

***1 Zechariah 1-4 “Visions of Jesus”**

***2 Ezra 4²⁴** So the work on the Temple of God in Jerusalem had stopped, and it remained at a standstill until the second year of the reign of King Darius of Persia.

5:1¹ At that time the prophets Haggai and Zechariah son of Iddo prophesied to the Jews in Judah and Jerusalem. They prophesied in the name of the God of Israel who was over them.² Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and Jeshua son of Jehozadak responded by starting again to rebuild the Temple of God in Jerusalem. And the prophets of God were with them and helped them.

***3 Zechariah 1¹** In November of the second year of King Darius’s reign, YaHWeH gave this message to the prophet Zechariah son of Berechiah and grandson of Iddo:

***3a Zechariah**, like Jeremiah and Ezekiel, **was both a prophet and a priest**. He was obviously familiar with priestly things (Ch. 3; 6:9–15; 9:8, 15; 14:16, 20, 21). Since he was a young man (Heb. *na’ar*) when he began prophesying (2:4), he was probably born in Babylonian captivity and returned to Palestine in 536 B.C. with Zerubbabel and Joshua. He became a leading priest in the restoration community succeeding his grandfather, Iddo, who also returned from captivity in 536 B.C., as the leader of his priestly family (Neh. 12:4, 16).

Note: YaHWeH Jesus referred to a Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, whom the Jews murdered between the temple and the altar (Matt. 23:35). Some students of Scripture (e.g., Eugene H. Merrill, *An Exegetical Commentary: Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi*, p. 95) **believe that the Zechariah to whom Jesus referred was the son of Jehoiada whom the Jews stoned in the temple courtyard (2 Chron. 24:20–22). Zechariah ben Jehoiada was the last martyr in the last book of the Hebrew Bible, Chronicles, so Jesus may have been speaking canonically, the equivalent of “all the martyrs from Genesis to Revelation.”** Nevertheless that Zechariah was the son of Jehoiada, not Berechiah.¹ Tom Constable

This was between October and November of 520 b.c. Two months after Haggai’s first prophecy (Haggai 1:1) and within a month after another prophecy of Haggai (Haggai 2:1). **David Guzik** <https://enduringword.com/>

“Like Haggai, Zechariah’s message is one of encouragement. **But he was aware that not all the returned remnant were fully sincere in their desires to serve God**, and he therefore counseled them to repent of sin and return to God will all their hearts and minds.” James Boice

***4 Zechariah 1²** “I, YaHWeH, was very angry with your ancestors.³ Therefore, say to the people, ‘This is what YaHWeH of Heaven’s Armies says: **Return to me, and I will return to you, says YaHWeH of Heaven’s**

¹ Tom Constable, [Tom Constable’s Expository Notes on the Bible](#) (Galaxie Software, 2003), Hag 2:23.

Armies (Almighty).⁴ Don't be like your ancestors who would not listen or pay attention when the earlier prophets said to them, 'This is what YahWeH of Heaven's Armies says: Turn from your evil ways, and stop all your evil practices.'

"Very angry with your forefathers" ("Displeased has Yahweh been with displeasure concerning your fathers."²) – We are foolish if we try to ignore, minimize or explain away God's anger. Is God love? Yes, of course. But can we provoke Him to anger? Yes, we can. Just because you get angry at your kids for their rebellion, insubordination, and disobedience, does that mean that you don't love them? No! If you didn't love them then you wouldn't even care about their foolish, self-destructive behavior. **God cares; so He pleads with us through the prophets to forsake our stupid behavior and draw near to Him for wisdom and guidance.**

***4a Zechariah 1**⁵ "Where are your ancestors now? They and the prophets are long dead.⁶ **But everything I said through My servants the prophets happened to your ancestors, just as I said.** As a result, they repented and said, 'We have received what we deserved from YahWeH of Heaven's Armies (Almighty). He has done what He said He would do.'"

