## Hidden Hills Sovereign Grace Baptist Church Sunday Sermon

Date: November 3, 2019

Text: Zechariah 6:1-15

Scripture Reading: Zechariah 6:1-8

**Subject:** Zechariah Series, Chapter 6, (10<sup>th</sup> Vision) The Four Chariots and the Crowning of Joshua, the High Priest.

In our last message from Zechariah before the sickness break, we studied the 5th chapter which related the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9th visions of Zechariah. In that 8th vision Zechariah saw a flying roll which we understood to the ten commandments written on the one side and on the other – a curse over all the earth. On Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, it was our privilege to present a summary of the first five chapters of Zechariah as a refresher for all of us. We trust that was a help and blessing to all.

Now, we come to the  $6^{th}$  chapter of this marvelous prophetic book. In this  $6^{th}$  chapter, we find the  $10^{th}$  and final vision of Zechariah recorded in the which Zechariah sees four chariots with horses in each of them.

Zechariah 6:1 (KJV) And I turned, and lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came four chariots out from between two mountains; and the mountains were mountains of brass.

Zechariah turned, lifted up his eyes, looked, and beheld four chariots out from between two mountains of brass. Let's consider a few things we find in this first verse.

- There were **four** chariots: The number four stands for the first creation in scripture – doubtless here, this present earth, not the new earth.
- 2. <u>There were **two** mountains of **brass**</u>. Two is the Bible number for division. Does not this speak of the day when the

kingdom is divided when it is part of iron and part of miry clay? When it cannot cleave one to another? Moreover, brass is used in scripture to represent judgment. In connection with this, we recall our study of the OT Tabernacle in the Wilderness. The two curtains of goat's hair was coupled with 50 taches of brass. The goat's hair and brass pointed to judgment. Under the door of hanging for the tabernacle, the pillars stood in sockets of brass. The horns on the brazen altar of burnt offering were overlaid with brass which spoke of judgment. Therefore, judgment is associated with the four chariots and horses and the two mountains of brass.

- 3. **Chariots** and horses are mentioned of the LORD's use in judgment. Notice how these passages speak of horses and chariots in judgment.
  - a. **Jeremiah 46:9-10 (KJV)** Come up, ye **horses**; and rage, ye **chariots**; and let the mighty men come forth; the Ethiopians and the Libyans, that handle the shield; and the Lydians, that handle and bend the bow. **10** For this is the day of the Lord GOD of hosts, a day of vengeance, that he may avenge him of his adversaries: and the sword shall devour, and it shall be satiate and made drunk with their blood: for the Lord GOD of hosts hath a sacrifice in the north country by the river Euphrates.
  - b. Joel 2:1-11 (KJV) Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand; 2 A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither

- shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations. **3** A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them. 4 The appearance of them is as the appearance of **horses**; and as horsemen, so shall they run. 5 Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array. 6 Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness. 7 They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks: 8 Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded. 9 They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. 10 The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining: 11 And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?
- C. [This prophecy speaks of the demise of Nineveh] Nahum
  3:1-7 (KJV) Woe to the bloody city! it is all full of lies
  and robbery; the prey departeth not; 2 The noise of a
  whip, and the noise of the rattling of the wheels, and of
  the pransing horses, and of the jumping chariots. 3
  The horseman lifteth up both the bright sword and the

glittering spear: and there is a multitude of slain, and a great number of carcases; and there is none end of their corpses; they stumble upon their corpses: **4**Because of the multitude of the whoredoms of the wellfavoured harlot, the mistress of witchcrafts, that selleth nations through her whoredoms, and families through her witchcrafts. **5** Behold, I am against thee, saith the LORD of hosts; and I will discover thy skirts upon thy face, and I will shew the nations thy nakedness, and the kingdoms thy shame. **6** And I will cast abominable filth upon thee, and make thee vile, and will set thee as a gazingstock. **7** And it shall come to pass, that all they that look upon thee shall flee from thee, and say, Nineveh is laid waste: who will bemoan her? whence shall I seek comforters for thee?

Zechariah 6:2-3 (KJV) In the first chariot were red horses; and in the second chariot black horses; 3 And in the third chariot white horses; and in the fourth chariot grisled and bay horses.

