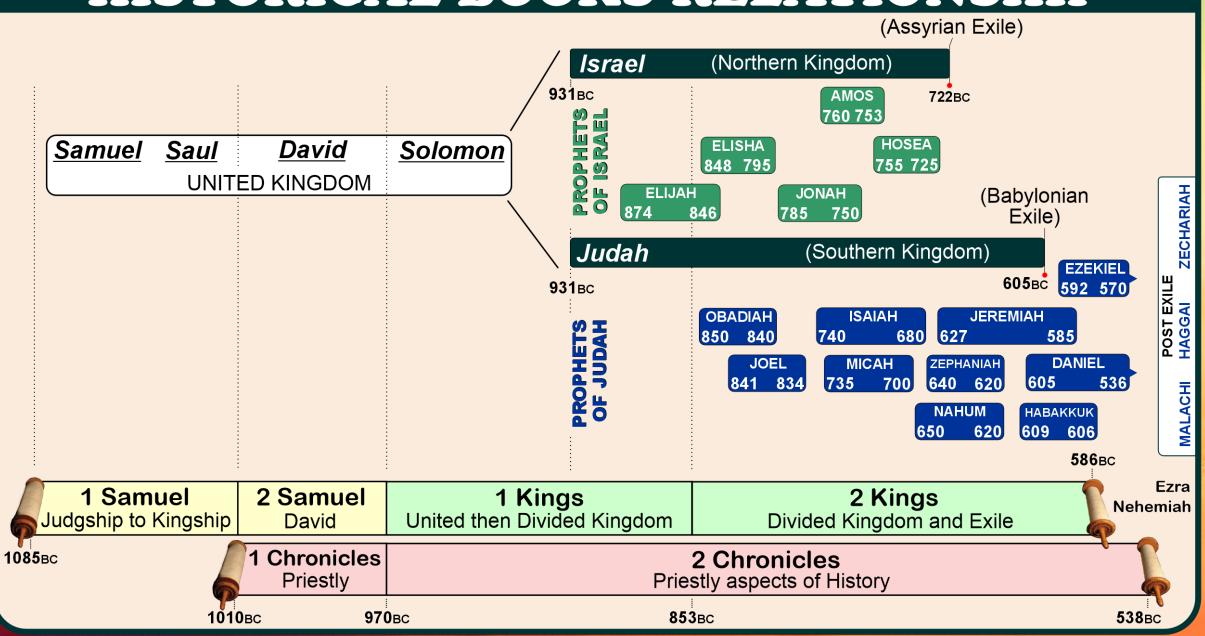


HISTORICAL BOOKS RELATIONSHIP



POST-EXILE **HISTORY**

536BC Began to rebuild the **Temple** (Ez.3:1-4:5)



ZECHARIAH

515

PERSIAN KINGDOM

520

515BC **Temple** completed (Ez.6:15)

MALACHI 433 424

Nehemiah returned to Persia (433BC), then returned to Israel (424BC).

NEHEMIAH 445 415

BABYLONIAN KINGDOM

70-Year Exile in Babylon (Je.25:11)

Cyrus 559-530BC

DECREE P

Cyrus permits Israel to return

to homeland (Ez.1:1-4)

537BC

Cambyses II 530-522BC

Darius 522-486BC

DECREE 1

EZRA 1-6 521 515

Xerxes I

ESTHER

483

486-465BC

465-424BC

Artaxerxes I

457BC DECREE A

445BC DECREE A

BEGAN THE 70TH WEEK **PROPHECY** (Da.9:24-27)

EZRA 7-10 458 440

586-536BC

Cyrus the

conquers

Babylon

539BC

Persian

(FIRST RETURN)

Under Zerubbabel to build Temple (49,897 exiles) 536BC

WORK ABANDONED

Opposition from neighbors and indifference by the Jews caused the work to be abandoned (Ez.4:1-24)

530BC 520BC

SECOND RETURN

Under Ezra (5,000 exiles)

