

ZECHARIAH 6 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; without a doubt... the worst thing anyone who is of the once blessed -- now cursed House of Judah could do.

To this chapter, Zechariah has seen 7 visions;

Vision 1: horses and riders; watchers patrolling the whole earth.

Vision 2: 4 horns and 4 carpenters; destroying the destroyers in equal number.

Vision 3: a surveyor of Jerusalem; remeasuring the expanding neighborhood.

Vision 4: Joshua, high priest; the Branch of Righteousness over God's household; HE will build.

Vision 5: rebuilding the Kingdom of grace; the 2 Olive Branches; when HE comes, then build.

Vision 6: a flying scroll; God's Law enters every house on earth.

Vision 7: a wicked woman in a basket; wickedness was carried away by 2 women.

And next... Vision 8: 4 chariots; the patrols are restless, eager to GO

¹ And I turned and raised my eyes, and looked, and behold,

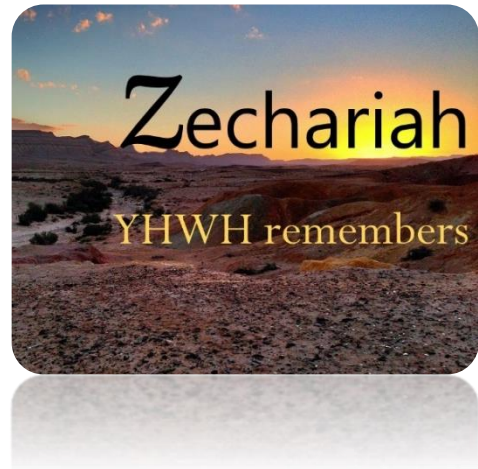
there came four chariots from between two mountains;

and the mountains were mountains of bronze / so, what did Zechariah see?

4 chariots,

2 mountains made of bronze / so, they are symbolic, not literal mountains:

At first hearing this, God's people would most likely recall the days of Moses, when they hoped to enter the land first promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The first thing they would remember are the 2 mountains; **Mount Gerizim and Mount Ebal** where they enacted a live drama making 12 declarations: **resulting in God's blessings if they did what He asked, or His curses if they didn't -- Deuteronomy 27.** From history, we know, both the greater **House of Israel** and the little **House of Judah**, they both chose to be **cursed** of God.



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John Calvin wrote: the secret things of God do not come forth until the fit time, when it is the right time; when His purposes or judgments unfold; and when they come forth... they are not inconspicuous; they are elevated and given the most obvious platform for the greatest number to see and apprehend.

In this case:

four (4) represents: the 4 corners of the earth, indicating the direction to go – north, east, west, south; **chariots**, powerful symbols of war and might... speeding on their course, emerging between 2 mountains of **bronze** (or brass) indicating judgment for sin.



And some might ask: what are these chariots taking with them? Because we know: *it is not by might, not by power, but by My Spirit, says the LORD.* – **Zechariah 4**. They are speeding with the commands of the Most High – to love and serve Him with all their heart and soul, to walk in all His ways; and to love their neighbor as themselves – Jesus the Messiah of God, our Salvation... said, *doing this, fulfills the Law*.

² The first chariot had red horses; the second black horses;

³ the third white horses; and the fourth dappled horses – all of them strong.

⁴ Then I answered and said to the angel who talked with me,

What are these, my lord?

⁵ And the angel answered and said to me, These are going to the four winds of heaven / hear what he says; notice what he doesn't say! Whoever they are, they are going everywhere. In all directions there is a war; and all the people of the earth will see and hear; no one will be able to say: I did not know,

These are going... after presenting themselves before the LORD of all the earth / notice, whoever they are, they did not need a seminary degree, or even a post-secondary diploma; they need the Lord's commission, He is the Good Pastor, He is building His great congregation; they carry His good news; they seek His approval; they gain His approval... and then GO!

⁶ The chariot with its black horses goes to the north country / some suggest this primarily reflects the regions and nations where **Israel** and **Judah** – the two distinct houses went... after they were taken away to their respective captivity; if so, where they went, they experienced much gloom, much doom and sorrow;

the white follows them / and after the gloom, they experience victories;

and the dappled ones go toward the south country / the spotted horses engaged Egypt, and other neighboring countries with, for whatever reason, only spotted, mixed responses: some gloom, some victory.

⁷ When the strong horses went forth,

they were impatient to go and patrol the earth. And he said, Go, patrol the earth.

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So they patrolled the **earth** / because the whole world... is in the power of the evil one.

