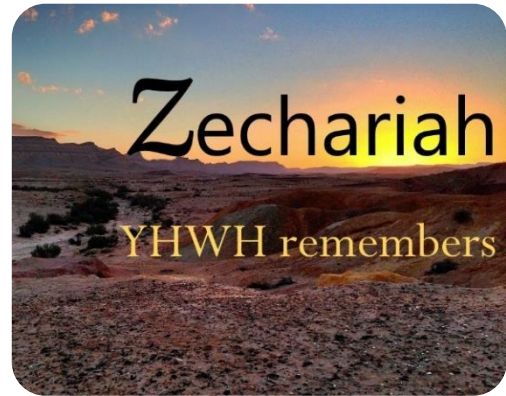


ZECHARIAH 3 vs 1

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Zechariah wrote around 500BC, when roughly 50,000 -- about 1/10th the population of the **House of Judah** in captivity... returned to Jerusalem, to rebuild the desolate region in advance of Messiah's first coming. Most of Judah had grown comfortable in their new home of Babylon... where they lived for the next several centuries, having rejected the Torah of Moses; and in NT parlance we would say -- for all their smarts... *they lost their first love* -- **Revelation 3**.



Vision 4:

¹ And he showed me Joshua the high priest / in the previous book of Haggai, Joshua is the high priest of the day; his name means: **Yahweh saves**; named after the courageous leader Joshua who led the children of Israel into the land promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. But is this the high priest during the time of Haggai and Zechariah? Or a vision of Messiah coming?

he showed me Joshua the high priest... standing before the angel of the LORD,

and Satan / the adversary... standing at his right hand to accuse him.

² And the LORD said to Satan, The LORD rebuke you, Satan!

the LORD who chooses Jerusalem rebuke you.

Is not this one a charred stick pulled out of the fire?

³ Now Joshua was clothed with filthy clothes, standing before the angel / but remember, this is an earthly picture of a heavenly truth; the Messiah of God was not filthy, Matthew records Jesus healing all who came to Him, saying, **He took all our diseases; and carried away all our pains** -- **Isaiah 53**: how He did it, we do not know; but the Lord of glory became a walking garbage dump... for all our sins and infirmities.

⁴ And he answered and spoke to those standing before him,

saying,

Remove the filthy clothes from him.

And to him he said,

Behold, I have made your iniquity / your inequities and injustices... pass from you,

and clothe you in stately clothes.

ZECHARIAH 3 vs 1

⁵ **And I said** / the LORD is speaking,

Let them set a clean turban on his head.

So, they set a clean turban on his head,

and clothed him with clean clothes;

while the angel of the LORD stood by.

⁶ **And the angel of the LORD admonished Joshua,**

saying,

⁷ **Thus says the LORD of hosts** / the One who has all the animate and inanimate tools of His creation available... to work His purposes, this is what He says;

If you walk in My ways / what are His ways? Well we read: [Moses came to know the ways of God; while the children only knew His miraculous acts](#) – Psalm 103; and what are some of the ways of God? He loves *to work justice for the fatherless* – the one who had no father; *and the widow* – the one who knows what it is like to lose the love of your life; *and to the stranger* – the foreigner in our midst; He loves to feed and clothe and make feel welcome... [that's the way He is – Deuteronomy 10](#); and that's the way we should be, we should love those people, too; we must be about our Father's business;

and keep My commands / and He gave *10 commands and no more*; and if that wasn't simple enough, when Jesus was questioned, what is the greatest command, He answered: *Love the LORD your God with all your heart, and soul, and mind and strength*... and He added: the second one is similar: *Love your neighbor as yourself*. – to do that is to fulfill the Law of love God spelled out. In Hebrew: [shamar](#), it is the first assignment given to Adam in the Garden; it is the warning given 12 times the night Jesus was betrayed; and lastly it describes the church in Philadelphia -- those who were few and weak, [who kept His word and did not deny His name](#) – Revelation 3; those who do are given a special promise from the Lord;

but back to the angel admonishing Joshua...

If you walk in My ways,

and keep My commands,

then you will also rule My house / clearly **God's household**; God's people are in view; we don't rule chimneys and doors and windows; and Isaiah says, when Messiah comes He will rule sitting under a **TENT**,

and keep My courts

and I will give you free access among these who are *still* standing.

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⁸ Hear now, O Joshua the high priest,

you and your friends who sit before you:

they are men who are a sign / those with Zechariah and Joshua the high priest, probably also men of the priesthood, they were emblematic of God's rescue plan; what they were faithfully doing, and practicing and rehearsing... pointed to the One who is coming:

for, behold,

I will bring My servant the Branch

/ the Blossom of Righteousness; prophet Jeremiah agrees with Zechariah.

⁹ For behold, the Stone / Daniel said a stone was coming, quarried without the aid of man; it's a precious Gemstone; was it the Chief cornerstone... able to hold the entire edifice in place, that was rejected?
...

the Stone... that I set before Joshua;

a single Stone with seven eyes / a Jewel with perfect insight; with perfect wisdom and understanding; with complete knowledge and fear of the Lord:

behold, I will engrave its inscription, says the LORD of hosts,

and I will remove the iniquity of the earth in one day /

the 6th Day of the Lord, the great and terrible Day of afflicting souls.

¹⁰ In that day / when the terrible day has run its course; in the day they look on Him who they pierced, when the Lord comes to rule the world – **the 7th Day of the Lord** – the Day of Tabernacles – we will learn more about it from Zechariah in the last chapter, because there are yet a few bumps in the road and hurdles to get over before that final Day arrives... but for now we read,

In that day... says the LORD of hosts,

all of you will invite your neighbor to rest under your vine and under your fig tree.

So obviously this speaks of when Messiah has come in victory, and the great war is finished.

