

**The Evolution of the Menorah
(Inspired by “A Tale of Three Menorahs,”
by Rabbi Yitz Greenberg)
Rabbi Carl M. Perkins, Temple Aliyah, Needham, MA
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THE MENORAH IN THE TABERNACLE AND THE TEMPLE(S)



**AFTER THE DESTRUCTION OF THE FIRST TEMPLE:
Zechariah's Vision of the Lampstand**



**AFTER THE DESTRUCTION OF THE SECOND TEMPLE:
CELEBRATING THE VICTORY OVER THE JUDEANS**



THE PROHIBITION AGAINST REPRODUCING THE MENORAH

A person may not construct a house in the exact image of the Sanctuary, nor a portico in the exact image of the Entrance Hall of the Sanctuary, nor a courtyard corresponding to the Temple courtyard, nor a table corresponding to the Table in the Temple, nor a candelabrum corresponding to the Candelabrum in the Temple. But one may fashion a candelabrum of five or of six or of eight lamps.

And one may not fashion a candelabrum of seven lamps even if he constructs it from other kinds of metal rather than gold, as in extenuating circumstances the Candelabrum in the Temple may be fashioned from other metals.

(Avodah Zarah 43a)

**THE HANUKKAH MENORAH:
(Similar but not identical)**



THE MENORAH OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL:

A. The Seal of the State:



B. The Menorah of the Knesset:



**THE SIX BRANCHED HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATIVE MENORAH
(ZOHARA SCHATZ, 1985)**



THE MENORAH AS A JEWISH SYMBOL



A PORTION OF THE MOSAIC FLOOR OF THE SYNAGOGUE

“SHALOM AL YISRAEL”

(“PEACE UPON ISRAEL” [PSALMS 128:6])

BUILT IN THE SEVENTH CENTURY OF THE COMMON ERA;

EXCAVATED IN 1936

NOTE: THE SYNAGOGUE FACES WEST, TOWARD JERUSALEM