

“The Apple of His Eye” Zechariah 2:1-13 12/30/18

Today, we’d like to see the title of “The Apple of His Eye” in the book of Zechariah 2:1-13. **(BLESSINGS IN THE NEW YEAR 2019!)**

To Online Word’s people on the earth, we’d like to suggest 3 Questions.

Q1. In verse 5 “For I,’ says the LORD, ‘will be a wall of fire all around her, and I will be the glory in her midst’, ” what does it mean?

Q2. In verse 6, “Up, up! Flee from the land of the north,” says the LORD; “for I have spread you abroad like the four winds of heaven,” says the LORD,” what does “the land of the north” mean? And whom does the “you” indicate? And what can we learn from here?

Q3. In verse 8, “For thus says the LORD of hosts: “He sent Me after glory, to the nations which plunder you; for he who touches you touches the apple of His eye,” what does it mean? And what can we learn from here?

(Background for Daily Bible Reading and Studying Weekly Book Basis)

When Persia conquered Babylon in 536 BC, Cyrus king allowed Jews to return to Judah and rebuild their temple in Jerusalem. So, Zerubbabel (Governor) & Joshua (Priest) returned in the 1st time with about 5,000 to rebuild the temple, but they were ceased for 14 years (from 544 BC to 520 BC) by adversaries. As of 520 BC, Haggai & Zechariah the prophets encouraged them to finish the rebuilding it, putting God 1st or best before any others. Zechariah’s 1st prophecy was delivered 2 months after Haggai’s 1st prophecy. In *Haggai 1:4*, ““Why are you living in luxurious houses while my house lies in ruins?” Haggai explained that part of their reason for their hard times to rebuild the temple was that they had put God second and the work of the Lord second, but they had put their own interest first above their interest for God.

Text: NKJV [KJV]

¹Then I raised my eyes and looked, and behold, a man with a measuring line in his hand.

¹=a measuring line (a symbol to measure Jerusalem, in verse 2, *Zech 1:16*)

¹ *Zech 1:16* ‘Therefore thus says the LORD: “I am returning to Jerusalem with mercy; My house shall be built in it,” says the LORD of hosts, “And a surveyor’s line shall be stretched out over Jerusalem.”’

<p>² So I <u>said</u>, “<u>Where are you going?</u>”</p> <p>And he said to me, “<u>To measure Jerusalem</u>, to see what <i>is its width</i> and what <i>is its length</i>.”</p> <p>³ And there was the angel who talked with me, going out; and <u>another angel</u> was coming out to <u>meet him</u>,</p> <p>⁴ who <u>said to him</u>, “Run, <u>speak to this young man</u>, saying: ‘<u>Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls</u>, because of <u>the multitude of men and livestock in it</u>.’</p> <p>⁵ For I,’ says the LORD, ‘will be <u>a wall of fire all around her</u>, and I will be <u>the glory in her midst</u>.’ ”</p> <p>⁶ “Up, up! <u>Flee from the land of the north</u>,” says the LORD; “for I have <u>spread you abroad like the four winds of heaven</u>,” says the LORD.</p>	<p>2= I (Zechariah) said, “Where are you going?” (Zechariah bravely asked the angel)</p> <p>3= another angel...meet him (another angel met that angel whom Zechariah asked the question)</p> <p>4= said to him (another angel told that angel who talked with Zechariah); speak to this young man (speak to Zechariah); Jerusalem...towns without walls...the multitude of men and livestock in it (in Jerusalem, i.e., it will be expanded, today about 1 million people in cities where Jews are half an million)</p> <p>5=Q1 I...a wall of fire all around her..(the Lord ... a wall of fire all around Jerusalem); ...the glory in her midst (the glory is the Lord's glory at His presence in Jerusalem, i.e., the Lord will come again on the earth in Jerusalem Ex 24:16-17²)</p> <p>6= Q2 Flee from the land of the north (two views – (1) the land of the north, Babylon, e.g. “Flee from Babylon in the land of the north” (NLT); Go back to Jerusalem from Babylon where they settled well <i>Jer 1:14-15</i>³; (2) A northern country, Russia, Iran, Syria, Libya, or Turkey <i>Ezek 38:1-3</i>⁴); spread you abroad like the four winds of heaven (who are those spread abroad like the 4 winds of heaven, either Jews (Jews believers) or church? Try to see in its context & syntax <i>Romans 11:1, 7, & 25; Isaiah 11:12; Mat 24:30-31</i>⁵)</p>
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² Ex 24:16-17 Now the glory of the LORD rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. ¹⁷ The sight of the glory of the LORD was like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel.

