

Candlestick all of gold with seven pipes and seven lamps This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel:. It Is not by power nor might but by my spirit. Zech. 4. 2, 6.

Welcome to the seventh month in this landmark year. Seven stands in scripture for the Holy Spirit and also the fullness of God's purposes as in our text above.

This year has lived up to its name! It has been marked by landmark events and testimonies. One of such events that happened in the last month of Landmark Visitation was the war between Iran and Israel. Many feared rightly in view of the prophecy of a possible World War early in the year. Thank God the war came to an end after only 12 days. In part this was due to the intense prayers and actions of God's people.

The war ended but there are many lessons from this conflict for us all. First, God's people are not ordinary. This earth is owned by our Father in heaven and He has given it to us to manage or rule. We determine what happens by our words and our actions. (Ps. 24.2, 115.16). The Lord Jesus made us kings and priests to His Father to operate in all the seven societal gates (Rev. 5. 10, 12). Second, these two countries that have become estranged since the Mullahs took over power in Iran in 1979 used to be very strong allies and partners. This goes back to Old Testament Bible times when Emperor Cyrus after conquering the Babylonians in the first year of his reign released Jews to rebuild their nation and Jerusalem Temple in the 7th month (Ez. 1.1,3.1). In New Testament times, the wise men from the east who came to worship the newly born king of the Jews

were from modern day Iran (Mt.2.1-2). Thirdly, this country has become an unrepentant sponsor of global Islamic jihad. She not only threatens Israel but also her (Arab) neighbors in the Middle East and other nations. Fourthly, this nation sponsors proxies: the Houthis, Hammas, Hezbolah etc to plot death and destruction to Israel, including the horrors of October 7 and 8, 2023. Many nations thus believe that the country's leadership lack the character or moral capacity to possess the nuclear bomb. The United States joined with with Israel and a few other nations to terminate this Iranian aspiration.

The final lesson from this for us all is the need for vigilance to prevent the workers of evil to take over the governance of our communities and nations. The same forces that turned Iran into a pariah state are at work in practically every nation in the world. The only way to prevent them is for us not to **BE NEGLIGENT** but DILIGENT and even EXCELLENT as we respond to the directions of the Holy Spirit. He is the Spirit of Excellence and the more we rely on Him the more would be our usefulness to God and man. We would excel morally, professionally and intellectually and one result would be promotion (Acts 5.32, Dan.6.3-4). Please take responsibility for your community and nation from this month on-if only to prevent others with ulterior motives gaining ascendance (Pro.29.2).

Welcome to the month of FULLNESS AND EXCELLENCE.

D. Olowu/July 1, 2025