Godly Speech That Overcomes the Spirit of Accusation (Zech. 3)

I. WHY IS ZECHARIAH 3-4 THE MOST HIGHLIGHTED PROPHETIC WORD TO US?

A. Satan's great weapon against God's people is his *2-fold accusation* against them (Rev. 12:10) to convince them to accuse themselves and then to accuse one another. Only by overcoming this can God's people walk with confidence before God and in mature love as a spiritual family (Jn. 17:23).

¹⁰..."Now salvation...and the power of His Christ have come, for the <u>accuser of our brethren</u>, who accused them before our God <u>day and night</u>, has been cast down. (Rev. 12:10)

²³...that they may be made <u>perfect in one</u>, and that the <u>world may know</u>... (Jn. 17:23)

B. Zechariah saw Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the Lord (preincarnate Christ) who declared the divine narrative over Joshua who had failures and deficiencies in his leadership.

¹He showed me Joshua the high priest standing before Angel of the LORD, and <u>Satan</u> standing at his right hand to <u>oppose</u> [accuse]him...²The LORD said to Satan, "<u>The LORD rebuke you</u>... ³Joshua was clothed with <u>filthy garments</u>, and was standing before the Angel...⁴[who said], "<u>Take away the filthy garments</u> from him." And to him [Joshua] He said, "<u>See</u>, I have <u>removed</u> <u>your iniquity</u>...and I will clothe you with <u>rich robes</u>." (Zech. 3:1-4)

C. David had no outstanding accomplishments when chosen by God—he was merely tending sheep. The divine narrative is based on the profound reality that the Lord does not see as man sees.

⁷For the <u>LORD does not see as man sees;</u> for man looks at [focuses on] the <u>outward appearance</u>, but <u>the LORD looks at the heart</u>. (1 Sam. 16:7)

¹⁴The LORD has sought for Himself <u>a man after His own heart</u>... (1 Sam. 13:14)

- D. Secular narrative: Outward appearance includes facts about 5-10 of one's main accomplishments, 5-10 of their *failures*, and 5-10 of their *deficiencies* (in their personality or leadership skills). These facts do matter but are not the primary determining factors in God's narrative of people.
- E. *Divine narrative*: He looks at His *sovereign call* on them, their *sincere motives* (seen in their countless 10-second thoughts or conversations with God that reveal their intention to obey), and "the Lord's unique interpretation" of their *main accomplishments, failures,* and *deficiencies*.
- F. The "God narrative" of our life is a view of our life through the lens of His marvelous kindness and in His big-picture storyline for us. The "accusation narrative" is a view of our life through the lens of our deficiencies and failures—it is focused on our failures, deficiencies, and what we lack.
- G. We seek to engage in "right conversations"—ones that promotes God's narrative in people's lives.

²²"...<u>He testified</u>..., 'I have found David...a man after My heart, <u>who will do all My will</u>'...
³⁶David, after he had served <u>the purpose of God</u> in his own generation..." (Acts 13:22, 36; NAS)

H. I encourage us to pray, "Let me see what You see, and feel what You feel, and say what You say, when You look at Your people (Zech. 3) so that we may walk in the fullness of Your purposes."

II. GOD'S GLORY IN THE END-TIME CHURCH (MT. 5:44 UNTO JN. 17:23)

A. The Lord is leading His people into a John 17:23 family transformation that occurs only as His people walk in Matthew 5:44. Jesus was not addressing those who harm people physically.

⁴⁴"...<u>bless</u> those who curse you, <u>do good</u> to those who hate you, and <u>pray</u> for those...⁴⁵that you may be <u>sons of your Father</u>...He makes His sun rise on <u>the evil</u> and on the good... (Mt. 5:44-45)

¹⁹..."Vengeance is Mine"...²⁰If your enemy is hungry, feed him...in so doing <u>you will heap coals</u> <u>of fire on his head</u>. ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, <u>but overcome evil with good</u>. (Rom. 12:19-21)

B. See Link to Mike's message Mature Love: Embracing God's Narrative When Mistreated (Sept. 13, 2020): https://mikebickle.org/resource/mature-love-embracing-gods-narrative-when-mistreated

III. MY JOURNEY IN THE SEMINARY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT'S LEADERSHIP TRAINING

A. My journey in this "seminary" began in my first Holy Spirit encounter as a pastor (Dec. 19, 1976), when the Lord told me that in the future many would oppose me, but my "greatness" would be related to receiving God's gentleness and responding to my adversaries in gentleness (Ps. 18:35).

³⁵...Your right hand has held me up. <u>Your gentleness has made me great</u>. (Ps. 18:35)

B. In July 1988, God spoke audibly of releasing grace for His people to walk in Song 8:6 (and 4:9).

IV. THE BLACK HORSE (SEPT. 1984): UNDERSTANDING THE LORD'S LEADERSHIP

- A. In September 1984, the Lord showed me of coming demonic attacks (symbolized as a black horse). In a visionary experience, a powerful demon appeared as a large "black horse" that struck me on my right knee. Michael said that when "I go to the east," I would be attacked with demonic rage. In January 1990, a few pastors made false accusations against me that were widely circulated.
- B. See Link to Mike's message **The Black Horse**: **Zech**. **3 unto Isaiah**. **19 & John 17** (Aug. 30, 2020): https://mikebickle.org/resource/the-black-horse-zechariah-3-4-unto-isaiah-19-and-john-17
- C. See Link to Mike's message **The Blueprint Prophecy and the Black Horse** (Sept. 14, 2019): https://mikebickle.org/resource/the-blueprint-prophecy-and-the-black-horse/
- D. In December 2010, I had a prophetic dream of the black horse striking us again. I understood that this would happen "when I went to the east" (since this is what Michael said in September 1984). In March 2011, I went to South Korea; it was followed by accusations (Nov. 2012 to June 2015).

E. On July 30, 2020, an estimated 1 million participated in a global zoom call focused on Isaiah 19. This is the first time that such number paid attention to Isaiah 19 (I see this passage as the ultimate expression of "going to the east"). Isaiah 19:24 describes the greatest social miracle in history in the unity of the redeemed—in Israel, Egypt, and Assyria (10+ nations)—walking in John 17:23.

²⁴In that day Israel will be <u>one of three</u> with Egypt and Assyria—<u>a blessing in the midst of the</u> <u>land [to earth]</u>, ²⁵whom the LORD of hosts shall bless..." (Isa. 19:24-25)