473

458BC

THIRD RETURN

Under Nehemiah to build Walls (42,000 exiles) 444BC

Tom Elseroad • 2024-05-19 • Post-Exile-History-Slide.cdr

ZECHARIAH OUTLINE



PREFACE

:1-6

VISIONS

1:7—Chap. 6

Apocalyptic

RESTORATION

Chapters 7-8

Ethical Prophecy

ESCHATOLOGY

Chapters 9-14

Predictive Prophecy

Chapters 9-14 written after completion of Temple (515BC)



GOD'S COVENANT WITH ISRAEL

8 Night Visions



- 4 Horns and 4 Craftsmen 1:18-21
- 3 Man with Measuring Rod Chap. 2
- 4 Cleansing of High Priest Chap. 3
- **5** Lampstand & 2 Olive Trees **Chap. 4**
- 6 Flying Scroll with Warning 5:1-4
- Woman in an Ephah Basket 5:5-11
- **3** 4 Chariots **6:1-8**
- Crowning Joshua as High Priest 6:9-15



Chapters 1-8 written during building of Temple (520BC)

HISTORY

4 Restoration Messages

Messages Concerning Fasting

- 1 A Message of Rebuke 7:4-7
 Wrong Motives
- A Message of Repentance 7:8-14
 Command to Repent
- 3 A Message of Restoration 8:1-17
 Restore to Favor
- A Message of Rejoicing 8:18-23

- Return to Feasts



FUTURE

2 Prophetic Burdens



Burden 1 9-11

First Coming - Rejected -

- 1 Coming of the true King (9)
- Restoration of the true people (10)
- Rejection of the true King (11)



Burden 2 12-14

Second Coming - Received -

- Repentance of Judah (12)
- Restoration of Judah (13)
- Reign of the Messiah (14)

8 NIGHT VISIONS (1:7 — 6:8)

1:18-21

- **Man Among the Myrtle Trees** 1:7-17
 - God promises prosperity to Israel
- 4 Horns and 4 Craftsmen

 God judges the nations who attacked Israel

- **Man with Measuring Rod** Chap. 2
 - God rebuilds Jerusalem
- Cleansing of High Priest Chap. 3
 - God purifies both high priest and people
- ZECHARIAH ©

- Lampstand & 2 Olive Trees Chap. 4
 - God rebuilds the Temple
- **6** Flying Scroll with Warning 5:1-4
 - God removes imparted sin/idolatry
- **Woman in an Ephah Basket** 5:5-11
 - God removes the system of false religion
 - 4 Chariots

