

"The 8 Night Visions"

Part 3

Zechariah 1:7-6:15

Introduction: Last week in our study we looked at the second night vision given to Zechariah.

Notice Zechariah 1:18-21

There were 4 horns and 4 carpenters in this night vision. The 4 horns were the 4 Gentile world powers that God would use to chasten the people of Israel and Judah. These Gentile powers would each go too far in what God called them to do and therefore, God would use 4 carpenters/craftsmen to bring judgment upon the horns.

Horns	Carpenters
1. Babylon	1. Persians
2. Persians	2. Greece
3. Greece	3. Rome
4. Rome	4. Jesus Christ

The carpenters became the horns after they went too far. Three of these Gentile powers have already experienced the wrath of God on them. They would be Babylon, Persia, and Greece. Rome will see the wrath of Almighty God in the Tribulation.

Those who mistreat Israel will NEVER get away with their sin. God has His **CARPENTERS** who will bring down His wrath and terrify those who persecute His people.

In all of this there was comfort for God's people of Zechariah's day.

Zechariah 1:13

¹³ *And the LORD answered the angel that talked with me with good words and comfortable words.*

Today we have come to the 3rd night vision which is in Zechariah 2:1-13.

"The Vision of the Surveyor"

Zechariah 2:1-13

I. The Question and the Answer

Notice Zechariah 2:1-2

Zechariah now sees a man with a measuring line and when Zechariah inquires, he finds out that this man is going to measure Jerusalem. He is going to measure the length and the breadth of the city. What is the purpose of this measurement?

God is going to bless Jerusalem and His people, and this measurement is to determine if the city is large enough to receive the blessings which God is going to give. God's intention for the city is so big that the measurement needs to be taken to be sure it can contain what God will do for it. This will be the blessings that will come to Jerusalem in the Millennial Kingdom of Jesus Christ. This is exactly what this night vision is all about.

Malachi 3:10

¹⁰ *Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.*

Think of what this would have meant to the Jews that were in Jerusalem at this time. They were in the midst of rubble and debris and here Zechariah is telling them that Jerusalem needed to be measured to be sure it could receive the blessings which God would one day send.

Let me show you the words of Nehemiah to help us to see what the city was like.

Nehemiah 1:1-3

The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah. And it came to pass in the month Chisleu, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the palace,

² *That Hanani, one of my brethren, came, he and certain men of Judah; and I asked them concerning the Jews that had escaped, which were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem.*

³ *And they said unto me, The remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach: the wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire.*

Nehemiah 2:13, 16-17

¹³ *And I went out by night by the gate of the valley, even before the dragon well, and to the dung port, and viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down, and the gates thereof were consumed with fire.*

¹⁶ *And the rulers knew not whither I went, or what I did; neither had I as yet told it to the Jews, nor to the priests, nor to the nobles, nor to the rulers, nor to the rest that did the work.*

¹⁷ *Then said I unto them, Ye see the distress that we are in, how Jerusalem lieth waste, and the gates thereof are burned with fire: come, and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, that we be no more a reproach.*

These verses help us to see the condition of Jerusalem so we can only imagine how encouraging Zechariah's words were to the Jews. This would have motivated them to get to work on the temple.

II. Restoration

Notice Zechariah 2:3-4

Here we see that Jerusalem will be so populated in the future that walls could never hold all the people in. Not only will there be a population explosion, but she will be extremely wealthy. That is what the cattle speak of. Jerusalem will be a city without walls because of the population. But not only will Jerusalem be repopulated she will also be protected.

Notice Zechariah 2:5

Here we see that God will be her wall. He will be a wall of fire around the city, and He will dwell in the city. This is the return of the Shekinah Glory.

Application:

We need to stop here and realize that this is the protection that every family needs in this world that we live in. This protection comes when we who are His children walk in fellowship with Him. Outside of His will can be a dangerous place for the believer.

Psalm 127:1-2

Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

² *It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.*

Job was a man who was living in the will of God. Notice what Satan said concerning Job.

Job 1:8-10

⁸ *And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?*

⁹ *Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought?*

¹⁰ *Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side?* *thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.*

Remember what was revealed to Elisha and the young prophet in training with him when the Syrians surrounded them?

2 Kings 6:14-17

¹⁴ *Therefore sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by night, and compassed the city about.*

¹⁵ *And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?*

¹⁶ *And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.*

¹⁷ *And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.*

In the will of the Lord we have His protection around us. There was coming a day when Jerusalem will also have His protection. Before the Babylonian captivity they were in sin and the protection was taken away.

Notice Zechariah 2:6-7

Here God is calling all His people back to their homeland. There are 2 gatherings here. One pertains to Zechariah's day as God calls His people to flee from Babylon and come to Jerusalem. The other gathering is at the end of the Great Tribulation. Notice they will come from the 4 corners of the earth.

Matthew 24:29-31

²⁹ *Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:*

³⁰ *And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.*

³¹ **And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.**

This is the final gathering of Israel. This is NOT the rapture.

III. The Protection

Notice Zechariah 2:8

Israel is the Apple of God's Eye.

Deuteronomy 32:9-10

⁹ *For the LORD's portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance.*

¹⁰ *He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, **he kept him as the apple of his eye.***

This is a reference to the pupil of the eye. Those who persecute Israel are "sticking their finger in God's eye." This would cause pain and damage. This is exactly what happens to those who come against God's people.

Notice Zechariah 2:9

God will turn the enemies of Israel into spoil or plunder. Now let us understand that Jerusalem will be the capital of the Kingdom and many blessings will flow from Jerusalem.

It will be the center of worship.

Zechariah 14:16-18

¹⁶ *And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.*

¹⁷ *And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain.*

¹⁸ *And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.*

It will be from Jerusalem that the Word of the Lord will go out.

Isaiah 2:2-3

² *And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.*

³ *And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.*

Now let me show you what happens at the end of the 1000-year Kingdom.

Revelation 20:7-9

⁷ *And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,*

⁸ *And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog, and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.*

⁹ *And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.*

Conclusion:

Notice Zechariah 2:10-13

The Jews who had returned to build the temple were living in some very difficult times, but they were not forgotten, and the promises of God would be fulfilled in the future.

Application:

As we pass through this world of sin and we face many heartaches and struggles, let us remember that what awaits far outweighs the suffering here.

Romans 8:16-18

¹⁶ *The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:*

¹⁷ *And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.*

¹⁸ *For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.*

1 John 3:1-2

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

² *Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*

I show you these verses because while we are the children of God life may be very difficult for us, just as it was for the Jews. But there is coming a day when we will be glorified. All of what we know here will be gone and all things will be new.

Revelation 21:4-5

⁴ *And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*

⁵ *And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.*

As they were called to build let us continue to serve.