
LESSON 4

You are empowered to complete the mission (Zech 4)

If you recall the introductory sermon on the book of Zechariah, the apex of the chiastic pattern of eight visions was the 4th & 5th visions which were the visions of the High Priest in Zechariah 3 and the vision of the Lampstand and Olive Trees in Zechariah 4. The apex of the chiastic pattern indicates that these visions are the main message of the 8 visions.

Last week, we looked at Joshua the High Priest, who represents the priesthood, being purified by the Lord. He was being prepared as a holy priesthood. This week, we see the most powerful 5th vision assuring the Israelites and us that the mission will succeed and how the mission will be accomplished.

UNDERSTANDING

1. The golden lampstand which is called the menorah is made of solid gold with seven branches (see Ex 25:31-33). It was placed in the tabernacle and later the temple. The high priest had charge over keeping the lights burning. Read Rev 1:20. What does the gold lampstand symbolize?
2. The golden lampstand that Zechariah saw was slightly different. It had a bowl on top of it (Zech 4:2) and two olive trees besides it. What does the angel say the meaning of the vision was? (Zech 4:6-7)
3. Haggai 1:1 tells us that Zerubbabel was the governor of Judah. He was about to be used by God to accomplish something, not by might nor by power, but by God's Spirit. What task was he about to accomplish? (Zech 4:7-9)
4. Verse 12 describes the two olive branches beside the two gold pipes that supply golden oil to the lampstand. What does this symbolize? (v14)

5. Looking back at Zech 3 & 4, the apex of the 8 visions, and referring back to Haggai 1:1, who could the two anointed ones be?

REFLECTING

6. Zech 4:6 is probably the key verse of the whole chapter. What is the meaning of "not by might, nor by power"?
7. Refer back to your answer in question 3, how is Zerubbabel going to accomplish what God wants him to do?
8. Leveling the mountain, bringing forth the capstone and laying the foundation of the temple were the physical work that Zerubbabel did to rebuild the temple. The physical temple points to the temple of the Holy Spirit, which is the body of Christ. The lampstand is also the symbol of the church to come. Discuss your observation how the vision of the lampstand and the two olive branches, is one and the same thing, as Zerubbabel is to rebuild the temple by the anointing of Spirit of God, not by his brawn nor his brain.

APPLYING

9. The two anointed ones – Joshua the high priest, and Zerubbabel the governor, may have had different functions, but both have a role in rebuilding of the temple. What could this mean for us as a church as we fill His house?
10. How should we avail ourselves to God if we want to see His purpose for us accomplished His way?

LOOKING FORWARD

God himself is on the move. As we move to the next two visions, we will see what God was about to do Himself to prepare Israel and the nation for His coming.