

**"The 8 Night Visions"**

**Part 9**

**Zechariah 1:7-6:15**

**Introduction:** So far, we have looked at 6 of the night visions given to Zechariah.

1. Riders & horses (Zech 1:7-17)
2. Four horns & four carpenters (Zech 1:18-21)
3. Man with the measuring line (Zech 2)
4. Cleansing of the High Priest Joshua (Zech 3)
5. Lampstand & olive tree (Zech 4)
6. Flying scroll (Zech 5:1-4)

Today we have come to the 7<sup>th</sup> night vision. The night vision we looked at last week was a warning of coming judgment to the Jews. There will be a time when God will thoroughly purge the nation and when He is finished there will only be one third left.

**Zechariah 13:8-9**

<sup>8</sup> *And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein.*

<sup>9</sup> *And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.*

The night vision we are going to consider today will deal with removing the evil from the Jews.

**I. The Vision**

**Notice Zechariah 5:5-8**

Zechariah sees an ephah which was a basket used for dry measuring, so this vision has to do with commerce. The basket had a lead lid and in the basket was a woman. She is sitting in the basket and her name is wickedness. The lead covering was intended to keep her confined to the basket. She cannot get out as she desires in Zechariah's day. This tells us that things could be much worse in Zechariah's day.

This then raises some questions. Who is this woman? What is restricting her from getting out?

**➤ The Woman**

This woman in the basket is portrayed in two different ways in the book of Revelation.

### **Notice Revelation 17**

In Revelation 17 this woman is picture as the apostate church that will be left here after the rapture. This will be a system that will be used by the Anti-Christ to persecute true believers. This woman is on the back of the Beast which means he will support her at this time. That will change when we get to the end of the chapter.

### **Revelation 6:9-11**

<sup>9</sup> *And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:*

<sup>10</sup> *And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?*

<sup>11</sup> *And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.*

The ten kings in this chapter will be ten kings that serve the Anti-Christ and at the mid-point of the tribulation they will be used to destroy this false worship system. It will be then that the Anti-Christ will set himself up in the temple and claim to be God.

### **2 Thessalonians 2:3-4**

<sup>3</sup> *Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;*

<sup>4</sup> *Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.*

### **Matthew 24:15-21**

<sup>15</sup> *When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)*

<sup>16</sup> *Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:*

<sup>17</sup> *Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house:*

<sup>18</sup> Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.

<sup>19</sup> And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!

<sup>20</sup> But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day:

<sup>21</sup> For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

### **Daniel 9:27**

<sup>27</sup> And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

### **Daniel 12:11**

<sup>11</sup> And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.

### **Notice Revelation 18**

This chapter tells us about commercial Babylon. This is the commercial system that exists today, but it is not even close to as corrupt as it will be during the tribulation.

In Revelation 18:2 we see that this entire system is run by demons. The birds here speak of the demonic world.

### **Matthew 13:3-4, 18-19**

<sup>3</sup> And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow;

<sup>4</sup> And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:

<sup>18</sup> Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.

<sup>19</sup> When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

This WOMAN is both a system and a city. She is the religious and the commercial system and is also a city that will be located in Rome.

➤ **The Restraint**

**Notice Zechariah 5:7-8**

The woman is cast down into the ephah and the lead lid is cast upon the top of here in Zechariah's vision. Therefore we can conclude that she is being restrained. But how is she restrained?

**2 Thessalonians 2:1-8**

*Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,*

<sup>2</sup> *That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.*

<sup>3</sup> *Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;*

<sup>4</sup> *Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.*

<sup>5</sup> *Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?*

<sup>6</sup> *And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.*

<sup>7</sup> *For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.*

<sup>8</sup> *And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:*

In our day WICKEDNESS is restrained by the Holy Spirit. But what about in Zechariah's day?

**Genesis 6:1-3**

*And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,*

<sup>2</sup> That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

<sup>3</sup> And the LORD said, **My spirit shall not always strive with man**, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.

**Notice Zechariah 5:9-11**

Two women come to carry the ephah to the land of Shinar. This is exactly what we read in Revelation 17-18. This is the land of Babylon.

**Conclusion:**

There is coming a day when the world's commercial system and religious system will be located in Babylon. Today this WICKEDNESS is pushing hard against the lead lid because the time is getting closer every day.

What did all of this mean to the Jews building the temple?

God was restraining wickedness so that the temple could be completed. Now was the time to build because there would be a day when wickedness will get out of the basket.

Application: We too live in a day when wickedness is restrained and therefore, we must do all we can now. Once the lid is removed this world will dive much deeper into corruption.