Amazing commentary on the frailty of man vs the Word of God! Where are your forefathers? Where are the prophets? ***5 Isaiah 40:6–8 (NLT)**⁶ A voice said, "Shout!" I asked, "What should I shout?" "Shout that people are like the grass. Their beauty fades as quickly as the flowers in a field.⁷ The grass withers and the flowers fade beneath the breath of YahWeH. And so it is with people.⁸ **The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the Word of our God stands forever.**"

Note that God is faithful, not only to the promises that comfort us and bring us joy, but He is also true to His Word in allowing us the just consequences of our own choices, in the desire that we will return to Him in repentance. **God cannot be inconsistent with His righteous character.** If God said it, we can be sure it is going to happen. That should give us a little healthy fear of YahWeH! God warns you and me today: ***"Whatever you sow you WILL reap."***

***6 Zechariah 1**⁷ **Three months later**, on February 15, YahWeH sent another message to the prophet Zechariah son of Berekiah and grandson of Iddo.⁸ In a vision (**Zechariah has eight visions in one night, recorded from Chapter 1-6 – 3 in the first 2 chapters.**) during the night, I saw a man sitting on a red horse that was standing among some myrtle trees in a small valley. Behind him were riders on red, brown, and white horses.⁹ I asked the angel who was talking with me, "My lord, what do these horses mean?" "I will show you," the angel replied.¹⁰ The rider standing among the myrtle trees then

² James E. Smith, [*The Minor Prophets*](#), Old Testament Survey Series (Joplin, MO: College Press, 1994), Zec 1:2–3.

explained, **"They are the ones YaHWeH has sent out to patrol the earth."** ¹¹ Then the other riders reported **to the angel of YaHWeH**, who was standing among the myrtle trees, **"We have been patrolling the earth, and the whole earth is at peace."**

The horses being sent out to patrol the earth indicate God's involvement in world governments. There are also God's horse mentioned in Revelation in the yet future – which means to us God's watchman are still patrolling this earth right now. They patrol Asia, Africa, Europe, America – they see world leaders and governments. Nothing escapes the "eyes" of YaHWeH and no governments are beyond His control!

This was about three months after his first address and Haggai's last address and about five months after the work on the temple had resumed. James Smith

There are many examples in the Old Testament of an encounter with a heavenly man known as the **Angel of YaHWeH** who is revealed to be God Himself (Genesis 16:7-13, 22:11-18, Exodus 2:3-9, Judges 2:1-4...etc.). Because of Zechariah 1:11, we know this **"man"** is the *Angel of YaHWeH*, and that He is God. **We can assume that this was God, in the Person of Jesus Christ**, appearing to Abraham before His incarnation and birth at Bethlehem, because of God the Father it is said, **John 1:17–18 (NASB95)** ¹⁷ For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ **No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.**), and no man has ever seen God in the Person of the Father ("God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To Him be honor and might forever. Amen. **1 Timothy 6:15-16**). **Therefore, if God appears to someone in human appearance in the Old Testament, and no one has seen God the Father, it makes sense the appearing is of the eternal Son, the Second Person of the Trinity, before His incarnation in Bethlehem.** David Guzik

"At peace" - *7 – Darius the First Chart "Darius boasted that in nineteen battles he had defeated nine rebel leaders and had subdued all his enemies. So the empire was again virtually quiet by 520 B.C." Barker

Zechariah 1 ¹² Upon hearing this, **the angel of YaHWeH prayed this prayer:** "O YaHWeH of Heaven's Armies, for seventy years now you have been angry with Jerusalem and the towns of Judah. How long until you again show mercy to them?" ¹³ And YaHWeH spoke kind and comforting words to the angel who talked with me.

Then the angel of YaHWeH addressed sovereign Yahweh. Clearly they were separate persons. Tom Constable – This is Jesus praying to His Father!

