

“Zechariah’s Visions”

Zechariah 1:1-21

12/31/17

Today, we’d like to see the title of “Zechariah’s Visions” in Zechariah 1:1-21

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

Q1. In verse 4, “Do not be like your fathers, to whom the former prophets preached, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts: “Turn now from your evil ways and your evil deeds.” But they did not hear nor heed Me,” says the LORD,” why does God tell the forefathers’ wrongdoing to their present descendants? And is it applicable to us and why?

Q2. In verse 8, “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,” explain this vision of Zechariah, and what is the man riding on a red horse?

Q3. In verse 12, “Then the Angel of the LORD answered and said, “O LORD of hosts, how long will You not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which You were angry these seventy years?” what role does the Angel of the Lord play before the Lord of hosts? And how should we do if we face a grievous thing?

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

When Persia conquered Babylon in 536 BC, Cyrus king allowed Jews to return to Judah and rebuild their temple.

(Ezra 1:1-2) “Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also *put it* in writing, saying, ² Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD God of heaven has given me. And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem which *is* in Judah.”

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 in Ezra 4:21, “ Now give the command to make these men cease, that this city may not be built until the command is given by me.” Then, the Lord through Haggai and Zechariah (2 months later) encouraged Israelites to rebuild the temple. In light of (Haggai 1:1, 4, 14) ¹ In the second year of King Darius (Darius I), in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying, ⁴ “*Is it* time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple *to lie* in ruins?” ¹⁴ So the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of

Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and worked on the house of the LORD of hosts, their God,” as of 520 BC, Haggai & Zechariah the prophets encouraged to finish the rebuilding it, putting God 1st or best before any others. Zehcariah’s 1st prophecy was delivered 2 months after Haggai’s 1st prophecy. In the above *Haggai 1:4*, 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 that of their interest for God.

Text

<p>¹In <u>the eighth month of the second year of Darius</u>, the word of <u>the LORD</u> came to <u>Zechariah</u> the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying,</p> <p>²“The LORD has been <u>very angry with your fathers</u>.</p> <p>³Therefore say to them, ‘Thus says <u>the LORD of hosts</u>: “<u>Return to Me</u>,” says the LORD of hosts, “and I <u>will return to you</u>,” says the LORD of hosts.</p> <p>⁴“<u>Do not be like your fathers, to whom the former prophets preached</u>, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts: “<u>Turn now from your evil ways and your evil deeds</u>.”’ But <u>they did not hear nor heed Me</u>,” says the LORD.</p>	<p>1= the 8th month (November in Gregorian calendar) of the 2nd year of Darius (Darius I in the world history); the Lord (ADONAI, often translated JEHOVAH/YAHWEH for God although its consonants are not pronounceable ---but in the accurate translation, ADONAI JEHOVAH as Lord Jehovah; ADONAI ELOHIM as Lord God; ELOHIM one true trinity divine being, ELOAH the singular only in poetry & EL the singular form signifying strength; EL-SHADDAI God Almighty¹); Zechariah (2 months later after Haggai’s 1st prophecy)</p> <p>2= very angry with your fathers (because most of them did not return to God from their sins including idol worships; e.g. Stephen’s semon ²<i>Acts 7:51-52</i> --- double “R”s --- (1) Repent/ Confess & (2) Return!)</p> <p>3= Return to Me (God’s invitation)...I will return to you (God will restore the fellowship/intimacy with you).</p> <p>4=Q1 Do not be like your fathers (the bad example of their fathers to the present Israelites; what kinds of sin? the next syntax); former prophets preached... Turn now from your evil ways and your evil deeds... they did not hear nor heed Me (they did not hear of God’s word to turn from evil sins to God, through the prophets – e.g. ³<i>Jeremiah 25:11; 29:10</i>); the double “R”s can apply to us --- the Word of God endures or stands forever through us and the next generation—So, we should learn the enduring Word of God not to repeat their wrongdoings/ sins/ mistakes.)</p>
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¹ Sources: Phil Lindner, “Power Bible CD,” (Michigan: Online Publishing Inc., 1999-2003) -- “American Tract Society Dictionary; Smith’s Bible Dictionary; and Easton’s Bible Dictionary” stated. JEHOVAH (KJV, *Ex 6:3*); YAH (NKJV, *Ps 68:4*)

² *Acts 7:51-52* “You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit: as your fathers did, so do you. ⁵²Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of whom you now have become the betrayers and murderers.

