesthood ministry".

LEV 10:1 Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took their respective firepans, and after putting fire in them, placed incense on it and offered strange fire before the Lord, which He had not commanded them. 2 And fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed them, and they died before the Lord. 3 Then Moses said to Aaron, "It is what the Lord spoke, saying, ' **By those who come near Me** I will be treated as holy, And before all the people I will be honored. "So Aaron, therefore, kept silent.

These prepared and consecrated priests lost their "LIFE" trying to burn incense. Why? They did not function according God's ordinance and will.

God requires a certain revelation, "LIFE" and obedience from those who come near to minister to Him. We must also minister before Him according to His divine order. That "ORDER" involves a Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedek.

2CH 29:11 "My sons, do not be negligent now, for the Lord has chosen you **to stand before Him, to minister to Him, and to be His ministers** and <u>burn</u> incense."

This is the four aspects of "the ministry" but we see 3/4 of the "ministry" is toward God and only 1/4 is toward the people. Some consider "the ministry" to be 50 % toward the people, 40 % for themselves and 10 % toward God, or some % in between. This is the primary reason we don't have sufficient revelation, Life or obedience to support a Holy Place life and ministry. We may all realize by now that 75% of our time and effort toward people is easier than 75% of our work is toward God. It is good to stop and take inventory of our lives and ministry to understand if we are called "into the New Covenant ministry".

2Peter 1:10 Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent **to make certain about His calling and choosing you**; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; 11 for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.

We could say that the Lampstand speaks of "unity for a purpose". The Showbread

speaks of "the revelation of that purpose" and the Altar of Incense speaks of "the "function in that purpose". This Specific Incense speaks of "enforcing God's Will, His Purpose and Government upon this earth and the things moving on it!

The Lampstand was hammered out of one piece of gold and represents perfect unity. However, perfect unity without function is beautiful but provides nothing in the purpose of God. Revelation of the Showbread, the bread of His presence, is exciting but if we fail to put it into action we do nothing toward God's eternal purpose. It is clear that unity and revelation is not necessary to sit in a pew or have covered dish dinners.

The main problem with incense is that it is not burned according to man's will but according to God's will and in harmony with God's sovereignty and according to His eternal purpose. The gold altar is not the place we come to fill our pockets but the place we step into the Circle of His Absolute Sovereignty to initiate the will of God for the earth. This is far above the kind of prayer that just seeks for a new blessing for man or a better provision.

Then, brother, is there no incense to meet man's needs and personal blessings? Yes, there is an incense for a crises! That incense is burned in the brass censer which is carried by a priest and is portable to carry among the people!

As we study the Incense and the Altar for Incense we discover that the number 4 appears several times. The Gold Altar is the "**place**" for burning that specific incense. Burning incense on the "high places" of human desire is not accepted by God and is a serious offence. When Israel burned incense on the high places God treated that as a personal rejection.

EXO 30:1 "Moreover, you shall make an altar as a place for burning incense; you shall make it of acacia wood. The altar has four sides and is one cubit on each side. It has a top, sides, horns and a gold molding. EXO 30:3 "And you shall overlay it with pure gold, its top and its sides all around, and its horns; and you shall make a gold molding all around for it. It has two poles with four ends for carrying. This is fastened through four rings to support it. There are four horns on the top.

This is a designed and a specific unit that is used to Burn the Incense. Why? That is because God is very concerned how and where His Incense Burned. There is a tremendous difference between HIS INCENSE is burned and the way incense is burned in the Brass Censor for crises. We must be very careful to understand the four things that will be rejected. Why? That is because man has a tendency to do everything the wrong way!

There are four things that **cannot** be placed on this altar. (1) strange incense (2) burnt offering (3) meal offering (4) a libation (drink offering).

EXO 30:9 "You shall not offer any strange incense on this altar, or burnt offering or meal offering; and you shall not pour out a libation on it.

Since these four things that CANNOT be associated with the Incense or the Incense Altar, is clear that our prayer meetings are not incense simply because these are the four things we seek in prayer. While I cannot make a proper application to these four things, it is obvious that our prayer meetings are far from incense.

The Incense that is a acceptable to God is made with four elements. (1) Stacte (2) Oncha (3) Galbanum (4) Pure Frankincense, each in equal parts.