***8 Zechariah 1** ¹⁴ Then the angel said to me, "Shout this message for all to hear: 'This is what YaHWeH of Heaven's Armies says: My love for Jerusalem and Mount Zion is passionate and strong. ¹⁵ **But I am very angry with the other nations that are now enjoying peace and security. I was only a little angry with My people, but the nations inflicted harm on them far**

beyond My intentions. ¹⁶ “Therefore, this is what YahWeH says: I have returned to show mercy to Jerusalem. My Temple will be rebuilt, says YahWeH of Heaven’s Armies, and measurements will be taken for the reconstruction of Jerusalem.’ ¹⁷ “Say this also: ‘This is what YahWeH of Heaven’s Armies says: The towns of Israel will again overflow with prosperity, and YahWeH will again comfort Zion and choose Jerusalem as His own.’”

The word for **zealous** in ancient Hebrew comes from the idea “to become intensely red” and it has the thought of a face becoming flushed with deep emotion. God is genuinely and deeply concerned about the state of His people. David Guzik

And He cares that much about you and me! ***“If you feel wounded and torn by the events of your life, turn to God so He can heal and comfort you”*** (Life Application Bible).

The Jews finished the temple in 515 B.C., but the city walls were not complete until 444 B.C. (Neh. 7:4; 11:1) Tom Constable

***9 Zechariah 1** ¹⁸ Then I looked up and saw four animal horns. ¹⁹ “What are these?” I asked the angel who was talking with me. He replied, **“These horns represent the nations that scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem.”** ²⁰ Then YahWeH showed me four blacksmiths (Lit. “workers in metal”). ²¹ “What are these men coming to do?” I asked. The angel replied, “These four horns—these nations—scattered and humbled Judah. Now these blacksmiths have come to terrify those nations and throw them down and destroy them.”

This second vision involves the nations who had harassed and attacked God’s people. This vision indicates that these nations will be punished and even destroyed as a result of their actions. Most people believe these nations are **Assyria, Babylon, Persia and Greece**. Some add Egypt and Rome to the mix, but the point is that nations have mistreated God’s people and they will be dealt with by YahWeH of Hosts!

Vs. 15 “I am very angry with the other nations” It is important to point out that God through history has used the nations of the world to discipline His people. But each time the nations involved inflicted harm to God’s people above what God had ordained – they brought judgment on themselves! (Assyria, Babylon, etc.)

***10 When the world was busy with its own affairs, God’s eyes and the heart of the Messiah were upon the lowly estate of Israel and upon the temple in Jerusalem.** Several features are noteworthy in this vision: (1) **God takes account of every one that lifts his hand against Israel;** (2) He has complete knowledge of the dejected condition of His people and the extent of their injury; and (3) He has already provided the punishment for every foe of His chosen ones.” **Daniel Feinberg**

***11 Zechariah 2** ¹ When I looked again, I saw a man with a measuring line in his hand. ² “Where are you going?” I asked. He replied, “I am going to measure Jerusalem, to see how wide and how long it is.” ³ Then the angel who was with me went to meet a second angel who was coming toward him. ⁴ The other angel said, **“Hurry, and say to that young man, ‘Jerusalem will someday be so full of people and livestock that there won’t be room enough for everyone! Many will live outside the city walls. ⁵ Then I, Myself, will be a protective wall of fire around Jerusalem, says YaHWeH. And I will be the glory inside the city!’”**

Now Zachariah has a vision of Jerusalem as it will be in the future. This vision would encourage Zerubbabel and Jeshua as they were rebuilding the temple. Notice that we know Zechariah was a “young” man at this point.

This prophecy had a short-term fulfillment in God’s protection of the rebuilding, and blessing of the city under Ezra and Nehemiah; but clearly, its ultimate fulfillment is rebuilding under the rule of the Messiah. David Guzik

Now a prophesy for those who haven’t returned to come back to Israel (some 90% by estimates) – not the trust the world system they are enjoying in Babylon, but to return to help – no matter how feeble the efforts look!