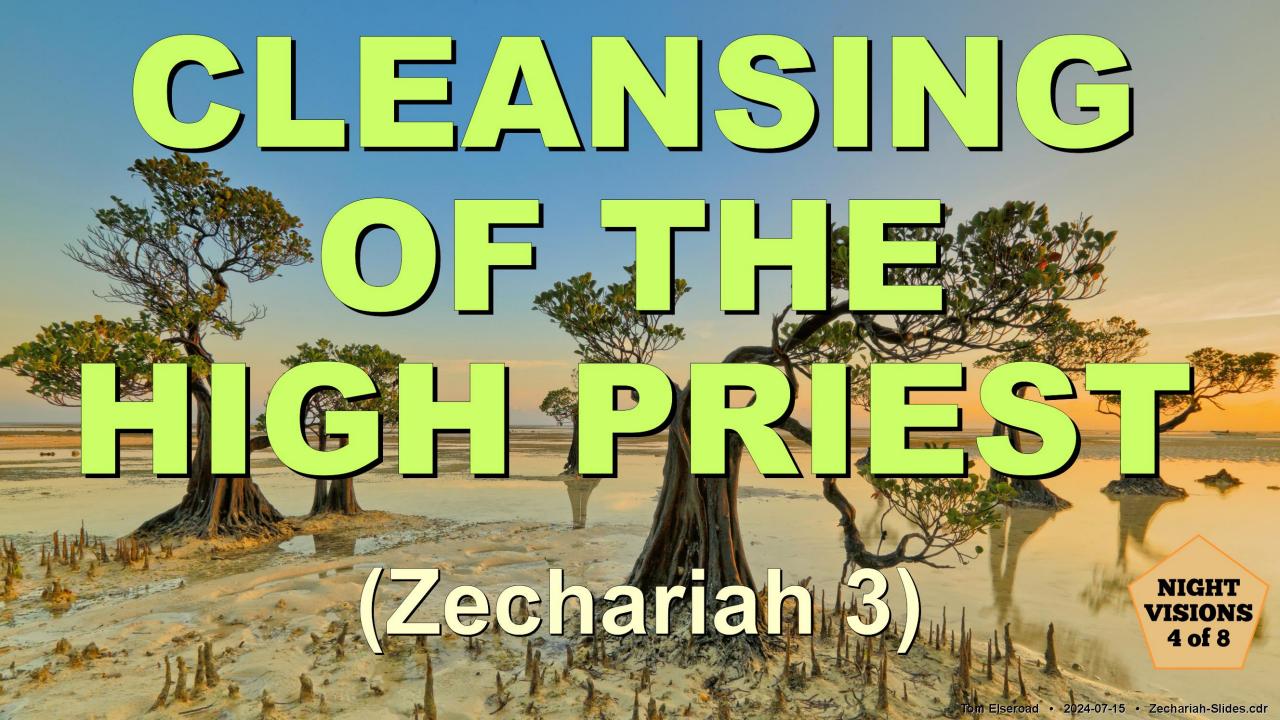
God brings peace and rest to Israel

Crowning Joshua as High Priest

 Messiah assumes the office of both King and Priest

6:1-8

6:9-15



Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him.





"Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him." (Zc.3:1)

O Joshua was the High Priest at the time (Hg.1:1).

In his vision, Zechariah sees the High Priest in the presence of the LORD ("Angel of the LORD").

The phrase standing before has the idea of priestly service. Joshua isn't in God's presence just as a spectator but as a ministering priest.

Satan hates it when God's people come into the presence of the LORD.

And the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?"







- We see the LORD exercising authority and preventing Satan's advance.
- God does allow Satan to attack and harass His people, but He always strictly regulates what Satan is allowed to do.
- When Satan accuses, Christ pleads on our behalf.
- God reinforces the important standing of Jerusalem in His eyes.





O This place of high privilege was not based on Joshua's own goodness or merit.

O A "brand" is a burning or smoldering piece of wood.

Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and was standing before the Angel.





"Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and was standing before the Angel." (Zc.3:3)

- Satan is pointing out the "filthy garments" and declaring Joshua unfit to stand before the Lord.
- The name "Satan" literally means adversary or opponent. He stands against us in spiritual battle (Ep.6:10-18).
- O Think of a chunk of wood smoking in the ashes. It isn't worth much at all and soon consumed if not plucked from the fire.
- God makes much of brands, fragments, and castaways. What others consider as unworthy, the Lord deems whole.

Then He answered and spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, "Take away the filthy garments from him." And to him He said, "See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes."





"Then He answered and spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, "Take away the filthy garments from him." And to him He said, "See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes."" (Zc.3:4)

- As Joshua the High Priest stood in the presence of the LORD, Satan accused him.
- Joshua was guilty of standing before God in filthy garments.
- The LORD fixed the problem by cleansing Joshua, taking away the filthy garments and the iniquity they represented.
- O The Hebrew word translated filthy is the strongest expression in the Hebrew language for filth.

And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head, and they put the clothes on him. And the Angel of the LORD stood by.





"And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head, and they put the clothes on him. And the Angel of the LORD stood by." (Zc.3:5)

The turban was part of the High Priest's garments and on the front it had a gold plate inscribed with the phrase HOLINESS TO THE LORD (Ex.28:36-38).

The "clean turban" possibly suggests the joy of Joshua's reinstatement into the priesthood.

