

# ZECHARIAH 4 vs 1

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Zechariah wrote around 500BC, when roughly 50,000 -- about 1/10<sup>th</sup> 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; not the smartest thing to do.

To this chapter, Zechariah has seen 4 visions;

Vision 1: horses and riders patrolling the earth

Vision 2: 4 horns and 4 carpenters

Vision 3: a surveyor of Jerusalem

Vision 4: Joshua high priest; the Branch of Righteousness over God's household

And next... Vision 5: rebuilding the Kingdom of grace; the 2 Olive Branches

**<sup>1</sup> And the angel who talked with me came again, and woke me, as a man who is awakened out of sleep.**

**<sup>2</sup> And he said to me, What do you see?**

**I said, I see, and behold a lampstand all of gold, with bowls on the top of it, and seven lamps on it, with seven spouts to each of the seven lamps, that are on the top of it:**

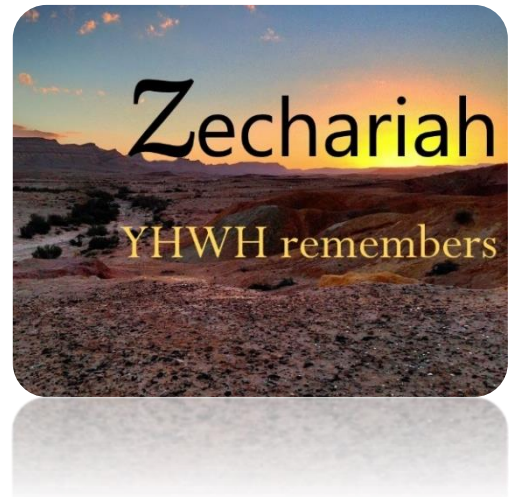
**<sup>3</sup> And there are two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl, and the other on its left.**

**<sup>4</sup> So I answered and said to the angel who talked with me, saying,**

**What are these, my lord?**

**<sup>5</sup> Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me,**

**Do you not know what these are?**



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**I said, No, my lord** / Matthew Henry wrote: visions had their significance, but were often dark and hard to be understood; the prophets were not always aware of the meaning at first. Of course, Zechariah knew the familiar things he saw in the vision... as the temple was being rebuilt, but he sensed a greater meaning.

**6 Then he answered and said to me,**

**This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel** / Biblical history records, Zerubbabel the governor was from the lineage of David, and Joshua was the high priest (we read about this event in detail... in Ezra); under their leadership, the remnant that left captivity under the decree of Cyrus the Persian 538BC, they gathered all the materials; and went and started building. Zerubbabel laid the foundation stone. It must have been a glorious beginning. Even the citizens of Samaria (a mixed bag of those who were settled in that former northern kingdom) they offered to help, but their offer was refused in that they were not Jewish. Thus, a division was caused, and the rebuilding project soon stopped. And only after several years, was the temple finally rebuilt in 516BC.

**This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel, saying,**

**Not by might, not by power, but by My Spirit, says the LORD of hosts** / the LORD who has legions at His command, said it wouldn't be done by force, or human might and power; and still, doesn't it make you wonder why the neighbors weren't invited in some fashion to participate in this rebuild of stone? We see the House of Judah today still hasn't learned that lesson... and they must justify their buildup of modern weaponry. The Lord will one day finally teach **Judah**... **and** He will teach those of the House of **Israel**... the same lesson... and all the other nations who rely on princes and weapons, but no longer put their trust in God. According to Scripture, only the godless roman military complex will not learn this lesson; and will be totally destroyed.