The vision continues. Zechariah saw red horses in the first chariot; black horses in the second; white horses in the third; and grizzled and bay horses in the fourth. The four horsemen of the Revelation come to mind:

Revelation 6:1-8 (KJV) And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. 2 And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer. 3 And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. 4 And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the

earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword. **5** And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and **Io a black horse**; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. **6** And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine. **7** And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. **8** And I looked, and behold a **pale horse**: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.

It is certain these four horses of Revelation chapter 6 speak of God's judgment on the earth.

## Zechariah 6:4 (KJV) Then I answered and said unto the angel that talked with me, What are these, my lord?

As in previous visions, Zechariah did not know what these horses and chariots were. So he asked: "What are these, my lord?"

## Zechariah 6:5 (KJV) And the angel answered and said unto me, These are the four spirits of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the Lord of all the earth.

And the angel answered and said unto me, These are the four spirits of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the LORD of all the earth. – The Four Spirits of the heavens? Spirits of the heavens? Angels are said to be ministering spirits. Are not these angels who stand before the LORD of all the earth?

**Luke 1:19 (KJV)** And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings.

Page | 6

**Hebrews 1:13-14 (KJV)** But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool? **14** Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

God uses great and mighty angels to judge the earth during the time of great trouble called the tribulation period. I have no doubt that these chariots and their horses were used to judge the enemies of Israel who had vexed them when Jerusalem was in the siege. You will remember that we studied of the destruction of the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Edomites, the Philistines, Tyre, Zidon, and Egypt in chapters 25 through 32 of Ezekiel. These people were judged almost immediately after Judah had been carried away captive to Babylon. When chariots and horses are spoken of metaphorically (as these are) they stand for the power of God earthward in judgment. Notice that concerning judgment four are mentioned specifically:

**Revelation 7:1-3 (KJV)** And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. **2** And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, **3** Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.

**Revelation 9:13-15 (KJV)** And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar

which is before God, **14** Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the **four angels** which are bound in the great river Euphrates. **15** And the **four angels** were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men.

Page | 7

Zechariah 6:6-7 (KJV) The black horses which are therein go forth into the north country; and the white go forth after them; and the grisled go forth toward the south country. 7 And the bay went forth, and sought to go that they might walk to and fro through the earth: and he said, Get you hence, walk to and fro through the earth. So they walked to and fro through the earth.

From these two verses, we can see the four horses are sent to the various regions of the earth – North, south, and to go to and fro.

Zechariah 6:8 (KJV) Then cried he upon me, and spake unto me, saying, Behold, these that go toward the north country have quieted my spirit in the north country.

Babylon – to the North. These angels for wrath were with God, standing before Him, the Lord of all the earth, but now at His command they descend to scatter death and destruction. They go forth in sets, and the north country and south country both so prominent in the prophetic word are mentioned. The bay horses, however, are not confined to one direction, they go through the entire earth. At last in the judgment of the land of the north the spirit is caused to rest. The overthrow of the enemies of Israel is complete and the spirit is quieted. This is certainly true of the remnant's return to the land. The night visions of Zechariah have ended. Daniel, Zechariah, and Revelation ought to be studied together for a wonderful harmony and explanation of each other.

Zechariah 6:9-10 (KJV) And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, 10 Take of them of the captivity, even of Heldai, of

Tobijah, and of Jedaiah, which are come from Babylon, and come thou the same day, and go into the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah;

Take them of the captivity, even of Heldai, of Tobijah, and of Page | 8 **Jedaiah, which are come from Babylon, --** These men had been captives in Babylon as Zechariah had been. It seems clear from the book of Nehemiah that Jedaiah was a priest. Perhaps the other two are as well.

And come thou the same day, and go into the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah: -- Zechariah was to accompany or meet these three men in the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah. The purpose of this meeting together is explained in the following verses.

Zechariah 6:11 (KJV) Then take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set them upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest;

Take the silver and gold, and make crowns, and set them upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest: -- We are not told about the source of the silver and gold either it was in the house of Josiah, or these men took it there. They were told to make crowns (plural, not crown singular) and set those crowns upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest.

The command to make crowns carried out and Cheldai, Tobiah, and Jedaiah took the silver and gold, made crowns out of it and placed these crowns upon the head of Joshua the high-priest. This action had a much deeper meaning. It was a highly typical. It must have astonished Joshua and the people to hear such a command, for the royal crown did not belong to a high-priest but to a king who was a descendant of David. These next verses will bear this out.

