

Minor Prophets  
Zechariah  
Lesson 3

Text: **Zechariah 1:18-3:10**

I. The 4 Horns & 4 Carpenters

A. 4 Horns

i. Scattered Israel, **Vs.19**

a) God allowed the Nations to come in,

- **Isaiah 5:1-7** “Now will I sing to my well beloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My well beloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill:<sup>2</sup>And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes.<sup>3</sup>And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard.<sup>4</sup>What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes?<sup>5</sup>And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up; *and* break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down:<sup>6</sup>And I will lay it waste: it shall not be pruned, nor digged; but there shall come up briars and thorns: I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.<sup>7</sup>For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts *is* the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant:”
- So God allowed each of the 4 kingdoms/ HORNS to come to power, in order to judge Israel, and to judge the preceding Nation.

b) Babylon

- This is actually the second Nation to rise to power for the purpose of Judgment,
  - the first was Assyria, however it was never allowed to go into the Southern Kingdom.
    - It did however go into the Northern Kingdom, and scattered them into all the provenances of the world,
    - it was also the reason the Samaritans were in Israel, they brought other nations in to occupy the Nation.
      - For reasons that are unclear to us, they were sent to other parts of the world,
        - I feel this will become more clear as the 144,000 that will be raise during the last days, 12,000 from each of the tribes.
        - Remember the 10 tribes of the north are considered to be the lost tribes.
  - But after Assyria, Babylon arose as the first “Super” power,
    - Nebuchadnezzar, invaded Israel and in three sieges took the whole of the nation as his prize.
      - Destroying the temple, and enslaving the people. With the intent to assimilate them.
  - Babylon is considered to be the Golden Head of the statue of Nebuchadnezzar dream.
    - Other nations after him would lack the luster of Him, although, they may be stronger.

- Babylon was also represented in **Daniel 7** as the loin with wings
  - speaking of the speed and fierceness of the Nation.
- But they were take over by the “dual kingdom” of...
- c) Media- Persian
  - This kingdom started out with two nations allying together to defeat Babylon,
    - but as most struggles of power, the throne is not easily shared.
  - This is represented by the silver body of the dream with the arms folded.
    - The Mead empire was controlled by Darius, who was defeated by Cyrus the great.
      - Then the Nation became the Persian empire.
      - This is also symbolized in the bear in **Daniel 7**
      - and then in Daniel **8** the ram, which had two horns, and the one was cut off.
        - The stronger will overtake the weaker, the same as the arms folded, the weaker under the stronger.
  - It is under Cyrus the the Nation would start to rebuild.
    - We do not have “inspired biblical accounts” of the Grecian and Roman Rise,
      - however we do have history,
- d) Grecian
  - the third “Horn” is Alexander the great, the Grecian empire,
  - The body of brass,
    - the military complex, a powerful and brutal army.
      - The four wings, and 4 heads represented the kingdom that was divided to the generals of Alexander. (**Daniel 7**)
      - Daniel 8 relates him to a goat,
        - the Grecian were considered goat people, in fact Alexanders son was called the son of Goat.
    - Alexander died at the age of 32.
- e) Roman
  - the 4<sup>th</sup> Horn was the roman empire,
    - the empire of the New testament, it was during the time of Jesus,
      - and a lot of the world still practices government on the model of the Romans.
        - Even America.
    - This empire would be a combination of all,
      - it starts out as iron, but then it is diluted with others
        - making it weaker.
    - The vision is also about the carpenters,

## B. 4 Carpenters

### i. to cut down the last.

- a) As each nation came to power, the were responsible to take down the nation before them.
  - The Babylonians took down Assyria, Mead took Babylon- Grecian- Roman.
    - There is one question I have tho, is it that Babylon took out Assyria, of the Kingdom of God takes out the Roman kingdom?

## II. The Measuring Line of Jerusalem, Vs2:1-13

### A. A Messianic Prophecy,

**i. God is the Owner,**

- a) one of the first things we can learn from this vision is that God is the owner of Israel, no matter who occupies it.
- Who has the right to servery land? The owner,
    - So God sent this young man out to measure it.
  - I think also because He is using a line, it indicates there is a standard of God,
    - it is not left to human wisdom, but to the standard God lays aside.

