

# The High Priest Covered in Filth

## Zechariah Lesson 3

- I. The Vision of the Riders among the Myrtle Trees 1:7-17
- II. The Vision of the Four Horns and the Four Workers 1:18-21
- III. The Vision of the Man with a Measuring Line 2:1-13
  - A. The Vision Itself 1-5

### **B. The Promise of the Vision 6-13**

- 1. v. 6-7 – The promise of a return to Israel for a remnant
- 2. 8-9 – God’s judgment on those who harm His people.
- 3. v. 10-12 – The promise transcends earthly Israel.
- 4. v. 13 – Compare with Habakkuk 2:20

## **IV. The Vision of the High Priest (Joshua) Covered in Filth 3:1-10**

**Intro:** 3 Important Principles to bear in mind as we read this prophecy.

- 1. Zechariah was a contemporary preacher. He preached in his day to a people that needed his message. The rebuilding of the temple/city was vital for this people to hear.
- 2. Almost every prophecy in the book has a message that speaks beyond their own time and has a message that extends to the time of Messiah and the gospel age.
- 3. All prophecies have applications that are made to us in one way or another in this gospel age. ALL SCRIPTURE is given by inspiration of God.

### **A. The Vision Itself 3:1-5**

#### 1. The Characters

**Joshua** – the High Priest at that time.  
**The Angel of the LORD**  
**Satan**

#### 2. The Intervention of The LORD

- a. The **LORD** rebuke you, Satan
- b. The **LORD** has chosen Jerusalem
- c. Joshua is a brand, plucked from the burning
- d. His filthy garments are removed
- e. A clean turban was placed on his head

#### 3. The Interpretation of the Vision

## **B. The Admonition and Promise to Joshua 3:6-10**

1. A conditional promise to Joshua v. 6-8a

2. The BRANCH v. 8b

This is a Messianic promise.

Joshua was the symbol of the restored priesthood.

Messiah was usually associated with being a KING – but here we find THE BRANCH associated with the Priesthood.

**Jeremiah 23:5-6; 33:15-17**

3. The symbolism of the stone and eyes v. 9a

### **a. The Stone**

We can assume in the vision, that it is a large stone – not a gem – because it is “laid before” or “set before” Joshua.

It is probably a FINISHING STONE or CAPSTONE.

This would encourage the Jews that the building would be finished.

### **b. The Seven Eyes**

Symbolic of the omniscience and omnipresence of God.

This symbolism is used often in the Book of Revelation.

Zechariah uses it again in 4:10.

4. Remove their iniquity in one day v. 9b

They would be thinking of “The Day of Atonement”.

There was a greater day to come – Zechariah himself talks about it **12:10; 13:1**

5. Peace and Prosperity v. 10

The vision ends with a promise.

When all this comes to pass – God’s Kingdom will be settled, with THE BRANCH as its everlasting ruler.

We live in that reality today.

One day – the entire universe will live in that reality.