And though you would never know it, 2500 years ago, Judah was given the assignment to make the LORD's Name great from the rising of the sun, to its setting – **Malachi 1**. You know, for being very smart people, some of them are pretty hardheaded, who sat down in their chosen status, to luxuriate at the expense of the nations. Finally, God took the task and gave it to lesser intelligent people, who would do it. I have never heard a Jewish person share with my family or my friends this beautiful song: which is the center verse of the entire OT & NT Bible:

**Praise the LORD, all the nations;**

**for His mercies are great toward us;**

**And the truth of the LORD is everlasting! Hallelujah!**

Psalm 117



The truth is so simple, isn't it? No wonder their fathers abandoned reading the Torah of Moses; no wonder their fathers murdered the prophets the LORD God sent them.

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You hear the House of Judah lament for the last 2500 years – that their butts got kicked across the nations – primarily instigated by Rome; no matter the direction they went; not even really ending with the horrific holocaust in Germany; yet you rarely, if ever... hear them mention the massive murders of Christians by that same brutal, now religious govt – who are culpable for the death of untold millions through the centuries in their march toward world dominance. Thankfully, one day the Whore of Babylon will be knocked over, unable to get up. In the meantime, **God still says: Come out of her, My people** – Revelation 18.

**This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel, saying,**

**Not by might, not by power, but by My Spirit, says the LORD of hosts.**

**7 Who are you, O great mountain?** This daunting task is momentous, until... from the rising of the sun, to its setting, the Lord's Name is great in all the earth... until then, the LORD says, don't quit; keep going.

**before Zerubbabel, you will be a plain** / you will be leveled; the task will one day be accomplished:

**and he will bring forth its headstone** / He will bring forth the crowning Gemstone...

**with shouts, crying, Grace, grace** / it began with Grace; it will end with Grace; since it is the work of the LORD; through many dangers, toils and snares; His work has always been infused with His amazing grace.

Remember, Zechariah is given a series of spiritual prophecies – the **work of the Spirit** is in focus... that find their fulfillment in the last days. As the honorable men when Zechariah lived, prefigured the work of God... in order that we, 2500 years later can see the import of these verses... not merely triggered by some event long ago; but something emblematic of the coming Messiah of God. Yeshua; Jesus the Christ: who is prefigured in all this prophecy.

Though rejected by the House of Judah, when He came the first time in great humility, **JESUS** the Messiah said, **I will build My church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it** – Matthew 16.

Like Joshua, the high priest of old, **JESUS** is the High Priest who ran the race in faith; and finished the course; we need **NO** other high priest; and Hebrews tells us: *He sat down*. But one day He will rise up again:

Like Zerubbabel, the governor of old, **JESUS** is the Governor who will come with a rod of iron to rule the nations. He will come as King of kings and Lord of lords; and His people will shout: **Hallelujah!**

**with shouts, crying, Grace, grace** / tell it with boisterous acclamation: it began with Grace; it will end with Grace; by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourself, it is the gift of God, not as a result of works, lest anyone would boast; for we are His **work** / in Greek: we are His **poema**; We are His **poem**, created in Christ Jesus to work His good. -- Ephesians 2



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**<sup>8</sup> Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying / as they rebuilt preparing for Messiah,**

**<sup>9</sup> The hands of Zerubbabel / the hands of the Governor...**

**have laid the foundation of this household** / where our Father God's adopted children from every nation, brothers and sisters in the Messiah, in Christ Jesus our Lord; ... where they gather;



**his hands will also finish it** / finish what? finish **the only temple** where bloody sacrifices would be made, until Messiah came and gave His life once for all time; the One who placed the precious Gemstone, the Chief cornerstone; will be the One who finishes the job; in other words: He said I will build MY church... and He was not kidding; He will finish the job... and when He does; because Zechariah is speaking to Judah and Jerusalem;

**and you will know that the LORD of hosts sent Me to you.**

**<sup>10</sup> For who has despised the day of small things?** / Certainly, not our Father in heaven; He does not despise the small things. He is in competition with nobody. **He stretched out the heavens, and calls each of the billions of stars by name.** He created in such a way as to hope to find the small things from the life He planted in the earth. A bruised reed He will not break, and a smoldering wick, He will not extinguish; the broken hearted, He hears, and the empty hands raised to Him, He sees and seeks to fill. **And He will hear and be with the one who calls His name** – Psalm 91.