**ii. Future Expansion,**

- a) During the time of the prophecy, the Nation of Israel was confined to one small portion, and it was ruled by Persia.
- But the man came with the words of encouragement, the Nation was going to grow.
  - Not only in size of land, but with number of people and cattle, **vs.4**

**iii. Unwalled Cities**

- a) **vs.6** is the calling of the Nation back home,
- this is where the 144,000 will come from, they will have placed in their heart the desire to return to Israel,
    - this is already happening today, people are flocking to Israel.
    - **Isaiah 11:11&12** “And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. **12** And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. ”
- b) God ensures, that It was His plan for them to be scattered, He allowed it to happen,
- just as in **Isaiah 5**, God allowed.
- c) The reason Judgment came on the other nations is because of the cruelty they inflicted on Israel,
- God allowed them to go in and scatter Israel, but He did not command them to, and He did not command them to inflict such server torment.
  - So he sent judgment on them,
    - Remember the promise to Abraham in **Genesis 12**, I will bless those that bless thee, and curse those that curse thee.
  - He gives the reason, it was because Israel is the apple of His eye, **Vs.8**
    - the pupil of the eye, in Jewish tradition is the most sensitive part of the body,
      - this is a picture of how if we strike at what God loves, we are striking at Him.
- d) **Vs.9** lets Israel know that the once master would be a spoil, prize of victory to the servant.
- This is somewhat pictured in Egypt when Israel left, and all the Egyptians gave them things.
- e) **Vs.10-13** is a picture of the messianic kingdom, the 1,000 year reign.
- All the gentile Nations that will come to God for rule,
  - Israel will be part of that governing body.
- f) The reason it will be un-walled, is God will at that time be the protector of them,
- they will not need other defense.

**III. High Priest Joshua**

A. Israel's future Cleansing from Sin and Reinstatement as the Priestly Nation,

**i. Internal Affairs,**

- a) In the first three visions, it speaks of Israel as a nation, the expansion, and the dealings with others,
  - but in this vision, it focuses on the internal condition of Israel.
- b) Satan's Accusations,
  - it is one thing to make a false statement against someone, but it is entirely different to point out a fact.
    - The Lord rebukes Satan, not because his accusations were false, but because he stood in the place of judgment.
      - Remember Satan wanted to be like God.
  - There is no doubt Israel was sinful, the picture of the dirty clothing shows that,
    - filthy garments, **vs.3**
  - **Vs.4**, he commands those standing by to take the filth away, and to clothe him with clean garments,
    - I cannot help but to think of the prodigal son, the father put new robes on Him,
      - also he used his servants to do it.
      - **See Luke 15:11-32**
  - God is the one that cleanses us from sin,
    - and to cause it to “pass from thee” is a picture of the dealing with it on the cross.
      - Jesus transferred our Sin to Himself.

**ii. The Head Dress,**

- a) a high priest's mitre, that is turban,
  - the priestly office had been soiled with sin,
    - And God is going to cleanse it,
      - What was Israel's responsibility to God and the world, what was their duty?
        - To represent God to the world. But he soiled it.
  - God was preparing to clean it,
    - see, the practice of the ceremonial law was not a bad thing as long as the nation kept in mind what they were doing, it was a picture of Christ,
      - but when the practice became about the law, then it was an idol.
      - God is going to bring it back to where it was supposed to be.

**iii. If, and Then, Vs. 7-10**

- a) If you walk in my ways,
  - follow me, where I go and send. “OBEDIANCE”
- b) If you Keep my charge,
  - my words, my will...
- c) then you will be placed in a position of judges, and in my courts.
- d) Then I will give you honor among other nations.
- e) The stone with 7 eyes:
  - 7 is the biblical number for perfection, so it is the all seeing eyes of God
  - The title is “Lord of Hosts”
  - The foundational stone is Jesus
  - The removing of Sin was the responsibility of Jesus.