³ *Jeremiah 25:11* And this whole land shall be a desolation and an astonishment, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years; *Jeremiah 29:10* For thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place.

<p>⁵ <u>"Your fathers, where are they?</u> And <u>the prophets, do they live forever?</u></p> <p>⁶ <u>Yet surely My words and My statutes,</u> <u>Which I commanded My servants the prophets,</u> <u>Did they not overtake your fathers? "So they</u> <u>returned and said: 'Just as the LORD of hosts</u> <u>determined to do to us, According to our ways and</u> <u>according to our deeds, So He has dealt with us. '""</u></p> <p>⁷ <u>On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month,</u> <u>which is the month Shebat, in the second year of</u> <u>Darius, the word of the LORD came to Zechariah the</u> <u>son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet:</u></p> <p>⁸ <u>I saw by night, and behold, a man riding on a red</u> <u>horse, and it stood among the myrtle trees in the</u> <u>hollow; and behind him were horses: red, sorrel, and</u> <u>white. ⁹ Then I said, "My lord, what are these?" So</u> <u>the angel who talked with me said to me, "I will show</u> <u>you what they are."</u></p> <p>¹⁰ <u>And the man who stood among the myrtle trees</u> <u>answered and said, "These are the ones whom</u> <u>the LORD has sent to walk to and fro throughout the</u> <u>earth."</u></p> <p>¹¹ <u>So they answered the Angel of the LORD, who</u> <u>stood among the myrtle trees, and said, "We have</u> <u>walked to and fro throughout the earth, and behold,</u> <u>all the earth is resting quietly."</u></p>	<p>5= Your fathers, where are they? (they are in captivity or dead); the prophets, do they live forever? (such as Jeremiah, Isaiah, etc were dead; BUT)</p> <p>6= Yet surely My words and My statutes (His word endures or stands forever): Which I commanded... the prophets...they not overtake your fathers (not change your fathers' heart because your fathers did not hear of the prophets' prophecies); they ... said... According to our ways and according to our deeds, So he has dealt with us (because God is just, i.e., equal and fair)</p> <p>7= the 24th day of the 11th month (the 24th day of February); the word of the Lord came to Zechariah (so, Zechariah is a prophet)</p> <p>8=Q2 I saw by night (I saw a vision by night -- a vision in a state of being awake vs. a dream in a state of sleeping – it reveals a spiritual realm over a physical realm which is three dimensional realm limited to time and place. <i>Joel 2:28; Hebrews 1:1; Rev 1:10</i>); a man ("My lord," verse 9; "the Angel of the Lord," verse 11 – the pre-incarnate Jesus Christ appears in the OT time, called as Christophany); a red horse (its meaning is not clear but a horse is often related to God's involvement in earthly governments, red color horse is related to war as often as white color horse to victory); behind him... horses, red, sorrel (brown), and white.</p> <p>10= the ones whom the Lord (Jehovah God) has sent to walk to and fro throughout the earth (angels or devils go to & fro/ backward & forward on the earth <i>Job 1:6-7</i>)</p> <p>11= they (the angels who walked to and from through the earth)... all the earth is resting quietly (all heathens are at peace except Jerusalem)</p>
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⁴ *Joel 2:28* "And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh: Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions.; *Hebrews 1:1* God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets.; *Rev 1:10* I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet,

⁵ *Job 1:6-7* Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. ⁷ And the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it."