had some of the workers wrongly sought to compare their limited efforts with the famed splendor of Solomon's bygone era? Not necessary! Solomon ended playing the fool; and doing evil in the sight of the LORD. Why did the 10 commandments end the way they did? Do not covet, your neighbor's wife... did the Lord want them to know – the grass may appear greener on the other side, but she might not be all that she portrays herself to be!! Jesus taught the parable of the laborers, those who gave their best effort were generously rewarded. So, don't compare. Work as unto the Lord... and let the results fall where they may:

**for they will rejoice;**

**they will see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel** / in the hand of the Governor... clearly;

**they will see the Governor** busy among the builders, giving orders and directions what to do, and taking care that the work is done with great exactness, that it may be both fine and firm;

**with those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD which patrol through the whole earth.**

/ the LORD sees everything; He doesn't miss a thing; in the previous chapter we learned about a precious Gemstone, a Jewel with perfect insight; with perfect wisdom and understanding; and fear of the Lord...

**<sup>11</sup> Then I responded and said to him** / Zechariah had seen enough to encourage the faithful workers to continue rebuilding the sacred temple complex; he understood, the lamps had to be lit, and kept burning; but he was still curious to understand the other meanings that perhaps didn't speak to this earthly effort,

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Who are these two olive trees / what are these 2 sources fueling the Light of the World

on the right of the candlestick and on its left? (again, in this vision, he saw two glorious individuals)

<sup>12</sup> Again, I answered and said to him, Who are these two olive branches / who are these 2 sources of golden \_\_\_\_ ,

connected to the two golden pipes which empty the golden oil from themselves?

<sup>13</sup> And he answered me and said, Do you **not** know who they are?

I said, No, my lord / and as mentioned previously: visions had their significance, but were often dark and hard to be understood, the prophets knew the obvious, but what they saw, was marvelous.

<sup>14</sup> Then he said, these are the two sons of oil / we know oil reaches back to Aaron and the priesthood, Numbers 18:11, and we know Moses spoke to the people saying; so keep the commandment and the statutes... and God will love and bless you; and your grain and your new wine and your oil -- Deuteronomy 7; in other words: Live in God's commands; walk in His ways... and those who do will prosper, life will run smooth; it's a phrase repeated numerous times throughout the Bible.

Daniel 2: 44, in the days of those 4 kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed; nor be left for another nation;

Revelation 11:2-3, the two witnesses are identified with...two olive trees, and the two candlestands. Jamieson, Fausset and Brown Commentary indicates this speaks to the two-fold supports of the church: the civil power answering to Zerubbabel, and the ecclesiastical answering to Joshua, the high priest; but I will dismiss their answer; since the Messiah became our High Priest; and will also come to rule the nations.

these are the two Sons of Oil / the Messiah of God is called: the Anointed One; and of His fulness we have received: grace upon grace – John 1; about the Spirit of God we read: As for you, the anointing which you received from Him who abides in you; He will teach you all things – 1 John 2:27. Regarding the suffering Servant, we read, Therefore, I will divide Him a portion with the Great, and He will divide the victor's portion with the strong – Isaiah 53:12 – The Lord God sharing with the Servant, the Servant sharing with the Great Spirit, the Great sharing with the strong, with those who ran the race in faith.

So, who are these two sons?

Christ Jesus... and the Holy Spirit

our Redeemer; and our Comforter ... who stand by the LORD of the whole earth.

Check out our cousins, who know: it's not by might, not by power, but by My Spirit says the Lord:

[BEHOLD ISRAEL](#) | [ONE FOR ISRAEL](#) | [LEON MAZIN - TIKKUN](#) | [MESSIAH OF ISRAEL](#) | [STEVEN BEN NUN](#)