

Elder Vernon Johnson  
Colors

Gold - The King's Witnesses

There is a strong correlation in the scriptures between the bible color or metal, gold, and the subject of kings or kingdoms.

In the tabernacle in the wilderness and later in the temple there were two cherubims located within the most holy place. In the tabernacle these two cherubims were made of beaten gold. In the temple the two cherubims were overlaid with gold. Thus, in both places, the cherubims were being associated with the king. In our study of numbers we proved that the number two is associated with the bible subject of witness.

Further, the cherubims are associated with the subject of witness in the tenth chapter of the book of Ezekiel. There were four cherubims each with four wheels. The four cherubims are typical of the gospel ministry of this New Testament age. The gospel ministers are witnesses of the grace of Christ and of the wonderful works and deeds of the Lord Jesus Christ our and their King.

In the tabernacle and in the temple the Lord is said to dwell between the cherubims:

1. 1 Sam. 4:4 "So the people sent to Shiloh, that they might bring from thence the ark of the covenant of the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth between the cherubims: and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God."
2. 2 Sam. 6:2 "And David arose, and went with all the people that were with him from Baale of Judah, to bring up from thence the ark of God, whose name is called by the name of the LORD of hosts that dwelleth between the cherubims."
3. 2 Ki. 19:15 "And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, and said, O LORD God of Israel, which dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth."
4. 1 Chr. 13:6 "And David went up, and all Israel, to Baalah, that is, to Kirjathjearim, which belonged to Judah, to bring up thence the ark of God the LORD, that dwelleth between the cherubims, whose name is called on it."
5. Ps. 80:1 "To the chief Musician upon Shoshannimeduth, A Psalm of Asaph. Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a flock; thou that dwellest between the cherubims, shine forth."

6. Ps. 99:1 "The LORD reigneth; let the people tremble: he sitteth between the cherubims; let the earth be moved."

7. Isa. 37:16 "O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, that dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth: thou hast made heaven and earth."

Since the wings of the cherubims stretched from one wall to the other wall and a wing of each cherub touched a wing of the other cherub in the middle, it can be asserted that the phrase, "dwelleth between the cherubims," could also mean dwelleth underneath the wings of the cherubims.

We have a two-fold witness of God's mercy and of his covenant work and of his sacrificial atonement. The cherubims overshadowed the mercy seat. The blood of the sacrifice was sprinkled on the mercy seat. The mercy seat was founded upon the ark of the covenant. The two fold witnesses we have of the God's mercy, of his atoning blood, and of his covenant work are the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The cherubims had their faces inward: Ex. 25:18 "...and their faces shall look one to another; toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubims be." The Old Testament looks forward to the sacrificial atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ and of the subsequent mercy manifest therefore. This all having been done according to God's covenant counsel. The New Testament looks back upon the Lord Jesus Christ and of the mercy accruing thereof and all of this being accomplished by the covenant work of Jesus Christ.

The wings of the cherubims stretched forth from one wall to the other wall: 1 Kings 6:27 "And he set the cherubims within the inner house: and they stretched forth the wings of the cherubims, so that the wing of the one touched the one wall, and the wing of the other cherub touched the other wall; and their wings touched one another in the midst of the house." The testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ given unto us in the Old Testament and in the New Testament stretches from before the foundation of the world unto the Glory World, when time shall be no more.

The wings of the cherubims also touched one another. Multitudes of prophecies of the Lord are given to us in the Old Testament and subsequently are pointed out to us in the New Testament. Additionally, the Old Testament testifies to us of the need of a Saviour and the New Testament testifies to us of the One who saved us. Thus they touch one another.

The LORD (meaning Jehovah) of host dwelled between the cherubims. It is interesting that Jesus Christ (Jehovah) appeared as a man on the earth to redeem his people between the writing of the Old Testament and the New Testament. He appeared between the cherubims.

The two cherubims had a total of four wings and they stretched forth their wings on high. Four is the bible number associated with the subject of the work of the Holy Spirit. According to the scriptures, "holy men spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." Also, "all scripture is given by inspiration of God..." Therefore, we see the testimony of the Old Testament and of the New Testament was given to us under the direction and leadership of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord spoke from between the cherubims: Num. 7:89 "And when Moses was gone into the tabernacle of the congregation to speak with him, then he heard the voice of one speaking unto him from off the mercy seat that was upon the ark of testimony, from between the two cherubims: and he spake unto him." Things are even better today as the Lord often speaks to us through the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments and especially through the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Finally, the cherubims in the tabernacle were made of gold of beaten work. The cherubims in the temple were made from wood of Olive tree and overlaid with gold. This shows forth a two-fold nature. Men wrote the Old and New Testaments. Yet, men wrote the Old and New Testaments under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. The Old and New Testaments are King Jesus' testimony to His people: " All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."