

Zech 5:5-6:15

Session Five, Zechariah

Zech 5:5-11 (Vision #7) A tisket, a tasket, a woman in a basket!

Who is this woman? A personification of _____

Sin is often personified and described in feminine terms—eg, Jezebel (Rev 2:20), Lady Folly (Prov 9:13-18), Babylon (Rev 17:5).

T / F Storks are unclean birds known for strong wings and long migrations.

Where is Shinar? Why not call it _____? Because Shinar is the home of the rebellion against God in the Tower of Babel (Gen. 11:1-9)

“The seventh vision depicts an anti-ark borne by anti-cherubs to be put in an anti-temple in anti-Jerusalem. Luther understood the vision along these lines as well. ‘Godless hypocrisy at all times tries to imitate pure teaching and truth and be like them’” (Lessing, 227).

God	Idols
Tent (2 Sam. 7:2)	Basket (v. 7)
Gold (Ex 25:17)	Lead (v. 8)
Cherubs (2 Sam 22:11)	Winged women (v. 9)

In this vision, the wicked woman is already in the basket which means evil exists, but it is contained and it will be carried off. Interestingly, the woman tries to get out, but what does Messenger do and what does this mean for us?

“Shinar is the antithesis of Jerusalem; it represents the failed kingdom of people versus the triumphant kingdom of God. Yahweh is not moving idolatry to Babylon in order to sanction in there. Rather, he moves wickedness from his people so that he can _____ it there. In the past, Jerusalem was destroyed because of idolatry. Idolatry will again meet divine wrath, but this time Babylon is _____” (Lessing, 233).

“The woman is incarcerated by Yahweh....Yahweh must remove the idol...God will not dwell with sin. One or the other must leave” (Lessing, 230, 232).

Think of the basket as a garbage can! Our God in Christ, takes the garbage out!

Where/how else does God illustrate removal of sin?

- 1) Lev. 16:7-22
- 2) Mark 5:13
- 3) Rev. 20:10

Zech 6:1-15 (Vision #8)

There are many similarities (yet still progression) between visions 1 and 8. If bronze color of the mountains indicate the rising sun, then we go from dark of night (1:8) to dawn (6:1).

Bronze mountains correspond to bronze _____ at the temple's entrance (Jachin = "he establishes" and Boaz = "in him is strength" [1 Kings 7:13-22]) and bronze-overlaid _____ doors (2 Chron 4:9).

"go forth" is mentioned _____ times in this vision indicating God's mastery over all.

Why no east and west (v. 6)? Perhaps to highlight main foes: to the north, _____ and to the south _____.

The men mentioned in v. 10 and v. 14 are the same, just with different names. The "-yah" ending indicates, they knew Yahweh.

Chiasm (6:9-15)

- A Yahweh's Word (6:9)
- B Exiles arrive from Babylon (6:10a,c)
- C The exiles' names (6:10b)
- D Crowns are to be made (6:11a)
- E Joshua, the high priest (6:11b)
- F The Sprout (6:12b)
- G ...will rebuild the temple (6:12b)
- G' ...will rebuild the temple (6:13a)
- F' ...will bear majesty and rule (6:13b)
- E' ...will be a priest upon his throne (6:13c)
- D' A crown is placed in the temple (6:14a,c)
- C' The exiles' names (6:14b)
- B' Far-off ones will come (6:15a)
- A' Yahweh's Word (6:15b)

T / F Kings and priests wore types of crowns in the Old Testament.

The Qumran community (Essenes) expected _____ Messiahs (Aaron's priestly line and David's royal line)—the sacred and the secular! "Yahweh commands Zechariah to make two crowns—a nonroyal crown for the high priest, Joshua, and one for the Davidic Sprout. The second crown is to be kept in the rebuilt temple to remind the faithful of their coming king (Lessing, 257).

Christ the High Priest and King of Kings

Zech: "Behold a man." (v. 12)

Pontius Pilate: "Behold the man." (Jn 19:5)

Just as a sprout of a plant rises up to life, so will Christ rise to new life in the resurrection.