O This symbolized the forgiveness and restoration of the nation Israel as a priestly nation (Ex.19:6).

Then the Angel of the LORD admonished Joshua, saying,





"Then the Angel of the LORD admonished Joshua, saying," (Zc.3:6)

Joshua in Zechariah's day was admonished in much the same way that the first Joshua was admonished (Js.1:7).



Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. (**Js.1:7**)

God promises to reinstate the nation as a priestly nation. This will happen in the future when Israel is faithful to the Lord fulfilling (Zc.12:10-13:1).

Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'If you will walk in My ways, And if you will keep My command, Then you shall also judge My house, And likewise have charge of My courts; I will give you places to walk Among these who stand here.





"Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'If you will walk in My ways, And if you will keep My command, Then you shall also judge My house, And likewise have charge of My courts; I will give you places to walk Among these who stand here." (Zc.3:7)

- God promised Joshua that he would indeed continue to serve as High Priest as he was diligent to stay obedient to God.
- God promised Joshua, as a High Priest, privileged access into His presence (He.4:16, "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace").
- O Joshua's commission pertained to a priestly function within the framework of a covenant relationship.
- "These who stand here" represent the heavenly court of angels.

Hear, O Joshua, the high priest, You and your companions who sit before you, For they are a wondrous sign; For behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the BRANCH.





"Hear, O Joshua, the high priest, You and your companions who sit before you, For they are a wondrous sign; For behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the BRANCH." (Zc.3:8)

"BRANCH" is used several times as a title for the Messiah (Is.4:2; 11:1; Je.23:5; 33:15).

O The "BRANCH" is associated with fruitfulness and life.

O Jesus used the same image when He said that He was the vine and we are the branches (Jn.15:5). "Hear, O Joshua, the high priest, You and your companions who sit before you, For they are a wondrous sign; For behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the BRANCH." (Zc.3:8)

The priests will be a symbol ("wondrous sign") of future Israel.

- Zechariah also saw in his vision other priests and friends, sitting in front of him.
- O It was not just Joshua individually who represented Israel, but the other priests also represented the priesthood within Israel.

ZECHARIAH: PROPHECIES CONCERNING CHRIST

CHRIST: DEITY & HUMANITY

CHRIST FIRST COMING



- "Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH!" (6:12)
- "...the Man who is My Companion" (13:7)



- "From His place He shall branch out" (6:12)
- "Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey" (9:9) See Mt.21:4-5; Jn.12:14-16



- "So He shall be a priest on His throne" (6:13)
- 🚿 CHRIST THE SMITTEN SHEPHERD
 - "Strike the Shepherd" (13:7) See Mt.26:31: Mk.14:27
- 💣 CHRIST ENTRANCE TO JERUSALEM ON A COLT
 - "Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey" (9:9) See Mt.21:5: Jn.12:13
- 🚿 CHRIST BETRAYED FOR 30 PIECES OF SILVER
 - "So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of silver" (11:12-13) See Mt.14:27
- **#** CHRIST HANDS PIERCED
 - "they will look on Me whom they pierced" (12:10)
- 🥡 CHRIST WOUNDED IN THE HOUSE OF HIS FRIENDS
 - "I was wounded in the house of my friends" (13:6)

CHRIST: MY SERVANT

CHRIST SECOND COMING



- "As the flock of His people" (9:16)
- "Thus the poor of the flock, who were watching me" (11:11)



- "He shall be a priest on His throne" (6:13)
- "Behold, your King is coming to you" (9:9)
- "And the LORD shall be King over all the earth" (14:9)
- "shall go up from year to year to worship the King" (14:16)