EXO 30:34 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Take for yourself spices, stacte and onycha and galbanum, spices with pure frankincense; there shall be an equal part of

each. It must be (1) perfume (2) salted (3) pure (4) holy. 35 "And with it you shall make incense, a perfume, the work of a perfumer, salted, pure, {and} holy.

The incense was used four ways. (1) it was placed before the Ark (2) it was burned on the altar (morning, night and continually) (3) It was burned in the golden censor (on the Day of Atonement) (4) burned in the bronze censor. (To stop the plague and protect the people in crisis.)

(1) EXO 30:36 **(1)** "And you shall beat some of it very fine, and put part of it before the testimony in the tent of meeting, where I shall meet with you; it shall be most holy to you. **(2)** 7 "And Aaron shall burn fragrant incense on it; he shall burn it every morning when he trims the lamps. 8 "And when Aaron trims the lamps at twilight, he shall burn incense. { There shall be} perpetual incense before the Lord throughout your generations. **(3)** 12 "And he shall take a fire-pan full of coals of fire from upon the altar before the Lord, and two handfuls of finely ground sweet incense, and bring {it} inside the veil.

LEV 16:13 "And he shall put the incense on the fire before the Lord, that the cloud of incense may cover the mercy seat that is on {the ark of} the testimony, lest he die.

The incense burned in Fire-pans or in Censors, which was carried by chains, was portable and used for crisis! This is representative of most of our prayer meetings. When we have a serious crisis we call for corporate prayer. This incense is FOR the people. While we need BOTH kinds our focus in this study is upon the Altar of Incense Prayer.

NUM 16:46 And Moses said to Aaron, "Take your censer and put in it fire from the altar, and lay incense {on it;} then bring it quickly to the congregation and make atonement for them, for wrath has gone forth from the Lord, the plague has begun!" 47 Then Aaron took {it} as Moses had spoken, and ran into the midst of the assembly, for behold, the plague had begun among the people. So he put {on} the incense and made atonement for the people.

Four things were required to burn incense (1) The altar (2) the incense (3) fire (4) consecration.

Num 16:40 as a reminder to the sons of Israel that no layman (not consecrated) who is not of the descendants of Aaron should come near to burn incense before the Lord; that he might not become like Korah and his company-- just as the Lord had spoken to him through Moses.

2Chronicles 26:18 And they opposed Uzziah the king and said to him, "It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the Lord, but for the priests, the sons of Aaron **who are consecrated to burn incense.** Get out of the sanctuary, for you have been unfaithful, and will have no honor from the Lord God."

All are called to pray, praise, worship and offer thanks to the Lord. This is basic. However, pure incense, that is a sweet smelling perfume, that ascends up to God as a vapor pleasing to Him, is the work of a perfumer and THIS is not often seen or experienced. I have never participate in that realm of prayer!

In the light {illumination} or the revelation of the Incense and the Incense Altar, we should understand that our current Ministry to God is quite pitiful in all areas of the Holy Place Priesthood function.

Psalms 141:2 May **my prayer be counted as incense** before Thee; The lifting up of my hands as the evening offering.

REV 5:8 And when He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, having each one a harp, and **golden** bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

REV 8:3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, holding a golden censer; and much incense was given to him, that he might **add it to the prayers of all the saints** upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

REV 8:4 And the **smoke of the incense**, **with the prayers of the saints**, went up before God out of the angel's hand.

The primary purpose of prayer is to find out what is on God's heart, for that moment in time, and ask Him to do it on earth. This seems so foolish to say such a thing. Why? That is because of what certain scriptures say.

MAT 6:8 "Therefore do not be like them; for **your Father knows what you need, before you ask Him.** 9 "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. 10 '**Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.** 11 'Give us this day our daily bread. 12 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.]'

This prayer is vertical and is centered upon God and His purpose. Debts, forgiveness, temptation and deliverance are toward man but is a hindrance for us to serve God and bring joy to His heart. His will being done on the earth, in the same measure it is being done in heaven, is the foundation for the Kingdom of God upon the earth. The Kingdom of God functioning on the earth is God's purpose and our training ground.