Zechariah 6:12 (KJV) And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD:

Page | 9

Here is the word of the LORD of hosts concerning this. **Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH:** We ask, "Who is the man whose name is the BRANCH? Let us look at scripture.

**Isaiah 4:1-6 (KJV)** And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach. **2** In that day shall **the branch** of the LORD be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel. 3 And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem: 4 When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning. **5** And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory shall be a defence. 6 And there shall be a tabernacle for a shadow in the daytime from the heat, and for a place of refuge, and for a covert from storm and from rain.

The BRANCH is a name of Christ, which is used in a fourfold way:

- (1) "The Branch of Jehovah" (<u>Isa 4:2</u>), that is, the "Immanuel" character of Christ <u>Isa 7:14</u> to be fully manifested to restored and converted Israel after His return in divine glory <u>Mt 25:31</u>.
- Page | 10
- (2) the "Branch of David" <u>Isa 11:1</u>; <u>Jer 23:5</u>; <u>33:15</u> that is, the Messiah, "of the seed of David according to the flesh" <u>Ro 1:3</u> revealed in His earthly glory as King of kings, and Lord of lords;
- (3) Jehovah's "Servant, the Branch" Zec 3:8 Messiah's humiliation and obedience unto death according to Isa 52:13-15; 53; Php 2:5-8.
- (4) the "man whose name is the Branch" Zec 6:12-13 that is His character as Son of man, the "last Adam," the "second Man" 1Co 15:45-47 reigning, as Priest-King, over the earth in the dominion given to him which had been lost by the first Adam.

Jeremiah 33:14-16 (KJV) Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised unto the house of Israel and to the house of Judah.

15 In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land. 16 In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness.

**Zechariah 3:8-10 (KJV)** Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth **my servant the BRANCH**. **9** For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone shall be seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day. **10** In that

day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall ye call every man his neighbour under the vine and under the fig tree.

We see by these passages that the Branch speaks of the son of David, the Lord Jesus Christ. He shall build the temple of the LORD.

Page | 11

and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD: -- Joshua hears it from the Word of the Lord that he, as the high priest, is typical of another who will come. "Behold the man whose name is the Branch." It is this man the Branch who will be a priest upon the throne. This, of course, is our Lord Jesus Christ. The name of the high-priest Joshua is in itself very significant, for the meaning of "Joshua" is, God is salvation or Saviour. Pontius Pilate was fulfilling prophecy when he stood there having led out Jesus of Nazareth before that tumultuous multitude, and when he said "Behold the man." If the assembled Jews had known the Scriptures, they would have recognized the words. But how did He then come forth? He wore a crown of thorns upon His meek and loving brow, and the people gazed into the blood-stained face of the Lamb of God now ready to be placed upon the altar and slain. But once again it will sound forth, "Behold the man," for when He appears it will be after He has gathered His saints, and then He will come as the Son of Man in the heavens, and the sign of the Son of Man will be seen there. He will be crowned again, too, but not with the crown of suffering and shame, but with <u>crowns</u> of glory. Thus He is seen in Re 19:12 as wearing many crowns.

He comes to build the temple of Jehovah, At this present time, He is building up a spiritual temple, which is composed of living stones (**Eph 2:21**; **1Pe 2:5**). But when He comes again He will build another temple. At that time, He shall sit on His own throne (the throne of His father, David). The King of Kings and the Lord of

Lords shall have then taken possession of His inheritance. The times of overturning are over and He whose right it is has come.

Zechariah 6:13 (KJV) Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.

Page | 12

Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; -- He, the BRANCH, shall build the temple of the LORD. This cannot speak of the temple which was built by the returning remnant after the Babylonian captivity – but it speaks of Jesus Christ who shall build the temple of the LORD for the 1000-years-reign on the earth.

And he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; -- The BRANCH, which is Christ, shall bear the glory of all because he is worthy of all glory. He shall sit and rule upon the throne of his glory, which is the throne of his father, David.

And he shall be a priest upon his throne: -- This is difficult for me – yet, we all know the scripture teaches that our Lord Jesus Christ was called to be a "priest forever after the order of Melchesidec." There is more to this than I have been able to see thus far. I take it to mean exactly what it says.