***12 Zechariah 2** ⁶ YaHWeH says, “Come away! (Heb. “Woe, Woe”) Flee from Babylon in the land of the north, for I have scattered you to the four winds. ⁷ **Come away, people of Zion, you who are exiled in Babylon!”**

***12a** In some contexts the Hebrew term (*hoy*) is translated “woe.” A great number of exiles still remained voluntarily in “the land of the north,” i.e., in Mesopotamia. **They had become rich and prosperous. Zechariah now urged these exiles to “flee” lest they suffer the same fate which God had in store for Babylon.** During the reign of Darius the city of Babylon was twice captured in brutal fighting. Those who dwelled “with the daughter of Babylon,” i.e., the people of Babylon (and all the pagan nations where Jews lived), are urged to flee “to Zion.” James Smith

Throughout the Bible **Babylon** is used as a picture of the world and its financial system (“Mammon”) of buying and selling, as well as a city. While Jerusalem is “God’s city”, **Babylon is the world’s city – and a part of the system ruled by the god of this world.** Zechariah’s call to come out of **Babylon** is both literal and figurative.

***13 Revelation 18:4–5 (NASB95)** ⁴ I heard another voice from heaven, saying, “Come out of her, my people, so that you will not participate in her sins and receive of her plagues; ⁵ for her sins have piled up as high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.

Today James speaks the Word of YaHWeH to us down through the ages: ***13a James 4:4 (NLT)** ⁴ You adulterers! Don’t you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God.

***14 Zechariah 2** ⁸ After a period of glory, YaHWeH of Heaven's Armies sent Me against the nations who plundered you. For he said, **"Anyone who harms you harms My most precious possession (Lit. "for he who touches you, touches the apple (pupil) of His eye.")**. ⁹ I will raise my fist to crush them, and their own slaves will plunder them." Then you will know that YaHWeH of Heaven's Armies has sent me.

Again an encouragement to the remnant that God was with them and that they are very precious to Him.

"Apple of His eye" The people of Israel are God's most treasured possession among the peoples of the world. He told them so when He brought them out of Egypt!

***14a Deuteronomy 32:10 NIV** He **shielded** him (Jacob, representing the people of Israel) and **cared** for him; He **guarded** him as the apple of His eye.

People haven't realized this truth through history and have hated, maligned and mistreated the Jews, not realizing that in doing so they were offending God and bringing judgment on themselves.

We should also remember that we as believers have been adopted into the same precious family and are greatly loved by God. Those who mistreat Christians are also offending God and heaping up wrath in heaven for themselves.

Believers are precious to God (Psalm 116:15); they are his very own children (Psalm 103:13). **Treating any believer unkindly is the same as treating God that way.** As Jesus told his disciples, when we help others we are helping Him; when we neglect or abuse them, we are neglecting or abusing Him (Matthew 25:34-46). **Be careful, therefore, how you treat fellow believers – that is the way you are treating God.** Life Application Bible

***16 Zechariah 2** ¹⁰ YaHWeH says, "Shout and rejoice, O beautiful Jerusalem, for **I am coming to live among you.** ¹¹ **Many nations will join themselves to YaHWeH on that day, and they, too, will be My people.** I will live among you, and you will know that YaHWeH of Heaven's Armies sent Me to you.

God so love the world that He gave His Son on the cross for their sins. This salvation of the world is available to the peoples of the world through the Messiah of Israel. Salvation came to the Jews first and then because of God's grace to all the rest of mankind. Those who will believe in Jesus will be joined to God's family!

***15a That day of Yahweh's coming in the person of Messiah would be a day of mass conversion of Gentiles.** "Many nations shall join themselves to Yahweh in that day." Those who thus embraced Yahweh as revealed through His Son would be considered "My people," i.e., Israel. It is within this expanded version of Israel—this Israel of faith, the church of Christ—that Yahweh would dwell. James Smith

***16 Zechariah 2** ¹² The land of Judah will be YaHWeH's special possession in **the Holy Land**, and He will once again choose Jerusalem to be His own city. ¹³ Be silent before YaHWeH, all humanity, for He is springing into action from His Holy dwelling."