But, brother, if God already KNOWS before we ask what is the purpose for asking? T is NOT that God knows but that He must inform us so we can ask BEFORE He can act! Why? That is because He has given man dominion on the earth!

MAT 12:28 "But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. The Kingdom of God will always overcome all other kingdoms and the evidence is manifest when the demons are cast out and the adversaries are forced to cease.

Psalm 8:2 From the mouth of infants and nursing babes Thou hast established strength, Because of Thine adversaries, To make the enemy and the revengeful cease.

The Kingdom of God is functioning perfectly in Heaven. This is why it is called "the Kingdom of Heaven". Everybody in heaven is doing the will of God.

That was NOT always true but now All the adversaries have been cast out of heaven.

The main focus of God's work now is on the earth. However, God gave that dominion, rulership and authority to man. The Devil was quick to usurp man's authority and pervert it. However, God will not override man's doinion. God will work to establish His Kingdom upon the earth but since that dominion was given to man, man must ask God to do it. The Kingdom of God will be established on the earth wherever the will of God is being done. Every place Jesus stood the Kingdom of God was manifest because He always did the will of God.

For man to try to pray down his own will upon the earth is pitiful because that would just establish the kingdom of man. Man has authority to rule but only under God's absolute Sovereignty. That is why Cooperating with God through INCENSE PRAYER is

the Kingdom kind of prayer. Man has authority to rule under God's Sovereignty and when the will of God is being done. It is that "independent authority" that was the failure of the Shepherding Movement and the discipleship training. We also make many mistakes with authority because we never recognized that there **IS no** independent authority. Authority and the Will of God are inherently linked together.

Mat 6:9 "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. 10 **'Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.** 

Mat 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' <u>will enter the kingdom of heaven</u>; but **he who does the will of My Father** who is in heaven.

If we are going to participate in the Kingdom of Heaven, doing the will of God is not an option, it is a requirement. Just to be in the immediate family of God it is essential that we do the will of God.

Mat 12:50 **"For whoever does the will of My Father** who is in heaven, <u>he is My brother and sister and mother."</u>

Luke 8:21 But He answered and said to them, "My mother and My brothers are these **who hear the word of God and do it.**"

There are two essential principles for the church to establish the Kingdom where they stand. Doing the will of God personally and inquiring of God for His will to be done on the earth as it is being done in Heaven. The church acting on her own initiative, independently of the will of God, is anarchy, and not the principle of the Kingdom but the principle of Satan.

Rom 8:14 **For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.** Those who are being led by the Spirit are doing the will of God. These then are His brothers and sisters and mother or the sons of God.

If all these things are requirements for the Kingdom, how and where do we discover these things? I am speculating that this comes to us in the Holy Place Life and Ministry! Why? That is because these things seem to be a mystery in the Outer Court realms.

It the Holy Place realm; The Lampstand is the illumination, the Showbread is the revelation of His will and the Altar of Incense is our Priesthood ministry function which is our cooperation with God for His Purpose. At least some of that function is to discover the "will of God" for that moment," and then pray His exact will down on the earth.

If only those who do the will of God can participate in the Kingdom of God and only the overcomers can sit with Him on His throne, then it is true that the basis of overcoming is doing the will of God personally. Our Priestly function is revolving around the Altar of Incense!

It is commonly taught that Jesus' death at Calvary purchased us an experiential place in the Kingdom of God. However, we discover that only those who do the will of God participate in the Kingdom of God. Jesus did restore to man a "legal right" to use His name and to function under His authority and the sovereignty that the Father has given Him over heaven and over earth. The primary revelation we need to burn Incense at the gold Altar is that man has no autonomous authority so that he can act independently, out of his ego and out from the sovereignty of Jesus Christ, God's Son and ideal man. It is obvious that most "ministries" are far from this Kingdom Function of exercising Kingdom Authority.

The gold of the Altar speaks of God's purpose and the crown on the top speaks of Christ's sovereignty to rule. The Incense speaks of the prayers of the saints that inquire of God for His will that He wants done on the earth to be activared. God's exact will, for that moment, is learned at the Table of Showbread. It is the fire on the Lampstand that illuminates the Showbread and to give the illumination to Burn Incense on the Altar of Incense.

