

The background of the entire image is a dark, almost black, space filled with wisps of vibrant purple smoke. The smoke rises from the bottom right and drifts upwards and to the left, creating a sense of movement and depth. The smoke has a soft, ethereal glow, with some areas appearing more concentrated and brighter than others.

Incensed!

*Personal Processing
Through Prayer*

Filled, Trimmed and Burning

1. Without attention, the wicks in the oil lamps would become charred, causing them to burn dimly, smoke and give off an unpleasant odor.¹

2. “This [addition of the bowl to the candlestick, causing it to yield a ceaseless supply of oil from the olive trees] is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit [of Whom the oil is a symbol], says the Lord of hosts.”²

3. As ambassadors of Jesus in this world, we are the announcers of His soon return and the eternal celebration that will follow, but we cannot continue to be light in the darkness without the Holy Spirit's help and guidance.

4. A betrothed Jewish groom went away to build a home for himself and his bride next to his father's house. This could take some time, and the couple rarely met again until the father of the groom pronounced the newly built home fit for habitation.

5. During this time the young woman was to watch and wait. She and her bridesmaids were to maintain a constant state of preparedness, since the wedding date would not be known to her until the bridegroom actually appeared.

6. The responsibility of these women was to declare with a great “torch-lit” procession that the wedding banquet and celebration would soon begin.

7. Part of the priest's responsibility in the tabernacle was to trim the wicks of each lamp and renew the supply of oil. Another was to light the incense...these were done together.

8. Just as the ceaseless supply of olive oil flowed from the olive trees in Zechariah's vision, supplying the lamps with oil for light, so it is with us and our need for the Holy Spirit.

9. Watching and prayer are interconnected.

10. Prayer and the Holy Spirit are also interconnected.

11. Throughout our study we have been learning that when we pray, our God responds.

References

1. “The Golden Lampstand”
<http://www.biblestudytools.com/classics/alexander-maclaren-leaves-from-the-tree-of-life/the-golden-lamp-stand.html>. Accessed December 6, 2016.
2. Zechariah 4:6.