CHRIST'S GLORIOUS REIGN

- "His dominion shall be 'from sea to sea" (9:10)
- "Then the LORD will be seen over them" (9:14)
- CHRIST'S WORLD PEACE
 - "Everyone will invite his neighbor Under his vine and under his fig tree" (3:10)
 - "He shall speak peace to the nations" (9:10)
 - CHRIST THE BRANCH
 - "For behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the BRANCH" (3:8)
 - "Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH!" (6:12)
 - CHRIST COMING TO THE MOUNT OF OLIVES
 - "And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives" (14:4) See Ac. 1:11, "shall so come"
- 💅 CHRIST'S CORONATION
 - "And the LORD shall be King over all the earth" (14:9)
 - "And He shall build the temple of the LORD" (6:12-13)

For behold, the stone That I have laid before Joshua: Upon the stone are seven eyes. Behold, I will engrave its inscription,' Says the LORD of hosts, 'And I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.





"For behold, the stone That I have laid before Joshua: Upon the stone are seven eyes. Behold, I will engrave its inscription,' Says the LORD of hosts, 'And I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day." (Zc.3:9)

- If a branch seems "weak," then God gives us another picture of a stone, having seven eyes.
- In the ancient world "eyes" represented knowledge because we learn more through our eyes than any other way.
- O The seven eyes speak of the perfection and fullness of the knowledge and wisdom of the Messiah.

In that day,' says the LORD of hosts, 'Everyone will invite his neighbor Under his vine and under his fig tree.'





"In that day,' says the LORD of hosts, 'Everyone will invite his neighbor Under his vine and under his fig tree."" (Zc.3:10)

This is a proverbial expression that means prosperity and peace (1Ki.4:25; 2Ki.18:31).

O This is the peace that the reign of the Messiah brings.

This vision shows how God encourage Joshua by setting his eyes on the Messiah.

Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit

CHAPTER 4

8 NIGHT VISIONS (1:7 — 6:8)

1:18-21

- **Man Among the Myrtle Trees** 1:7-17
 - God promises prosperity to Israel
- 4 Horns and 4 Craftsmen

 God judges the nations who attacked Israel

- **Man with Measuring Rod** Chap. 2
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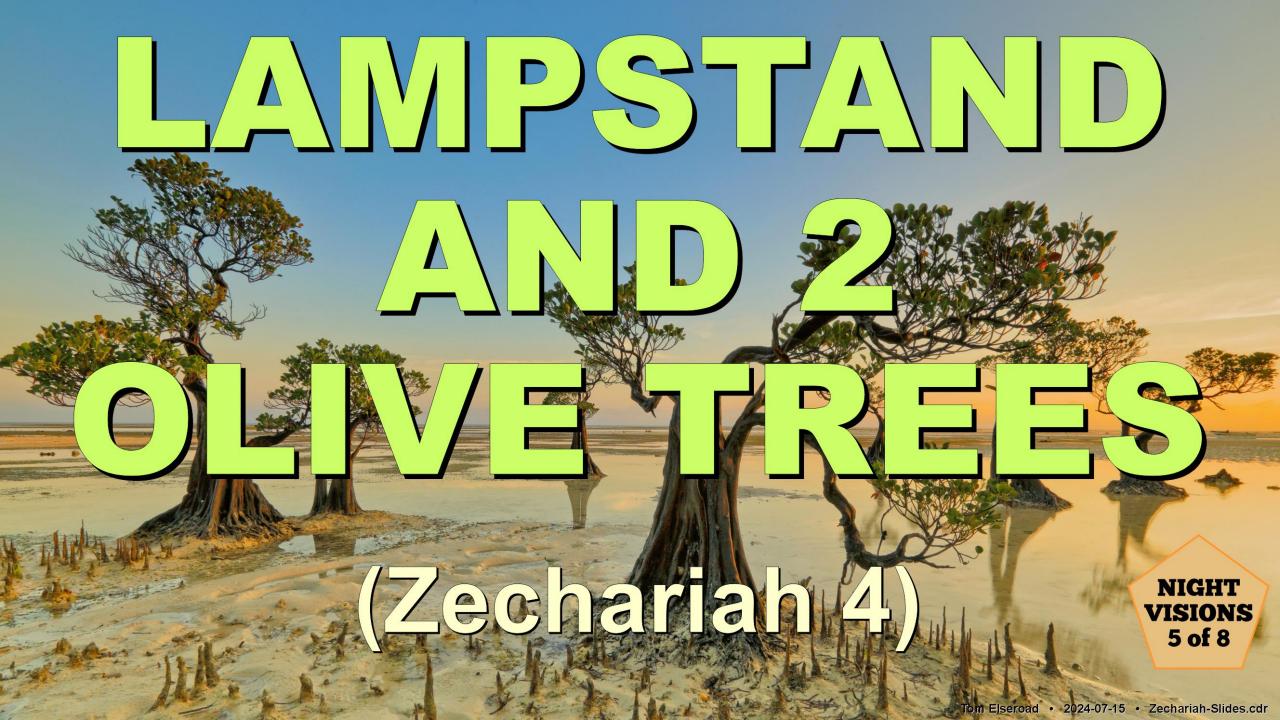
God brings peace and rest to Israel