Exodus 25:36 "Their bulbs and their branches {shall be of one piece} with it; all of it shall be one piece of hammered work of pure gold. 37 "Then you shall make its lamps seven {in number;} and they shall **mount its lamps so as to shed light on the space in front of it.** 

Man's absolute authority to burn Incense on the Altar of Incense is his "legal right" as a member of the Priesthood that is joined to Christ's body and is functioning under Christ's sovereignty, who **IS** THE Sovereign Head of His body. The Altar of Incense and the authority expressed within the Incense operates by our "legal right" over serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, that was given to us under Jesus' authority.

The "doctrine" of Satan's defeat at Calvary has no inherent authority, in itself. Still, it is true that Satan was legally defeated at Calvary and we have power over his power. However, he has not yet been FORCED to cease activities and his work of lies and deception go on every day. Why?

Psalms 8:1---- O Lord, our Lord, How majestic is Thy name in all the earth, Who hast displayed Thy splendor above the heavens! 2 From the mouth of infants and nursing babes **Thou hast established strength**, **Because of Thine adversaries**, **To make the enemy and the revengeful cease.** 3 When I consider Thy heavens, the work of Thy fingers, The moon and the stars, which Thou hast ordained; 4 What is man, that Thou dost take thought of him? And the son of man, that Thou dost care for him? 5 Yet Thou hast made him a little lower than God, And dost crown him with glory and majesty! 6 **Thou dost make him to rule over the works of Thy hands; Thou hast put all things under his feet, 7 All sheep and oxen, And also the beasts of the field, 8 The birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, Whatever passes through the paths of the seas.** 9 O LORD, our Lord, How majestic is Thy name in all the earth!

We should point out that this was written long after Genesis 3 where we were taught that man lost his dominion when he sinned against God. This confirms that man still has that "dominion" and strongly suggests that this is the authority Jesus used to command the fish, stop the storm, walk on water and feed the 5000 and many other things. He used that authority as the Son of Man even though many still insist that He used that authority as the Son of God.

It is THIS AUTHORITY of the son of man that we use <u>to begin</u> our function as Priests at the Altar of Incense.

It should be clear that work Of overcoming" has been assigned to the "Lampstand Church". Even the consecrated church has no <u>independent authority</u> to command Satan or rule over the earth. All authority in heaven and on earth was given to Jesus. The church's sole authority is limited to His Headship, over His body, that is under His Absolute Sovereignty. The church, which is His body, then stands in His legal position on earth. Where? At the Altar of Incense!

One of the greatest hindrance to exercising Kingdom Authority is that of first having the Kingdom Laws and Government fully functioning as the Government of the New Inner Man. In other words; The Kingdom functioning in the inner man as an active Government can then be manifested outwardly! Persons who have no Kingdom Government on the inside have no power or authority in their ministry. That means over our enemies.

Satan is still prince of this world and the ruler of darkness but he is a renegade king. If all authority was given to Jesus Christ in heaven and on earth, that means that Satan has none.

1Cor 15:25 For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. Christ is in heaven but His body is on earth. Jesus Christ will rule through His body. Where? At the Altar of Incense! A church without authority is not the Church He is Building! How do you know that? That is because the True Church must operate within His Kingdom and under His government and doing His will.

Since any renegade visible church is operating independently, and on the principle of Satan, certainly has no power over the power of Satan. Neither can they cause the enemy to cease his activities. Neither can that be an "overcoming church."

The church only has authority within the permission of God's sovereignty which has also been transferred to Jesus. However, the church has no authority, experientially, except as it lives and functions under His Absolute Sovereign authority. This is why believers screaming "In the name of Jesus" are so often totally ineffective. These "ministry" words carry no authority and just fall to the ground without releasing any power.

My thesis is this; The Holy Place Life and Ministry must be fulfilled by the Church that He is Building. But what does that mean within this understanding of the Incense Altar?

- (1) Altar speaks of sacrifice.
- (2) Incense speaks of prayer.
- (3) Gold speaks of God's Person, Plan and His Eternal Purpose.
- (4) Crown speaks of ruling through prayer.
- (5) Horns speak of strength, power and authority.
- (6) Fragrant smoke rising speaks of access to God's Power and Presence.
- (7) Fire speaks of Holy Spirit's assistance.