8 Then He cried out to me, saying, Behold, these who go toward the north country have set my Spirit at rest in the north country / but remember, God so loved the world, that He gave His son. And He still greatly loves the world.

Now, before moving from this vision, did you notice: **red horses** were mentioned first; and some might wonder what happened to them? Their color is that of blood; so they suggest **the 6th Day of the Lord**, Moses told the people it will be a day afflicting souls, a day of great testing.

Where did the red horses go? Moses wrote: *The secret things belong to God; but those things that are revealed belong to us; they are for our understanding.* The prophets tell us there is a Day coming that will touch the whole world. But Paul adds, I do not want you ignorant (so he wants the faithful church to know). Paul was not addressing those who lost their first love; nor those who left Christ the Messiah standing outside their door; but the faithful church ...doing what He asked His followers to do; read about it the night He was betrayed: John spelled it out with great clarity – **John 13-17**.



Vision 9: the crown and the temple / remember chapter 3 came first: **the Messiah & His household**

9 And the word of the LORD came to me, saying / to Zechariah, the Lord says: tell them keep building

10 Take from the exiles, of Heldai, Tobijah and Jedaiah, who have arrived from Babylon, and go the same day to the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah.

11 Take from them silver and gold, and make a crown, and set it on the head of Joshua, the son of Jehozadak, the high priest / each vision the prophet sees, starts with the familiar, in this case, with the faithful remnant of the House of Judah... real people 2500 years ago; and every prophecy is like when Jesus taught with parables, He took the earthly things that were seen, that were familiar, and was able to teach heavenly truths.

When the word of the Lord came to the prophets, those men were all EARS... they were listening; they were not like our empty-headed generation, who says, I'm a little busy, can YOU call me back in 5? When the word came, they never said can you repeat that? They knew with great intensity, that man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD. – **Deut.8**.

The Lord said to Zechariah, you know the faithful men and their families, the new arrivals... having come out of Babylon; go to them and gather up silver and gold for the crown to be fashioned and placed on the head of the High priest – the one who intercedes between God and mankind. History tells us it was Joshua,

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the son of Jehozadak, who served when the temple and Jerusalem were rebuilt. The name: **Joshua** in Hebrew is **Yoshuah** in the Septuagint it is where we get the name: **JESUS**.

The new arrivals were inspired to build, they were also givers, not takers counting pennies. They gave a coin or two knowing they prepared for Messiah to come; Zechariah also goes to the established homes in the city. All God's people were given opportunity to take from their resources and give to this crown that will be placed on the head of their Messiah King – and having given of their resources, they continued building;

but for us able to read, these same words is an open invitation to every future generation who comes, NOT to say, that's a lovely story, too bad I didn't live back then... and turn the page.

We in the genius 21st century are also invited to come and build. And you might ask: build what? Build a temple? **NO** they did that already – too bad after they did, then Judah messed up God's plan and rejected the Chief cornerstone; they don't need another temple any more. Isaiah tells us, the sacrifice for sin was made, **but who believed the report?** – **Isaiah 53**.

We are invited to come and build **friends**: faithful inhabitants of Jerusalem... among **brothers and sisters** in every nation, tribe and tongue, in preparation for the prophecies to be fulfilled. One day, Jesus the Messiah of God will return in power and great glory. Those who do what He asked His followers to do, those who work the works He said His people will do; who pay that very small cost, will be greatly rewarded.

Take from them silver and gold, and make a crown, and set it on the head of Joshua;

¹² **and say to him, Thus says the LORD of hosts, Behold the man whose name is The Branch / the Blossom: He will branch out from his place, He will build the temple of the LORD:**

He will do what? And it's as if the LORD wants all the students in his class listening, so He repeats:

¹³ **He will build the temple of the LORD** / and it sort of makes you wonder, does anybody in the House of Judah, and even those in churchianity... read the word of God anymore? **Read chapter 3!!!**

He will build the temple of the LORD; and **He will bear the glory** / it will be His royal honor; and **will sit and rule on His throne** / Messiah will be both: King and Priest; since He is the Prince of peace.

Thus He will be a priest on his throne: and the counsel of peace will be between both offices.

¹⁴ **And the crown will be in the temple of the LORD as a reminder to Helem, Tobijah, Jedaiah, and Hen the son of Zephaniah** / make sure this generation knows, as well as the next... until it happens;

¹⁵ **And those who are far off will come and help build the temple of the LORD. And you will know: the LORD of hosts sent me to you. And this will happen, if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God** / one day, Messiah will remove the crown from David's once honorable, **now** goofy and faithless... civil authority; **when He comes whose right it is to reign**.