Zechariah 05 –Millennial Jerusalem Declared Holy

Zechariah – 2:1-13
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A Man Measuring, What?

- The English shows a man using a rope to measure the borders of Jerusalem
- However, the Hebrew conveys something quite different, less silly; Christ claiming His inheritance in all the earth–Jerusalem

The Man Who Measures

- Measuring Line (חֶבֶל מִדָּה) – These terms actually convey the idea of a man who is sent to inspect or confirm his inheritance rather than simply an angel taking a measurement as instructed {first vision} (Zc 1:16-17)
- This *man* most likely is Christ {Son of *Man*} Who will set His name in Jerusalem when the Temple is rebuilt and again in the Millennial Kingdom when He returns (Ez 37:26-28; 40:1-4; Da 7:13-14)

Third Vision Reinforces First Vision

- Christ clearly states He will return to His people both now, and at some future restoration (Ze 1:16-17)
  - First vision has Christ again choosing Jerusalem as His HQ; i.e., the Temple which is why they need to build it
  - This vision reinforces the first but also looks ahead to a future return that remains distant to us today – Called His Second Advent or Return (Mt 24:29-30)

Judah Warned Twice

- God warned Jews to obey His Law to remain in Judah
  - Israel permanently taken captive for idolatry (2Ki 17)
  - Judah carried to Babylon until the land had its Sabbaths (Le 26:11-20; 2Ki 24:14-16; 2Ch 36:21; Je 25:11)
  - Judah returned to the land conditionally *if* Jews obey His Law; if they refuse, Jews will again go into captivity for a very long time – until He calls them forth again (Ze 2:6)

The Two Angels

- There is the angel with Zechariah who interprets his visions; i.e., explain them to him, and to us if…
- Christ does not speak directly to Zechariah but uses this angel who is instructed what to say {he does not know either until he is given instructions}
- This division, since Exodus, remains until He comes to provide Himself as the sacrifice for sin (Gr thus Mt-Je)

Jerusalem Without Walls

- The future Jerusalem mirrors Zechariah's Jerusalem; no walls for protection
  - Without walls Jerusalem is militarily defenseless
  - Yet, Jerusalem will build defensive walls (Ne 6:15-16)
- Future Jerusalem will have no walls – Which Jerusalem

Which Jerusalem?

- Salem, pre-Jerusalem had walls (Melchisedec) (Ge 14:18) (http://www.israel-a-history-of.com/ancientjerusalem.html)
- David conquered Jerusalem, which had walls (2Sa 5:6-10)
- Babylon conquered Jerusalem, which had walls (2Ki 25)
- Rome conquered Jerusalem, which had walls (70 A.D. Josephus)
- Eternity future Jerusalem, will have walls (Re 21:9-14)

Millennial Kingdom Jerusalem

- The only time Jerusalem will not have walls is during Millennial Kingdom Dispensation (1,000 year reign)
  - All mountains will be leveled except Mount Zion (Re 6:12-16; 16:19-21)
  - Christ returns to set up His kingdom (Re 19:11-21)
  - All nations come annually to Jerusalem celebrating the Festival of Booths (Ze 14:16-19)
  - They shall travel safely on the broad way to Jerusalem (Is 35)

Jerusalem: *Pupil of God's Eye*

- Christ will judge all nations with a rod of Iron {Law} (Je 23:3-8; Re 19:15)
  - True believers will keep the Law remaining faithful (Ex 19:5-6)
  - Those born during this period will be lost but having the direct witness of Christ, can be saved (Is 65:19-25)
  - Satan will be bound for almost the entire period (Re 20:1-3)
  - When he is released he will again lead nations against Christ to besiege Jerusalem, God's people (Re 20:7-10)

Christ Defends Jerusalem

- Satan will bring the vast majority of people against Jerusalem in the latter period of the Millennial Kingdom
  - Christ will defend Jerusalem with fire (Re 20:7-10)
  - This is truth, not hyperbole {End of this creation}
- Satan's reign and man's sinfulness are ended and God judges; eternity future is inaugurated (Re 20:1-21:4)

Hint of Coming Trouble

- Christ says He will call His people out of the northern lands, and Babylon (Je 23:3-8)
  - This *future* view shows Jews again scattered but this time throughout the world {four winds} (Is 48:17-19; Re 11:25-36)
  - He will gather them to Zion for their safety (Is 48:20-22)
  - Christ will plunder the nations that plundered Judah
  - Reminiscent of when Hebrews left Egypt (Ex 12:35-36)

Nations Will Join to Israel

- Many nations allowed in the Millennial Kingdom and will come to Jerusalem to worship Christ (Mt 25:31-46; Zp 3:14-20)
  - Those who survive Christ's return shall be called holy (Is 4:2-4)
  - Christ announces His presence in Jerusalem with a pillar of cloud by day and fire by night (Ex 13:21-22; Is 4:5)
  - Nations will come to learn of Christ, guided by God's people as they were supposed to do in the OT (Zc 8:21-23)

Christ Redeems His Portion

- The vision ends with Christ announcing He will redeem Judah as His portion of His inheritance (Hos 2:14-23)
  - These borders will be much larger than today (Kjv 15:17-21)
  - They shall accept Him as their God
  - He will call them His people
  - They will be intercessors guiding peoples to Him
  - All the land will be called holy because of this union

This Vision Binds All Promises

- This vision stretches back to Abraham and forward to the Millennial Kingdom
  - The Temple is where Christ places His name – Always
  - Rebuilding the Temple is not a building but the gospel to all the nations – Blood of Christ for their salvation
  - Nations respond by trying to snuff out God's Word, as do the *false* Jews who chose/choose another god

Christian Says, "So What?"

- Many Christians stumble over eschatology:
  - Reject the miraculous
  - Over emphasize the miraculous
  - Allegorize the obvious due to lack of faith or ignorance
  - Various views of eschatology seek to explain away God's words about His purposes
  - God's rejection of Jews in this period for Gentile grace

God's Book is Integral Unity

- Many approach the Bible as a patchwork of books
  - This perspective cannot see the integration of His word
  - Each book is viewed independent of the other books
  - Traditions cloud biblical truth promoting myths
- Thus, Christians tend to ignore the Old Testament, except for the "stories" teaching them without context

New Testament Crippled

- Trying to understand the New Testament without the Old Testament cripples the gospel message
  - Approaching salvation as an movement independent of its historical roots blasphemes God's promises
  - If God did not plainly speak to the Old Testament people, as He claimed; then, we can have NO assurance that His promises to us are of any worth – He lies!

Integral Unity Throughout

- Just as each vision of Zechariah supports the other visions giving a comprehensive understanding of God's plan; so the Bible – Interdependence of each book
- One can be a Christian without understanding hardly any portion of the Bible
- One cannot be a spiritually mature Christian crippled by ignorance or resting on myths of the Old Testament

Christians Miss the Backdrop

- There is a subtle backdrop running throughout the Bible that most Christians miss because they do not understand:
  - Old Testament
  - Hebraic language, culture, idioms, etc.
- This concerns God's judgment of Satan and Satan's relationship to man; thus, it answers the "why" of sin

Next Vision Brings Insight

- The next vision gives a very limited glimpse of the spiritual warfare occurring behind *reality*
- Shows Satan's relationship to God and man
- Hints as to the reason Satan accuses man to God
- Without this understanding one's perspective of the Bible will remain disjoined, confused