We could say that the function of the first two pieces of furniture (Lampstand & Table of Showbread) are summed up and completed in the third (the Altar of Incense). The first two are Preparation and Provision and the third is function and fulfillment. Since the primary ministry of the priests was divided between these three we may ask which one is more important? There cannot be one without the others. It is not a matter of importance but is a matter of balance and fulness. There is a definite connection between trimming the lamps {for brightest illumination} and burning the Incense.

Exodus 30:8 "And when Aaron **trims the lamps** at twilight, he shall **burn incense.** There shall be perpetual incense before the Lord throughout your generations.

Both functions together is correct, effective and the proper use of Incense Prayer. We cannot pray effectively in spiritual darkness. Neither can we pray the rhema (now Word) of God without revelation. Without the light and revelation we CANNOT produce

Incense Prayer! We may do the best we can but it is pitiful when we begin to pray for our own will, according to our own desire.

If we put this into a statement we could say:

In the Real of Function of Holy Place Ministry; The Lampstand illuminates the Table of Showbread and by eating the Showbread we receive the immediate revelation (inside) which enables us to burn incense. The Altar is the place we cooperate with God's revealed will and, out of our dominion over the earth, we ask God to complete His will and continue His purpose for the earth! We exercise our "Dominion permission" by cooperating with Him in prayer, by faith in His sovereignty and power, by which He is able to perform all that He has revealed in the Showbread.

The basis of the one piece of gold in the Lampstand is that the character of God, the purpose of God and the sovereignty of God merge into one **in His overcoming church**. The church cannot arrive at the reality of God's sovereignty if we ignore His character and His eternal purpose. This is the basis of "illumination of/ the Seven Lamps {the Seven Spirits of God} to provide the light" to eat the Showbread and to Burn Incense.

It is Christ's victorious authority and our delegated authority that is our legal basis of burning Incense We must remember that Burning Incense was NOT **our idea** but God's Plan and part of His Purpose to include man in the Governmental Process, first for the church age and then for eternity!

Incense prayer is not just having a dialogue with God where we try to get God to do what we want Him to do. It is also not just asking according to what others have asked. It is not assuming what would be good to ask because we need it. The Showbread speaks to us of hearing His voice, the rhema, the now word and what is on God's heart. It speaks of what God wants to accomplish, to meet His need, at the moment. The incense is mixed and blended to be a perfumer's mixture. Selfish and self-centered or ego centered prayer is not incense. Man centered prayer may have a place with the bronze censer but, it appears, that God forbids it at the gold altar.

The perfumer's mixture may be interpreted as a blending of prayer, praise, worship and thanksgiving. The result is that we become co-labors with God. God works and we work in cooperation with Him. The Incense was formulated and then salted. Salt speaks of covenant and also of friendship and loyalty. That means that God has ordained Incense prayer to be within His covenant and it will be answered by covenant. God is always loyal to His covenant.

If we pray down fire upon the Samaritans to burn them up, is that Incense? No, that is flesh. Incense functions within The Kingdom and God's Government and by Christ's character and according to His Kingdom Purpose.

Jer 33:3 'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'

Eze 36:37 'Thus says the Lord God, "This also I will let the house of Israel ask Me to do for them: I will increase their men like a flock.

Zec 10:1 Ask rain from the Lord **at the time of the spring rain**-- The Lord who makes the storm clouds; And He will give them showers of rain, vegetation in the field to

{each} man.

Mat 21:22 "And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you shall receive."

If we have the revelation (Showbread) that this is the time for the spring rain, we should ask God for the rain. Asking for the spring rain in the fall is a waste of time.

We ask and don't receive so we get discouraged and assume that God doesn't hear. No! That is ignorant! If we ask according to THE INCENSE prayer, God will answer by covenant. Trying to use these verses for our "prosperity" is rejected as man centered.

Psalms 34:15 The **eyes** of the Lord are toward the righteous, And His **ears** are {open} to their cry.

We can find tremendous promises but many of them depend upon the reality of Incense and not upon how loud, long, or by the intensity of prayer. It is those who stand far off from God's Presence need to pray louder.