This is the only place where the phrase Holy Land is used in the Bible. The land is holy because it is separated unto God in a unique way. Some assume that it is only the *people* of Judah and Jerusalem that are God's holy inheritance but passages like this show that **land** itself is **holy** and precious to God. David Guzik

***17 Zechariah 3** ¹ Then the angel showed me **Jeshua the high priest standing before the angel of YaHWeH. The Accuser, Satan**, was there at the angel's right hand, making accusations against Jeshua.

This is one of the most amazing scenes in the Bible. You have a sinful man (Joshua), called to a Holy work of God standing helplessly between **Jesus (The angel of YaHWeH)** and **Satan – the accuser**. It's a trial. "Look!" screams the Accuser, he is filthy with sin – he has no right to be the high priest. "Satan must have been pointing to those [filthy clothes] and declaring forcefully that Joshua was unfit to stand before YaHWeH in this office." James M. Boice

Satan standing there **"to be his adversary,"** lit., **"to satanize him"**. James Smith

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.

***17a Revelation 12:10–11 (NASB95)** ¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, **"Now** the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night. ¹¹ "And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death. (Job 1-2)

***18 Zechariah 3** ² And YaHWeH said to Satan, "I, YaHWeH, reject your accusations, Satan. **Yes, YaHWeH, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebukes you.**

But Jesus rebukes Satan in the Name of YaHWeH. Jesus intercedes for a sinful man. There is encouragement here for Joshua and also for Jerusalem!

Jesus stood between Moses and God's glory in Exodus in order to save a sinful man from the holiness of God. ***18a Exodus 33:21–34:5 (NIV84)** ²¹ Then YaHWeH said, "There is a place near Me where you may stand on a rock. ²² When My glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with My hand until I have passed by. ²³ Then I will remove My hand and you will see My back; but My face cannot be seen."...⁵ **Then YaHWeH came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed His name, YaHWeH.**

It was a picture as this is of what Jesus would do for all who would believe in Him. He would take our sins and give us His righteousness to protect us from Satan's accusations and God's wrath!

***18b** Later in the NT we see clearly **Jesus calls Himself YHWH, the I AM!** (John 4:26, 6:35, 8:12, 8:58 **“Before Abraham was, I AM”**) in Exodus 33:21- 34:7⁵ **YaHWeH descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of YaHWeH.**

***19 Zechariah 3** This man is like a burning stick that has been snatched from the fire.”³ Jeshua’s clothing was filthy (lit. “excrement-soiled”) as he stood there before the angel.

Jesus admits that Joshua is a sinful man, to be saved from the fires of hell!

***19a** “So it is with the child of God. What is he at the best? **Till he is taken up to heaven, he is nothing but a brand plucked out of the fire. It is his daily moan that he is a sinner; but Christ accepts him as he is: and he shuts the devil’s mouth by telling him, ‘Thou sayest this man is black – of course he is: what did I think he was but that? He is a brand plucked out of the fire. I plucked him out of it. He was burning when he was in it: he is black now he is out of it. He was what I knew he would be; he is not what I mean to make him, but he is what I knew he would be. I have chosen him as a brand plucked out of the fire. What hast thou to say to that?’** Do observe that this plea did not require a single word to be added to it from Joshua.” (Spurgeon)

***20** When John Wesley was only six years old, he was trapped in a burning house and was only rescued when one neighbor climbed on another’s shoulders and pulled him out of window. A picture of the scene was drawn for Wesley and he kept the drawing until he died, and wrote under it Zechariah 3:2: *Is this not a brand plucked from the burning?*

***21 Zechariah 3**⁴ So the angel said to the others standing there, “Take off his filthy clothes.” And turning to Jeshua he said, **“See, I have taken away your sins** (Lit. “Behold! I cause your iniquity to pass from you.”), **and now I am giving you these fine new clothes.”**⁵ Then I said, “They should also place a clean turban on his head.” So they put **a clean priestly turban on his head** and dressed him in new clothes while the angel of YaHWeH stood by.