<p>12 Then <u>the Angel of the LORD answered and said,</u> <u>“O LORD of hosts, how long will You not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which You were angry these seventy years?”</u></p> <p>13 And the LORD answered the angel who talked to me, <u>with good and comforting words.</u></p> <p>14 So the angel who spoke with me said to me, “Proclaim, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts: “I am <u>zealous for Jerusalem</u> And for <u>Zion with great zeal.</u></p> <p>15 I am <u>exceedingly angry with the nations at ease;</u> <u>For I was a little angry,</u> <u>And they helped—but with evil intent.”</u></p> <p>16 ‘Therefore thus says the LORD: “I am <u>returning to Jerusalem with mercy;</u> <u>My house shall be built in it,”</u> says the LORD of hosts, “And a <u>surveyor’s line shall be stretched out over Jerusalem.”</u>”</p> <p>17 “<u>Again proclaim, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts: “My cities shall again spread out through prosperity; The LORD will again comfort Zion, And will again choose Jerusalem.”</u>”</p>	<p>12=Q3 the Angel of the Lord answered and said (the pre-incarnate Jesus Christ represented before the Lord Jehovah, as intercessor, mediator, or advocate – so we should ask God whatever grievous problem/thanks through Jesus Christ ¹ <i>Timothy 2:5; 1 John 2:1⁶</i>); how long will You not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah...these 70 years (now it was beyond 70 years captivity by Babylon decreed by God)</p> <p>13= good and comforting words (the Lord, Jehovah God, delivered to the angel of the Lord, Jesus Christ, and delivered to me, Zechariah — so gives the good and comforting words to Israelites as Haggai)</p> <p>14= zealous for Jerusalem And for Zion (the sunny area of Jerusalem, the south-eastern hill of Jerusalem) with great zeal (To restore Jerusalem)</p> <p>15= exceedingly angry with the nations at ease (very angry of the heathen nations as His instruments to punish the sinful Israel to be corrected); For I was a little angry (of sinful Israel), And they helped (the heathen nations as His instruments to punish the sinful Israel); but with evil intent (they tried to destroy Israel beyond God’s plan to correct the sinful Israel)</p> <p>16= returning to Jerusalem with mercy, My house shall be built in it (rebuild the temple of God in Jerusalem, Israel); a surveyor’s line... stretched out over Jerusalem (Zerubbabel & Jeshua’s restarting, Ezra, and Nehemiah are finishing to rebuild it)</p> <p>17= Again (4 times – the future will happen) proclaim; My cities shall again...through prosperity...will again comfort Zion... will again choose Jerusalem (Jerusalem will be the capital city of the millennium kingdom on the earth; the center in a new heaven and new earth <i>Rev 21:1-2</i>)</p>
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⁶ *1 Timothy 2:5* For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus; *1 John 2:1* My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

⁷ *Rev 21:1-2* Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. ² Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

<p>18 Then I raised my eyes and <u>looked</u>, and there <i>were</i> <u>four horns</u>. 19 And I said to the angel who talked with me, "What <i>are</i> these?"</p> <p>So he answered me, "These <i>are</i> the horns that have <u>scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem</u>."</p> <p>20 Then the LORD showed me <u>four craftsmen</u>. 21 And I said, "What are these coming to do?"</p> <p>So he said, "These <i>are</i> the horns that scattered Judah, so that no one could lift up his head; but <u>the craftsmen are coming to terrify them, to cast out the horns of the nations</u> that lifted up <i>their</i> horn against the land of Judah to scatter it."</p>	<p>18= looked (2nd vision); 4 horns (a horn is a symbol of power – 4 powers or 4 powerful nations to scatter Judah, Israel, Jerusalem, verse 19 — Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia; a little future from Zecharia's time, Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome <i>Daniel 2:31-33</i>⁸)</p> <p>20= four craftsmen [carpenters] (in verse 21, to terrify and cast out the 4 horns; i.e., to block the 4 nations to scatter Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem; the 4 craftsmen will be shortly the rebuilders to rebuild the temple against adversaries; in far future, they would be the nations to help to establish the country of Israel and the capital city of Jerusalem against the 4 horns such as opposing nations; e.g. 4 craftsmen were likely England, France, Soviet Union, or United States)</p>
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Thank you everybody. Come to Jesus!

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⁸ *Daniel 2:31-33* "You, O king, were watching: and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. ³² This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, ³³ its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.

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