

November 7, 2010
"Oh What a Night (of visions)"
Zechariah 6:1-8 (Zechariah 1:7-6:8)

In 520 BC God's people were rebuilding the Temple, rebuilding Jerusalem. It was discouraging work because what they were doing seemed "NOTHING" compared to what Solomon had accomplished before. Yet, in 520 BC God gives in one night all these VISIONS to His people, through the Prophet Zechariah of the Temple and Jerusalem God would build which they (though their own part seemed small) had an important part in ---

I. Compare the first and last (eighth) visions of this night:

- *In the first vision there are HORSES / scouts, spies*

I saw by night, and behold, a man riding on a red horse, and it stood among the myrtle trees in the hollow; and behind him were horses: red, sorrel, and white. (Zechariah 1:8 NKJ)

- *They were on a mission from the LORD*

And the man who stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, "These are the ones whom the LORD has sent to walk to and fro throughout the earth." (Zechariah 1:10 NKJ)

- *In the last vision we have CHARIOTS / heavy cavalry, they are not there to report, but to CRUSH the enemy, they finish the work the horses in the first vision had just begun!*

Then I turned and raised my eyes and looked, and behold, four chariots were coming from between two mountains, and the mountains were mountains of bronze.² With the first chariot were red horses, with the second chariot black horses,³ with the third chariot white horses, and with the fourth chariot dappled horses-- strong steeds.⁴ Then I answered and said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these, my lord?" (Zechariah 6:1-4 NKJ)

being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ; (Philippians 1:6 NKJ)

- *In 520 BC the poor godly people of Judah were surrounded by the dominance of Persia, they still would see the dominance of Greece and later Rome, yet Christ would come –*

Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.¹² His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.¹³ He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.¹⁴ And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.¹⁵ Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.¹⁶ And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. (Revelation 19:11-16 NKJ)

II. Note the second vision shows us the basic difference between earth's ungodly kingdoms and the Kingdom (or church) of God –

- *They are called "horns" beasts, rams, animals –*

Then I raised my eyes and looked, and there were four horns.¹⁹ And I said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these?" So he answered me, "These are the horns that have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem." (Zechariah 1:18-19 NKJ)

- *God's people are "craftsmen" skilled, thoughtful –*

Then the LORD showed me four craftsmen.²¹ And I said, "What are these coming to do?" So he said, "These are the horns that scattered Judah, so that no one could lift up his head; but the craftsmen are coming to terrify them, to cast out the horns of the nations that lifted up their horn against the land of Judah to scatter it." (Zechariah 1:20-21 NKJ)

"Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and I founded empires. But on what did we rest the creations of our genius? Upon force. Jesus Christ founded His empire upon love; and at this hour millions of people would die for Him."

III. Note, the third vision shows the immeasurable extent of Jerusalem, even including Gentiles –

who said to him, "Run, speak to this young man, saying: `Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls, because of the multitude of men and livestock in it. (Zechariah 2:4 NKJ)

"Many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and they shall become My people. And I will dwell in your midst. Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you. (Zechariah 2:11 NKJ)

Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,²⁰ having

been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*,²¹ in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,²² in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. (Ephesians 2:19-22 NKJ)

IV. Note Christ is clearly pictured in the fourth vision, as PERFECT High Priest, as the Servant, the BRANCH and Stone –

‘Hear, O Joshua, the high priest, You and your companions who sit before you, For they are a wondrous sign; For behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the BRANCH.⁹ For behold, the stone That I have laid before Joshua: Upon the stone *are* seven eyes. Behold, I will engrave its inscription,’ Says the LORD of hosts, ‘And I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day. (Zechariah 3:8-9 NKJ)

1. Joshua is given new robes, as we are clothed in the righteousness of Christ – Zechariah 3:1-4

Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him.² And the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! *Is* this not a brand plucked from the fire?"³ Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and was standing before the Angel.⁴ Then He answered and spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, "Take away the filthy garments from him." And to him He said, "See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes." (Zechariah 3:1-4 NKJ)

2. Christ is both the builder and Chief Cornerstone of the Church / Temple –

Coming to Him *as to* a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God *and* precious,⁵ you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.⁶ Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, "Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame." (1 Peter 2:4-6 NKJ)

V. Note, according to the fifth vision the church / Temple of God is not built by earthly might but by God’s spirit –

So he answered and said to me: "This *is* the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ Says the LORD of hosts.⁷ ‘Who *are* you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel *you shall become* a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone With

shouts of "Grace, grace to it!"' (Zechariah 4:6-7 NKJ)

For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.³ I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling.⁴ And my speech and my preaching *were* not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,⁵ that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. (1 Corinthians 2:2-5 NKJ)

VI. According to the sixth and seventh visions, those who are not covered by Christ’s blood are judged by God’s Word, (the flying scroll) and separated from God’s people and gracious presence (the woman in the basket) –

And he said to me, "What do you see?" So I answered, "I see a flying scroll. Its length *is* twenty cubits and its width ten cubits."³ Then he said to me, "This *is* the curse that goes out over the face of the whole earth: ‘Every thief shall be expelled,’ according *to* this side of *the scroll*; and, ‘Every perjurer shall be expelled,’ according *to* that side of it."⁴ "I will send out *the curse*," says the LORD of hosts; "It shall enter the house of the thief And the house of the one who swears falsely by My name. It shall remain in the midst of his house And consume it, with its timber and stones." (Zechariah 5:2-4 NKJ)

"Here *is* a lead disc lifted up, and this *is* a woman sitting inside the basket";⁸ then he said, "This *is* Wickedness!" And he thrust her down into the basket, and threw the lead cover over its mouth.⁹ Then I raised my eyes and looked, and there *were* two women, coming with the wind in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork, and they lifted up the basket between earth and heaven.¹⁰ So I said to the angel who talked with me, "Where are they carrying the basket?"¹¹ And he said to me, "To build a house for it in the land of Shinar; when it is ready, *the basket* will be set there on its base." (Zechariah 5:7-11 NKJ)

VII. As I already said the eight vision represents the defeat of the kingdoms of this world ... meaning also the VICTORY of Christ, peak ahead ...

"Then speak to him, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying: ‘Behold, the Man whose name *is* the BRANCH! From His place He shall branch out, And He shall build the temple of the LORD;’¹³ Yes, He shall build the temple of the LORD. He shall bear the glory, And shall sit and rule on His throne; So He shall be a priest on His throne, And the counsel of peace shall be between them both.” (Zechariah 6:12-13 NKJ)