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 YaHWeH (Exodus 28:36-38).

The Hebrew word translated **filthy** is “the strongest expression in the Hebrew language for filth of the most vile and loathsome character.” (Feinberg, cited in Barker)

What can save Joshua and anyone from the accusations of Satan? ***21a** “Theologically, there is a picture here of the negative aspect of what God does when **He** saves a person. Negatively, **He** takes away sin. Positively, **He** adds or imputes to the sinner saved by grace **His** own divine righteousness. Barker

“I have taken away your sins” You see only God can forgive sins – Jesus can forgive sins because He died for our sin! (Exodus 34:6-7)

Mark 2:1–12 (NLT)¹ When Jesus returned to Capernaum several days later, the news spread quickly that he was back home.² Soon the house where He was staying was so packed with visitors that there was no more room, even outside the door. While He was preaching God’s

word to them,³ four men arrived carrying a paralyzed man on a mat.⁴ They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above His head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus.⁵ Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, **"My child, your sins are forgiven."**⁶ But some of the teachers of religious law who were sitting there thought to themselves,⁷ **"What is he saying? This is blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!"**⁸ Jesus knew immediately what they were thinking, so He asked them, "Why do you question this in your hearts?⁹ Is it easier to say to the paralyzed man 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk'?"¹⁰ **So I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins."** Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said,¹¹ "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!"¹² And the man jumped up, grabbed his mat, and walked out through the stunned onlookers. They were all amazed and praised God, exclaiming, "We've never seen anything like this before!"

***22 1 Thessalonians 1:9–10 (ESV)**⁹ For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, **Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.**

***22a Romans 5:17 (ESV)**¹⁷ For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

***23** We do nothing ourselves. God removes our filthy clothes (sins), then provides us with fine, new clothes (the righteousness and holiness of God, 2 Corinthians 5:21; Ephesians 4:24; Revelation 19:8). All we need to do is repent and ask God to forgive us. When Satan tries to make you feel dirty and unworthy, remember that the clean clothes of Christ's righteousness make you worthy to draw near to God. Life Application Bible

***23a 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NASB95)**¹⁷ Therefore if anyone is in Christ, (*he is*) a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

***24 Zechariah 3**⁶ Then the angel of YaHWeH spoke very solemnly to Jeshua and said,⁷ "This is what YaHWeH of Heaven's Armies says: If you follow My ways and carefully serve Me, then you will be given authority over My Temple and its courtyards. I will let you walk (lit., give you a walking path) among these others standing here.

***24a** There was no priesthood during the Exile, so it had to be reinstated upon the return to the land. In this vision, Jeshua is installed as high priest. One of the high priest's duties was to offer a sacrifice on the Day of Atonement to make amends for all the sins of the people. The priest was the mediator between God and the nation. **Thus, he represented the coming Messiah (Isaiah 11:1), who would change the entire order of God's dealing with people's sin (Hebrews 10:8-14 explains this in detail).** Life Application Bible

YaHWeH confirms all this will be done by His Son who will be born and man in Bethlehem – the “Branch” or shoot from David’s line! This would be coming through the descendants of Zerubbabel!

***25 Zechariah 3** ⁸ “Listen to me, **O Jeshua the high priest, and all you other priests. You are symbols of things to come. Soon I am going to bring My servant, the Branch.**”

The Branch refers to Jesus, the Messiah, was the High Priest who offered, once for all, the sacrifice of Himself to take away our sins. In the new order, every Christian is a priest, offering a holy, cleansed life to God (1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 5:10). Life Application Bible [Branch” is used several times as a title for the Messiah (Isaiah 4:2 and 11:1, Jeremiah 23:5 and 33:15).]

