

Zech 4:1-5:4

Session Four, Zechariah

Let's Review...Who's Who? (match each person to his description)

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|--------------------|--|
| 1) ____ Joshua | a) Messenger/Branch/Sprout |
| 2) ____ Zerubbabel | b) son of Berechiah, son of Iddo |
| 3) ____ Cyrus | c) contemporary partner prophet of Zechariah |
| 4) ____ Zechariah | d) defeated Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar |
| 5) ____ Darius | e) regional governor of Yehud (Judah) |
| 6) ____ YHWH | f) crushed remaining Babylonian powers |
| 7) ____ Haggai | g) high priest |

Zech 4:1-14 (Vision #5)

“Spirit-inspired prophets will provide motivation and courage for Zerubbabel to rebuild the temple” (Lessing, 193).

lampstand bowl seven lamps seven lips two olive trees

Zerubbabel is a descendant of _____ and grandson of exiled Judean king, Jehoiachin (1 Chron 3:19).

How does verse 6, “Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says YHWH of hosts” serve as a theme verse in Zechariah?

What is the “great mountain” (v. 7)?

- Zion
- any obstacle
- Joshua
- debris left from destroyed temple

What is the “top stone”? Where did it come from?

“Its placement announced continuity between the first temple and the second one” (Lessing, 201)

Who are the two olive trees/anointed ones? For a similar example, see Rev 11:3-6.

Grace! Grace!

“Who was Zerubbabel to rededicate the temple? Only the reigning monarch had the authority to do such a thing and Zerubbabel was merely a provincial governor—and under

Persian control at that!...Wasn't Zerubbabel filling people with false hopes—blowing bubbles that would certainly burst? Enter Zechariah! This is not the day to despise small things! While Yahweh may do great things, his specialty is accomplishing them through what seems small" (Lessing, 202).

But Yahweh is the God of lampstands and olive trees, of mangers and crosses, and of water, bread and wine. Yahweh is the God of small things! Zerubbabel, then, is a _____ of Christ. Both begin with a day of small things. Both endure. And both succeed in rebuilding a temple" (Lessing, 203).

Zech 5:1-4 (Vision #6)

Chapter 5 deals with the _____ of the community. How can they live in a holy city?

Sins Discovered → Sins Judged → Sins Removed

Now That's the Word of the Lord

--Scrolls were either leather or papyrus and often stored in jars; rarely exceeded 30' long; written on one side only

--This scroll is not only flying, it's oversized! length = 20 cubits; width = 10 cubits

--One cubit = 17-18"; the distance from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow

"Yahweh has sent the scroll out because thieves and perjurers have gone unpunished for their sins. This is about to change!" (Lessing, 211).

"Everyone who steals is a pithy way of saying 'every one who wrongs his neighbor,' and everyone who swears falsely (invoking the divine name) sums up blatant disregard for God's holiness. If these sins are not eradicated, the new Jerusalem will be no different than the old Jerusalem" (Lessing, 213).

There is no gospel in Zech 5:1-4, so what benefit does it give?

Dimensions—Coincidence or Significance?

Surprisingly, there are three objects in the Bible that match the dimension(s) of the scroll. What might be the significance?

- 1) Solomon's portico (porch); 1 Kings 6:3
- 2) Holy of Holies, sheltering the ark of the covenant; 1 Kings 6:23
- 3) Bronze altar; 2 Chron 4:1

Discussion Questions

- 1) Zechariah didn't recognize himself. Why can it be hard to see how God uses us?
- 2) When God does something new, does it have to be bigger and better?
- 3) When has God's Spirit accomplished what you tried to do with your might or power?