## And the counsel of peace shall be between them both. -

Them both appears to be his role as king and priest. It is interesting that he has washed his saints from their sins with his own blood and has made them unto their God both kings and priests and they shall reign on the earth. Note that: He has made us both KINGS AND PRIESTS.

**Revelation 1:5-6 (KJV)** And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, **6** And hath made

us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Zechariah 6:14 (KJV) And the crowns shall be to Helem, and to Tobijah, and to Jedaiah, and to Hen the son of Zephaniah, for a memorial in the temple of the LORD.

Page | 13

This verse returns to the scene of the returning remnant and the crowns which were prepared for the head of the high priest, Joshua. I think the best commentary on this verse is done by John Gill. I quote him here: (Please note that Brother Gill quoted some of the Hebrew commentators in his own remarks.)

"the crowns, after they had been put upon the head of Joshua, were taken off, and laid up in some part of the temple, of which the Jews make mention in their Misna<sup>1</sup>; and say there were golden chains fixed to the beams of the porch (of the temple), by which the young priests went up, and saw the crowns; as it is said, Zec 6:14 "and the crowns shall be to Helem", etc.; these were laid up for a memorial of the liberality and generosity of those men, as Jarchi interprets it; who had so freely and largely offered towards the building of the temple; or rather, as Alshec<sup>2</sup>, another Jewish commentator, observes, they were for a memorial of something future, even of the Messiah, who was typified by Joshua; when he had those crowns upon him; for those crowns respected the glory of Christ's government in future times; and being made both of silver and gold, and put upon the head of the high priest Joshua, denoted the union of the kingly and priestly offices in the Messiah." (John Gill on Zech. 6:13)

Zechariah 6:15 (KJV) And they that are far off shall come and build in the temple of the LORD, and ye shall know that the LORD

of hosts hath sent me unto you. And this shall come to pass, if ye will diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God.

Page | 14

And they that are far off shall come and build in the temple of the LORD, and ye shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you. — Some understand "they that are far off" as the Jews that were now afar off in Babylon, that stayed behind in captivity, to the great discouragement of their brethren that had returned, who wanted their help in building the temple. Now God promises that many of them, and some of other nations too, proselyted to the Jewish religion, should come in, and lend a helping hand to the building of the temple, and many hands would make light work. The kings of Persia contributed to the building of the temple (Ezr 6:8) and the furnishing of it, Ezr 7:19-20. And, in after-times, Herod the Great, and others that were strangers, helped to beautify and enrich the temple.

Speaking of the future temple in a secondary application, this undoubtedly speaks of the nations that will be joined to Israel, those left from the nations that came against Jerusalem at Armageddon, who will build *in*, (not build) the temple of the LORD.

and ye shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you. – I take that to mean by the LORD sending gifts and help in building the temple in Jerusalem after the return of the exiles. This would serve to encourage them to know the LORD of hosts had sent Zechariah to prophesy unto them.

And this shall come to pass, if ye will diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God. – In days past, they had been chastened severely for seventy long years because of their lack of diligence in the things of the LORD. They profaned His sabbaths; they served idols; and they did wickedly, therefore they were

chastened. This is their call to diligence and obedience of the LORD.

Page | 15

How about you who hear me today? Will you obey the voice of the LORD your God to repent and believe the gospel? To obey the gospel? Obedience is demanded of the hearers in that they have a drastic change of mind (repentance) about their sin before a Holy and Just God; in that they will know that if they do not repent and believe that Jesus is the Christ, they will die in their sins. Sinners, in order to experience salvation, must believe something. Believe what? That Jesus Christ of Nazareth is the only begotten son of the Living God and that he died for the sins of his people – that he was buried and that he rose from the dead after three days and three nights. He is the way – the only way to the Father, for no man comes to the father but by him. Confess him:

Romans 10:9-10 (KJV) That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

**Matthew 10:32 (KJV)** Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

**Philippians 2:9-11 (KJV)** Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: **10** That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; **11** And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Mark 16:16 (KJV) He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

**2 Thessalonians 1:7-8 (KJV)** And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, **8** In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and **that obey not the gospel** of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Page | 16

Listen! The Lord GOD loved "his people" with an everlasting love and sent his only begotten Son to die in the place and stead of "his people" and wash them from their sins in His own blood. Do you believe that Jesus Christ, the only begotten son of the living God, died for you?