***25a Isaiah 11:1–2 (NLT)** ¹ Out of the stump of David’s family will grow a shoot— yes, a new Branch bearing fruit from the old root. ² And the Spirit of YaHWeH will rest on him— the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of YaHWeH.

***26 Zechariah 3** ⁹ Now look at the jewel I have set before Jeshua, a single stone with seven “eyes” (lit. Hebrew word). **I will engrave an inscription on it, says YaHWeH of Heaven’s Armies, and I will remove the sins of this land in a single day.** ¹⁰ “And on that day, says YaHWeH of Heaven’s Armies, each of you will invite your neighbor to sit with you peacefully under your own grapevine and fig tree.”

The stone, too, is a common figure of God and Messiah in the Bible (10:4; Exod. 17:6; Num. 20:7–11; Ps. 118:22; et al.). In the past God promised that the Stone would be a secure, never-failing refuge for His people (Isa. 28:16; 1 Pet. 2:6). When Messiah appeared, however, He proved to be a stone over which the Jews stumbled and an offensive rock to them (Ps. 118:22–23; Isa. 8:13–15; Matt. 21:42; 1 Pet. 2:7–8). Presently He is the foundation stone, the chief cornerstone of the church (Eph. 2:19–22). And in the future He will be the great stone that smites the nations (Dan. 2:35, 45). Barker & Feinberg

***26a Psalm 118:22–27 (NASB95)** ²² The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief corner *stone*. ²³ This is YaHWeH’s doing; It is marvelous in our eyes. ²⁴ This is the day which YaHWeH has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it. ²⁵ O YAHEH, do save, we beseech You; O YaHWeH, we beseech You, do send prosperity! ²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of YaHWeH; We have blessed you from the house of YaHWeH. ²⁷ YaHWeH is God, and He has given us light; Bind the festival sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar.

***27** Be that as it may, an “engraving” is that which is cut into a stone which makes a stone beautiful. If the Stone here is the Messiah, then the engraving must be that which was cut into his sinless humanity. The scars in his body are what make him beautiful to the believer. **The result of the engraving or deep cutting of the stone is that Yahweh would “remove the iniquity of that land in one day.” That day when Jesus was pierced through to the death became the final Day of Atonement when the ultimate and perfect sin offering was made once and for all time (3:9b).** James Smith

God said, **I will remove the sins of this land in a single day, and this was fulfilled in Christ who suffered for our sins once for all time.** . . . to bring you safely home to God (1 Peter 3:18). You cannot remove your sins by your own effort. You must allow God to remove them through Christ. Life Application Bible

This stone had “Seven eyes” - (This speaks of God’s Spirit who is pictured as a “lampstand” in the tabernacle and temple.)

This vision would have encouraged the two leaders of the restoration community, Zerubbabel and Joshua, by reminding them of God’s resources, and it would have vindicated these leaders in the eyes of the Israelites. Chapter 3 brought Joshua forward to encourage him, and chapter 4 does the same to Zerubbabel. Tom Constable

***28 Zechariah 4** ¹ Then the angel who had been talking with me returned and woke me, as though I had been asleep. ² “What do you see now?” he asked. I answered, “I see a solid gold lampstand with a bowl of oil on top of it. **Around the bowl are seven lamps, each having seven spouts with wicks.** ³ And I see two olive trees, one on each side of the bowl.”

Lampstand originated in heaven as a spiritual picture of the Holy Spirit, copied in the tabernacle and temple and now seen in a vision by Zechariah. (Proverbs 8, 9) ***28a Revelation 4:5 (NASB95)** ⁵ Out from the throne come flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder. And *there were* seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God;

***29 Zechariah 4** ⁴ Then I asked the angel, “What are these, my Lord? What do they mean?” ⁵ “Don’t you know?” the angel asked. “No, my lord,” I replied. ⁶ Then he said to me, **“This is what YaHWeH says to Zerubbabel: It is not by force (power) nor by strength (might), but by My Spirit, says YaHWeH of Heaven’s Armies.**

It will not be by your cleverness, your ability, or your physical strength that the temple will be rebuilt, but by the Spirit of God.