Crowning Joshua as High Priest

 Messiah assumes the office of both King and Priest

6:1-8

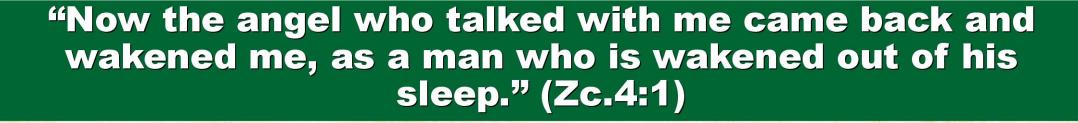
6:9-15



Now the angel who talked with me came back and wakened me, as a man who is wakened out of his sleep.







- Zechariah had that woozy feeling that you get if you are awakened suddenly from a deep sleep.
- This fifth vision focuses on the civil leader Zerubbabel, a descendant of David, to encourage him in the work of rebuilding the Temple.
- O The faithful completion of the work would then enable Israel again to shine the light of God's grace (testimony) to the world.

And he said to me, "What do you see?" So I said, "I am looking, and there is a lampstand of solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the stand seven lamps with seven pipes to the seven lamps.







- God gave Zechariah a vision of the golden lampstand that was meant to stand in the Temple.
- Since Zechariah and his people were there to rebuild the temple, it made sense that God spoke to them in images related to the Temple.
- O It was a tedious duty in the temple service to care for the lamps on the golden lampstand.
- O They had to be continually refilled with oil, cleaned of soot, and their wicks had to be maintained.



²And he said to me, "What do you see?" So I said, "I am looking, and there is a lampstand of solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the stand seven lamps with seven pipes to the seven lamps. 11 Then I answered and said to him, "What are these two olive trees—at the right of the lampstand and at its left?" 12 And I further answered and said to him, "What are these two olive branches that drip into the receptacles of the two gold pipes from which the golden oil drains?"

¹³Then he answered me and said, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord." 14 So he said, "These are the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth."

ZECHARIAH 4:13-14

TWO WITNESSES BACKGROUND — ZC.4

- The description of the two witnesses as olive trees and lampstands has an Old Testament background (Zc.4:2-14).
- The two olive branches (Zc.4:12) are the two men who occupied the supreme positions in those offices at that time:
 - ZERUBBABEL as <u>Governor</u> and descendant of David
 - JOSHUA as the <u>High priest</u> and descendant of Eleazar
- Their connection to the lampstands was that they were empowered by the Holy Spirit as symbolized by the olive oil.
- In a similar way the two witnesses of Rv.11:1-14 will be empowered by the Holy Spirit.

IDENTITY TWO WINESES

ENOCH & ELIJAH

- Both were taken to heaven by God w/o experiencing death (Ge.5:23; 2Ki.2:11)
- The fact that John the Baptist "could" in some sense be a fulfillment of "Elijah" (Mt.11:13-14) implies that it does not need to be Elijah himself.