Luke 1:8 Now it came about, while he was <u>performing his priestly service before God</u> in the {appointed} order of his division, 9 according to the custom of the priestly office, he was chosen by lot **to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense.** 10 And the **whole multitude of the people were in prayer outside** at the hour of the incense offering. 11 And an angel of **the Lord appeared to him, <u>standing to the right</u> of the altar of incense.** 

There were two prayer meetings going on at the same time. One was inside and one was outside. The Lord visited the one inside. The Holy Spirit is bringing the Old Testament practice together with the New Testament reality. This is the first mention of Incense in the New Testament.

There is very little reason to mention where the Angel was standing because it is not essential to the context. However, it clearly says that he was standing to the right of the Altar of Incense which places him between the Altar and the Showbread, **tying the two together** by function. God's eternal purpose is activated by prayer. It was at the Altar of Incense that the angel informed Zechariah that his prayer was answered. Still, with all that, Zechariah didn't exercise faith to believe it. Therefore, it is man's part to believe. God's part is to answer. Prayer without faith produces no smoke and makes prayer just words {maybe just cliches} without authority or power.

Because the Lampstand, the Table of Showbread and the Altar of Incense are closed in on all four sides and the top in the Holy Place, it is difficult to speak of one without speaking of the others. That is because they function as one. They are more or less one life and ministry. When we anticipate a functioning Lampstand, we should understand that it is hammered out of one piece of Gold! Since it is NOT cast out of a mold, each Lampstand is unique! By that face we know that, individually, we have a divine responsibility toward the other members of Christ's body. However, corporately, as Christ's body, we are responsible to the HEAD, Jesus Christ and together, we have our responsibility toward God! Why? That is because this Tabernacle is eternally related to the Tabernacle of God! That means to His Eternal Purpose and to the things that brings joy to His heart.

## Seeing this we could say:

Incense Prayer is bringing joy to God's heart when the Lampstand church is functioning as one body, in the Holy Place life and ministry, within the revelation of God's eternal purpose, exercising the authority of the "now"

**word", which the Real Church** will carry to the Incense Altar and stand in the circle of God's sovereignty, to offer up a sweet smelling savor for God's nostrils because at last God's sons are functioning in harmony with God's original purpose and doing His will.

Jesus said "I will build My church and the gates of Hell shall not overpower it". By now everybody should know that the Lampstand Church, functioning within the Holy Place Life and Ministry, **IS** the Church He is Building!

This victorious group, **IS** functioning within that corporate unity that we call The Lampstand Church, which is the Body of our High Priest. It is the Lampstand Church that is in view here but is also called His Body, the Manifested Son, the Overcomers and His Bondservants!

The believer, who is acting on his own behalf, functioning individually as a lone ranger, may want to take individual authority and responsibility to serve God and do the will of God. However, he, then, find himself in some hopeless situation trying to fulfill the purpose of God all by himself. He may feel that he is a free spirit and doesn't want to be slowed down or hindered by the lukewarm church. He may have been successful in praying for the sick and casting out demons and even evangelizing. He may have studied the word and gotten revelation and be confident that God is blessing his ministry. How do I know that? That has been so common among many that I know, including myself!

This kind of "ministry" may function in the "Outer Court" sense but the free spirit is helpless to function within the Lampstand church. Many of us may see the problems and pain of becoming one with the Lampstand and to be hammered together with the rest of the gold. The fire of the crucible, that makes the pure gold, is just not convenient and may interfere with "my" ministry. The problem is that the independent Christian cuts himself off from the Showbread and cannot properly burn (God's) Incense.

The lone ranger may be successful with the bronze censer but God's purpose will be fulfilled by the church, which is His body, The Body of Our Great High Priest! While the "lone ranger," (independent believer) may faithfully pray, he cannot burn Incense at the Gold Altar of Incense. Why? This function has been assigned to the New Covenant Priesthood, after the Order of Melchizedek.

The gospel of the giveaways and the gospel of the bargains is the result of a comatose and stagnant Outer Court ministry. The "body of Christ" does not have independent members who are free spirits and independent believers. Neither does one body have extra hands or several feet that are on special assignment away from the body, because "we have a different calling."

