

ZECHARIAH: Jehovah Remembers
"The Gospel According to Zechariah"
Zechariah 3:1-10

INTRODUCTION:

1. In the first six chapters, the word of the LORD came to Zechariah in Eight Night Visions!!
2. **Eight Visions in One Night.** We've already looked @ 3 and this morning we are looking @ a Fourth.
 - a) **Vision #1** - The Vision of Christ in the Midst of the Myrtle Trees (Israel)
 - 1) **Chapter 1:7-17**
 - b) **Vision #2** - The Vision of the 4 horns (World Powers) and the 4 Craftsmen.
 - 1) God will bring down those who hurt Israel.
 - 2) **Zechariah 1:18-21**
 - c) **Vision #3** - Vision of the man with the Measuring line (Surveyor)
 - 1) Messiah measure the Millennial City (Jerusalem) and it's a city without walls and the Glory of the LORD will be a ring of fire around the city.
 - 2) **Zechariah 2:1-13**
3. **TODAY:** We enter Heavens Courtroom.
4. In Zechariah 3 we see the most theologically profound Vision in the book of Zechariah.

I. THE CONTEXT OF THIS TRIAL

A. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

1. Zechariah prophesied during the post-exile period around 520-518 BC during the time that 50,000 Israelites returned to build the temple in Jerusalem.
2. Remember this was a time of discouragement and spiritual idleness.
 - a) Israel became spiritually stagnant.
3. Much had to be done before they could return to worship.
4. A Major problem was that the priesthood had become compromised.

B. LITERARY CONTEXT

1. This is the 4th of the 8 Night Visions given to Zechariah.

2. These Visions were extremely important because they were Messianic and they conveyed the literal truth about God's plan of redemption.

3. Vs 1-10

II. THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE COURTROOM

A. THE DEFENDANT

1. Vs 1

a) "Then"

1) Zechariah now transitions from the 3rd Vision to the 4th Vision.

a) Zechariah 2:10

b) "Joshua" - means "*Jehovah is Salvation*"

1) *Ezra 5:2*

c) "The High Priest"

1) The High priest's job was to preside over the House of the Lord.

2) The High Priest would offer the sacrifice on the "Day of Atonement", which is Yom Kippur, for the sins of the nation.

3) Only the High priest was allowed to enter the Most Holy Place behind the heavy vail to stand before God.

4) *Hebrews 9:11-12*

5) *Nehemiah 13:28*

B. THE DEFENSE COUNSELOR (Attorney)

1. Vs 1

a) "*standing before the angel of the LORD*"

2. The "*angel of the LORD*" is the pre-incarnate Christ!

3. The angel of the LORD is interceding for Joshua.

a) And speaks in the 1st person for God which demonstrates His divine nature.

C. THE PROSECUTION

1. Vs 1

a) "*and Satan standing @ his right hand to accuse him*"

2. "Satan" - means "adversary" one who withstands.
3. In Job, Satan comes before the LORD to accuse Job. Job 1-2
4. Remember before Satan's fall he was a covering, Cherub.
 - a) *Ezekiel 28:14-17*

D. THE JUDGE

1. Vs 2
 - a) *"and the LORD said to Satan"*
2. This is Jehovah God - The Judge
 - a) We have the Defendant - Joshua
 - b) The Defense attorney is Christ Himself
 - c) The Prosecution is Satan
 - d) The Judge is the LORD

III. THE CHARGES PRESENTED

A. OVERWHELMING EVIDENCE OF GUILT

1. Vs 3
 - a) *"Now Joshua was standing before the angel"*
 - b) *"clothed with filthy garments"*
 - 1) This is absolute evidence!!!
 - c) *"filthy garments"* - means to be soiled with human excrement.
 - 1) This was evidence of the filthy condition of Joshua (the High Priest)
2. These *"filthy garments"* are the sins of Joshua as well as the Jewish people.

B. THE MERCY OF THE COURT

1. Vs 4
 - a) *"and the angel (Defense Attorney) said to those who were standing before him"*
 - b) *"Remove the filthy garments from him"*

1) **LISTEN UP!!!** Only God can forgive sin!!

c) "*and I will clothe you with pure vestments*"

2. **WOW** - What a picture of Christ removing our garments of sin and clothing us with righteousness.

a) **Joshua did nothing to receive this righteousness. Neither do we.**

1) It's all about God's amazing Grace.

b) This is the **WONDROUS EXCHANGE!!**

1) **He takes our sin and Imputes His righteousness to us.**

3. **THIS IS BIG!!!!!!**

a) The only person who was sinned against can forgive sins!!

4. **LISTEN UP:** When we sin against people we also sin against God!!

a) **Matthew 5:23-24**

C. A VOICE FROM THE GALLERY - Vs 5

1) Zechariah shouts "*let them put a clean turban on his head*"

2) On the Turban it would say "*Holiness to Jehovah*"

a) "*and clothed him with (clean) garments.*"

IV. THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGES COURT ORDER

A. OBEDIENCE

1. **Vs 6-7**

a) "*If you will walk in my ways and keep my charge*"

b) "*then you shall rule my house and have charge of my courts,*"

c) "*and I will give you the right to access among those who are standing here.*"

2. Point: God's grace calls us to good stewardship not passivity.

B. THE PROMISE

1. **Vs 8-10**

2. The **BRANCH** is the prophetic title for Messiah.

3. **In that day** - refers to the day when Israel will repent, believe, and be forgiven!!

CONCLUSION:

1. That's the Gospel according to Zechariah.
2. We see the Doctrines of:
 - a) Justification by Grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.
 - b) The Depravity of man
 - c) Satan the accuser of the brethren
3. Christ our Intercessor
4. The doctrine of Sanctification
5. The doctrine Christ's second coming