³ Jer 1:14-15 Then Jehovah said unto me, Out of the north evil shall break forth upon all the inhabitants of the land. ¹⁵ For, lo, I will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north, saith Jehovah, and they shall come, and they shall set every one his throne at the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all the walls thereof round about, and against all the cities of Judah.

⁴ Ezek 38:1-3 And the word of Jehovah came unto me, saying, ² Son of man, set thy face toward Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him, ³ and say, Thus saith the Lord Jehovah: Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal:

⁵ Romans 11:1, 7, & 25¹ I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. ⁷ What then? Israel has not obtained what it seeks; but the elect have obtained it, and the rest were blinded. ²⁵ For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; *Isaiah 11:12* He will set up a banner for the nations, And will assemble the outcasts of Israel, And gather together the dispersed of Judah From the four corners of the earth.; *Mat 24:30-31* Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹ And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

<p>⁷ <u>“Up, Zion! Escape, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon.”</u></p>	<p>7= Zion (the highest south mount of Jerusalem represents Jerusalem or Jews); Escape, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon (at 2 prophecies – (1) Babylon; (2) a North Nation such as Russia)</p>
<p>⁸ For thus says the LORD of hosts: “He sent Me after glory, to <u>the nations which plunder you</u>; for <u>he who touches you touches the apple of His eye</u>.</p>	<p>8=Q3 the nations which plunder you (Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome, Germany, Russia, etc., against Jews); he who touches you touches the apple of His eye (the apple of His eye means a special treasure or special people, i.e., In its context/syntax, treating Jews in a way is the same as treating God in that way. And it can expand for the application as treating the children of God in a way is the same as treating the Lord in that way <i>Deut 32:10; Ex 19:5; 1 Peter 2:9; Gen 12:3; Acts 9:4; Mat 25:31,32, 40, 45⁶</i>)</p>
<p>⁹ For <u>surely I will shake My hand against them</u>, and they shall become <u>spoil for their servants</u>. Then you will know that the LORD of hosts <u>has sent Me</u>.</p>	<p>9= surely I will shake My hand against them (1st, God revenge those who plunder the Jews, and 2nd extend to the children of God)...spoil for their servants (disposal for Jews 1st, which might apply to the children of God 2nd); has sent Me (Messiah or Christ, Most Jews did not accept the 1st coming Messiah on the earth, but later throughout Great Tribulation 144,000 Jews will accept the 2nd coming Messiah on the earth <i>John 1:1-4, 10-12, 14, Rev 7:4⁷</i>)</p>
<p>¹⁰ “Sing and rejoice, <u>O daughter of Zion!</u> For behold, I am coming and <u>I will dwell in your midst</u>,” says the LORD.</p>	<p>10= (God’s special care of the Jews description)</p>
<p>¹¹ <u>“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.</u></p>	<p>11= Many nations shall be joined to the Lord...My people (the Jews, beheaded Christians, and raptured church <i>Rev 20:4⁸</i>); I will dwell in your midst (the millennium kingdom will be established); the Lord of hosts has sent Me to you (Messiah to the Jews)</p>

⁶ *Deut 32:10* “He found him in a desert land And in the wasteland, a howling wilderness; He encircled him, He instructed him, He kept him as the apple of His eye; *Ex 19:5* Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine; *1 Peter 2:9* But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; *Gen 12:3* I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”; *Acts 9:4* Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?”; *Mat 25:31,32, 40, 45³¹* “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. ⁴⁰And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’ ⁴⁵Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’”

⁷ *John 1:1-4, 10-12, 14*, ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. ¹¹ He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. ¹² But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. *Rev 7:4* And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed:

⁸ *Rev 20:4* And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

<p><u>12 And the LORD will take possession of Judah as His inheritance in the Holy Land, and will again choose Jerusalem.</u></p>	<p>12= The Lord will take possession of Judah (the Jews) as His inheritance in the Holy Land and ...choose Jerusalem (Ultimately God will choose Jerusalem in Israel for the Jews)</p>
<p><u>13 Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD, for He is aroused from His holy habitation!”</u></p>	<p>13. Be silent, all flesh... for He is aroused from His holy habitation! (When the Messiah comes again on the earth and stop the Armageddon war, and establish the millennium kingdom on the earth, all creatures are commanded to be silent.)</p>

Note: This online word for global crusade in effect develops from sermon into spiritual transformation into the image of Christ in daily love fellowship with the Lord throughout Bible Study of which application is the Discipleship and Spiritual Formation, closer to the image of Christ. We think that “Any human opinion is not really important rather than what God says. So, the best commentary on the Bible is the Bible per se. But the opinion to make us understand God’s Word is acceptable. (2 Corinthians 10:5)”

Thank you everybody. Come to Jesus!

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