***29a** Looking back to the vision earlier in the chapter, we see that 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*.** David Guzik

The work of God is not accomplished in human strength; it must be accomplished by God’s supernatural ability. What great work is God desiring to do in you and through you? Remember, it is only by His Spirit that anything good can be accomplished ... in your family, at your workplace, in whatever ministry God has called you to.

***30 Zechariah 4** ⁷ **Nothing, not even a mighty mountain, will stand in Zerubbabel’s way; it will become a level plain before him!** And when Zerubbabel sets the final stone of the Temple in place, the people will shout: ‘May God bless it! May God bless it!’ (lit. Grace, grace to it)”

This must have been very encouraging to Zerubbabel that God was going to finish the work through him that he called him to, and that it would be a work of GRACE. Seems like God hasn't changed His methods over the years!

***30a Ephesians 2:8–10 (NASB95)** ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

In this case, the **great mountain** may have literally been the mountainous pile of rubble at the temple site. That rubble would be removed and the work carried on. This is God assurance to Zerubbabel that not only will the work be finished, but *Zerubbabel – he* – shall finish it, setting the **capstone** and declaring that it was all a work of **grace**. David Guzik

***31 Zechariah 4** ⁸ Then another message came to me from YaHWeH: ⁹ **“Zerubbabel is the one who laid the foundation of this Temple, and he will complete it.** Then you will know that YaHWeH of Heaven’s Armies has sent me. [¹⁰ “For who has despised the day of small things? But these seven will be glad when they see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel—**these are the eyes of YaHWeH which range to and fro throughout the earth.**” (NASB95)]

***31a 2 Chronicles 16:9 (NLT)** The eyes of YaHWeH search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him...”

Psalms 34:15 (NLT) ¹⁵ The eyes of YaHWeH watch over those who do right; His ears are open to their cries for help. (1 Peter 3:12)

Note for Pastors: It was a long “**day**” for Zerubbabel, because the work of the temple laid in ruins for almost 20 years. He probably would say to God, “What do you mean ‘**day of small things**?’ I’ve lived with 20 years of **small things**.” Even so, God tells Zerubbabel to not despise the time of **small things**, and to consider it is all as just a **day**. **In many of God’s choice workers He uses a powerful season of small things. Those days are not a mistake nor are they punishment; they are days of priceless shaping and preparation. They are not days to despise.** Though the work was empowered by the Spirit of God, Zerubbabel still need his **plumb line**. He still needed to get to work. God could have given Zerubbabel a shortcut and instantly, miraculously finished the work. That’s isn’t God’s way of doing things, **because His work in the life of Zerubbabel was as important to Him as His work through Zerubbabel.** David Guzik

***32 Zechariah 4** ¹¹ Then I asked the angel, “What are these two olive trees on each side of the lampstand, ¹² and what are the two olive branches that pour out golden oil through two gold tubes?” ¹³ “Don’t you know?” he asked. “No, my lord,” I replied. ¹⁴ Then he said to me, **“They represent the two anointed ones (lit. *sons of oil*) who stand in the court of YaHWeH of all the earth.”**

The immediate context of course is Joshua and Zerubbabel who were anointed by God to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem, but the wording here was used by John in Revelation. God promised, in the last days that He would raise up two

more witnesses on earth, anointed ones, to preach the gospel from Jerusalem, to the world immediately before Jesus' return.

***32a Revelation 11:3–8 (NASB95)** ³ “And I will grant *authority* to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.” ⁴ **These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before YaHWeH of the earth.** ⁵ And if anyone wants to harm them, fire flows out of their mouth and devours their enemies; so if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this way. ⁶ These have the power to shut up the sky, so that rain will not fall during the days of their prophesying; and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood, and to strike the earth with every plague, as often as they desire. ⁷ When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them. ⁸ And their dead bodies *will lie* in the street of the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified.

***33 – Cover slide**