MOSES & ELIJAH

- Both appeared at the transfiguration of Christ (Mt.17:3; Mk.9:4; Lk.9:30)
- MOSES' miracle of turning water into blood (Ex.7:14-11:10) is done by the two witnesses
- ELIJAH'S miracles of fire from heaven and no rain for 3 1/2 years is done by the two witnesses
- Malachi 4:5 says God will send Elijah before the Day of the Lord

2 FUTURE PROPHETS

- There is no indication that assumes a famous identity of the 2 Witnesses
- God can take ordinary believers and enable them in the power of the Holy Spirit to perform miracles
- The fact that God gives us the DURATION (1260 days) of their ministry, makes this more important than WHO they are.

Two olive trees are by it, one at the right of the bowl and the other at its left.





"Two olive trees are by it, one at the right of the bowl and the other at its left." (Zc.4:3)

- Zechariah saw something that was never in the Temple. He saw two olive trees that supplied the seven lamps with oil through seven pipes.
- O In this vision, Zechariah sees "self-filling" lamps, fed directly from two olive trees.
- O The two olive trees were identified in Zechariah's day. Zerubbabel, who was the king in the line of David, is one of the olive trees. The other olive tree was Joshua, the high priest.

So I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, "What are these," my lord?"





"So I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, "What are these, my lord?"" (Zc.4:4)

- Zechariah saw the vision, but didn't understand what it meant.
- O He saw a lampstand with lamps supplied with oil directly through pipes coming from two olive trees.
- Zechariah asked the angel for an explanation of what he saw.
- O This fifth vision returns to the pattern of the first four. Zechariah asked the interpreting angel for the meaning of the vision.

Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord."





"Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord."" (Zc.4:5)

The angel knew it was important for Zechariah to know what he was seeing.

Zechariah must come to understand the meaning of this vision.

Without supernatural help Zechariah could not receive the revelation.

So he answered and said to me "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts.







- Zerubbabel was the civic leader of Jerusalem, and had the responsibility to finish the work of rebuilding the Temple.
- The work had stalled, and Zerubbabel needed encouragement to carry on the work.
- O The necessary resource for God's work is the Holy Spirit and God promises Zerubbabel a rich resource in the Spirit of God.



In the vision of Zechariah 3 God spoke to Zerubbabel about the issue of PURITY.

O But PURITY alone is not enough to accomplish the work of God.

O The work of God needs RESOURCES, but not of human might.



- MIGHT focuses on collective strength of a group or an army.
- O POWER focuses on individual strength.
- God says, it is "not by the resources of many or one, but by My Spirit.
- O It will not be by your cleverness that the Temple will be built.





CHARLES SPURGEON

"Oh! May God send us poverty; may God send us lack of means... if we may only thus get the blessing"





"So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts." (Zc.4:6)

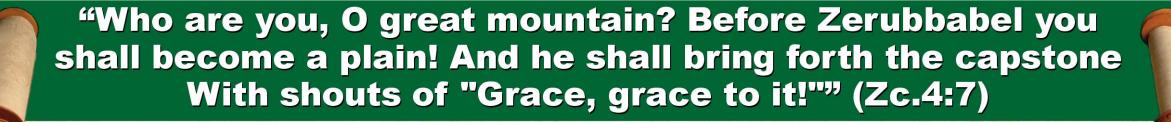


God wanted Zerubbabel to know that the Holy Spirit would continually supply his need, just as the oil trees in the vision continually supplied oil to the lamps on the lampstand.

God wants His supply and our reliance on the Holy Spirit to be CONTINUAL. Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone With shouts of "Grace, grace to it!"







- The work of rebuilding the temple was so massive it seemed like a great mountain.
- O Here God promises that by His Spirit, that great mountain will be leveled into a plain.
- The "great mountain" may have literally been the mountainous pile of rubble at the temple site.
- This is God assuring Zerubbabel that not only will the work be finished, but Zerubbabel shall finish it laying the "capstone" and declaring all the work to be of "grace."

Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying





"Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying:" (Zc.4:8)

- The revelation is of God, not Zechariah!
- This is another word from the Lord that came to Zechariah about Zerubbabel.



for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. (2Pe.1:21)

The hands of Zerubbabel Have laid the foundation of this temple; His hands shall also finish it. Then you will know That the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you.





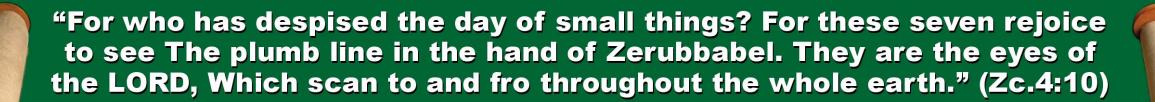


- The work is done by God's Spirit providing the resources to begin the work, and enough also to finish the work (Ph.1:6).
- Zerubbabel himself probably did not work on the temple itself, but delegated others.
- Olt is likely that Sheshbazzar (Ez.3:8) and Zerubbabel (Zc.4) are the same person (Ez.3:6; 5:16). They are both princes of Judah (Ez.1:8; Hg.2:2) and called 'governors (Ez.5:14; Hg.2:21).
- Some say Zerubbabel finished the work that Sheshbazzar had started.

For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice to see The plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. They are the eyes of the LORD, Which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth.









O None of us should despise the "day of small things," because God has a wonderful purpose for those days.

Zerubbabel lived with 20 years of small things while the Temple laid in ruins. "For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice to see The plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. They are the eyes of the LORD, Which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth." (Zc.4:10)

The "seven" are the eyes of the LORD mentioned earlier.

The "seven" rejoice when they see Zerubbabel busy with the building work.

With the plumb line in his hand, the eyes of the LORD sees it all. "For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice to see The plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. They are the eyes of the LORD, Which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth." (Zc.4:10)

- "Small things" seem to be day-by-day living. They are not days to despise.
- O Those days are not a mistake. They are days of priceless shaping and preparation.
- O Satan fears the day of small things in our life because he sees what great things God does in them.
- God accepts your little works if they are done in faith in Christ.

Then I answered and said to him, "What are these two olive trees—at the right of the lampstand and at its left?"





"Then I answered and said to him, "What are these two olive trees—at the right of the lampstand and at its left?"" (Zc.4:11)

- Again the prophet asks the angelic guide for an interpretation of the vision.
- Zechariah understood the message of encouragement to Zerubbabel. But he didn't understand how it connected to the vision of the olive trees and the lampstand.
- The "two olive trees" represent Zerubbabel and Joshua, who represent the two aspects of the Messiah's person and work.
- Zerubbabel is the civil leader, and Joshua is the High Priest. This pictures Christ as King and High Priest.

And I further answered and said to him, "What are these two olive branches that drip into the receptacles of the two gold pipes from which the golden oil drains?"





"And I further answered and said to him, "What are these two olive branches that drip into the receptacles of the two gold pipes from which the golden oil drains?"" (Zc.4:12)

- O How did the trees supply the oil? It came out of the trees.
- All real ministry is giving of ourselves.
- O It doesn't matter how much we have; what matters is how much we give of ourselves.
- O The "golden oil" likely refers to the pure quality of the oil, not simply the color.

Then he answered me and said, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord."







"Then he answered me and said, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord."" (Zc.4:13)



God promises to raise up two more witnesses in the future. They will be anointed ones to preach the gospel to the world immediately before Jesus' return (Rv.11:3-13).

O These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth.



So he said, "These are the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth."







- "These are the two anointed ones" in Zechariah's day, namely Zerubbabel and Joshua.
- It seems that they were not the entire trees.
- The trees themselves may represent the kingly and priestly offices in Israel.
- O They were two olive branches from the trees. Probably one branch from each tree.
- "Anointed ones" is literally 'sons of oil.' These two are so characterized by the ministry and the power of the Holy Spirit that they are sons of oil.

