

Night Vision

Zechariah publishes all eight of his visions on Feb. 15, 519 BC (1:7).

These visions are written in the _____ person and involve response to what is seen.

Zech 1:7-17 (Vision #1)

The Man = Yahweh's Messenger = Pre-incarnate Christ
(...but Luther thought it was the archangel, _____)

What's so bad about peace and tranquility in v. 11? "It refers to a lull in Darius' military battles between 521 and 519 BC...As long as the Babylonian Empire still stood, the people in Jerusalem were nervous" (Lessing, 86).

Seventy years (v. 12): 587 (fall of Jerusalem) to 515 BC (temple dedicated)

But for the Babylonians, their seventy years are 609-539 BC (Jer 25:11-12)

Who is YHWH upset with in v. 15 and why?

The measuring line (v. 16) indicates that it is time to _____.

Note the prominence of the word "again" in v. 17. Why is this comforting?

Zech 1:18-21 (Vision #2)

"In Zechariah's vision, problems arrive—full throttle. There are enemies in the form of powerful horns" (Lessing, 113).

four horns =

four craftsmen =

"It is noteworthy that the evil empires are brought down, not by troops with military hardware, but by craftsmen armed with hammers, saws, and nails building the second temple...Yahweh's justice enters the world through unassuming craftsmen? As counterintuitive as it may seem, this is God's way of bringing down the powers of our present evil age" (Lessing, 114).

"Craftsmen taking on the big, bad, beastly horns. This is Moses against Pharaoh; Joshua against Jericho; Amos against Amaziah; weakness in the face of massive power. And that is exactly the point. God's power is shown most perfectly in weakness" (Lessing, 116).

Closing Thoughts/Comments