The problem with the Lampstand that is hammered out of "one piece of gold" is that whoever participates in the Lampstand church must forfeit his right to his own individuality and let the free spirit fly away. The individual "ministry ambition" must yield to the corporate body in order to fulfill the purpose of God within the church age.

If we understand the focus of this study and go out looking for the Pure Gold Lampstand Church in our area, we may be disappointed. Why? Even if there was one (which there is not) are we prepared to be hammered into it to become one piece with it?

Nevertheless, we should be fully assured that this Lampstand Church is in the process of restoration. The fact that we can't see it or find that Church, is irrelevant and should not delay us from the process of Lampstand Perfection. We must understand

that most of the Lampstand Churches in Revelation 2 and 3 were not yet Third Heaven Perfect or ready for the Most Holy Place function. We, at very least, should be consecrating ourselves, personally, to the intense Preparation necessary to participate in this ULTIMATE GOAL!

Of course, it is not possible to have a consecrated Lampstand Church ( even at this level) without having consecrated and fully committed individuals willing to be hammered into ONE FUNCTIONING PIECE, suitable to hold the Seven Spirits of God .

It is at the "Consecration Offering" that we sacrifice our individuality to come into the unity of the Lampstand Church. The transition is from "my salvation", "my need", "my goals', my ministry", My happiness" and "my comfort" to the Radical idea of One Corporate Body fulfilling God's Eternal Purpose and bringing Joy to God's Heart.

"My whole ministry" is irrelevant, no matter how successful it appears, if it is not functioning in the Spiritual Light of God's Eternal Purpose.

God can quickly purify the gold when he finds truly consecrated New Covenant Priests who are functioning after the Order of Melchizedek.

When we study the construction of the Lampstand Church from the type in the Tabernacle, it is so complicated that we are fully aware that only the Son of God (our High Priest, knows how to hammer the one piece of gold into a New Covenant Lampstand Church. This is "building of His Church" is far beyond the capacity of man! Church History clearly reveals man's limitation in even building a functioning visible church. In fact it shows that man has even corrupted the gold with a strange and twisted gospel.

Zech 4:2 And he said to me, "What do you see?" And I said, "I see, and behold, a lampstand all of gold with its bowl on the top of it, and its seven lamps on it with seven spouts belonging to each of the lamps which are on the top of it; 3 also **two olive trees by it, one on the right side of the bowl and the other on its left side**. "11 Then I answered and said to him, "What are these two olive trees on the right of the lampstand and on its left?" 12 And I answered the second time and said to him, "What are the two olive branches which are beside the two golden pipes, which empty the golden {oil} from themselves?" 13 So he answered me saying, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord." 14 Then he said, "These are the two anointed ones, who are standing by the Lord of the whole earth."

Regardless of what various commentators say, the only TWO who can **fuel the gold Lampstand for the whole church age are the Spirit of Christ and the Holy Spirit**. These are the only ones who can pour the golden oil out from themselves and into the lamps.

The Pure Gold Lampstand only burns the Golden Oil that flows from the Two Olive Trees through the Gold Pipes. The LAMPS are Not candles or "ministries" that burn themselves, as is sometimes taught. It is not by man's feeble ability but by My Spirit says the Lord. These TWO, that provide the Golden Oil, are **the Sons** of fresh oil.

It may be true that the Lampstand Church is at the present time just in the very small beginnings but we must TRY not despise the day of small things. As in the days of Zechariah, God can build with rubble, if it is consecrated rubble.

Since Jesus said that HE WILL BUILD HIS CHURCH, that is absolute Truth! Therefore, there is not even a very small chance that He will not do exactly that! But, Brother, will we be able to see it? That depends upon where you are

standing. If you remain in the Outer Court, of course it will not be seen because it will be in the Tent, the Sanctuary, behind the Second Veil, which was NOT TORN. But, if you are in the Holy Place Life and Ministry, [ Priesthood] the Lampstand Church will be obvious and visible.

The conclusion; If these things are what the prophets spoke, they must be fulfilled before Jesus returns. If Jesus returns for the Lampstand Church, it seems reasonable that one must exist FIRST!

However, If He returns for a lukewarm, casual and baby church, who are not overcomers, He can come anytime now. These "SIGNS" are clearly seen already!