

Minor Prophets
Zechariah
Lesson 6

Text: 6:1-15

I. God Judges the Nations

A. Bronze Mountains

i. Brass,

a) through the bible Brass is a picture of judgment.

- The Altar of Sacrifice was made of Brass,
 - **Exodus 27:1-8** “And thou shalt make an altar *of* shittim wood, five cubits long, and five cubits broad; the altar shall be foursquare: and the height thereof *shall be* three cubits. **2** And thou shalt make the horns of it upon the four corners thereof: his horns shall be of the same: and thou shalt overlay it with brass. **3** And thou shalt make his pans to receive his ashes, and his shovels, and his basons, and his fleshhooks, and his firepans: all the vessels thereof thou shalt make *of* brass. **4** And thou shalt make for it a grate of network *of* brass; and upon the net shalt thou make four brasen rings in the four corners thereof. **5** And thou shalt put it under the compass of the altar beneath, that the net may be even to the midst of the altar. **6** And thou shalt make staves for the altar, staves *of* shittim wood, and overlay them with brass. **7** And the staves shall be put into the rings, and the staves shall be upon the two sides of the altar, to bear it. **8** Hollow with boards shalt thou make it: as it was shewed thee in the mount, so shall they make *it*.”
 - the same word for brass and bronze is used.
 - So what was the altar of sacrifice?
 - It was a picture of where sin was judged. Judgment.
 - We see another example in
 - **Numbers 21:9** “And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.”
 - I'll tell you for a long time this one had me puzzled. I knew it represented Christ, but isn't Christ the spotless lamb of God. Perfect, without fault of sin? Then how is it He is represented by Brass, a symbol of judgment?
 - **II Corinthians 5:21** “For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”
 - So the brass represents judgment,

B. The Two Mountains,

i. Represents:

- a) Governments, **Isa. 13:4; 25:7; Hab. 3:6**
- b) God's Power, **Amos 4:13; Matt. 17:1; Rev. 21:10**
- c) Individual Barriers, **Isa. 40:4; Zech. 4:7**
- d) Life's High points, **Isa 40:9**
- e) Actual Mountains,
 - the question we need to ask, is what is being referred to here?
 - First, they are made of brass. So I think safely we can rule out actual mountains.

- However, there are those who will point to **Zechariah 14**, and the “valley of my mountains” and these two are the Mt. Of Olives after it is split into two.
 - **Zechariah 14:4**
- I have looked at several commentaries, and they fail to give a definitive answer on what the mountains mean. So, I really don't know either.
 - I will say, it is not described by the angel in his interpretation either.
 - But, I will say one commentator simply put it like this,
 - not the two witnesses, or the two mountains, but God out of His judgment will send his angels to all the earth gathering those for judgment.
 - It is out of judgment that God will judge the earth.
 - We view God as loving and compassionate, and this is all true, but if we explore His character to the fullest, then it says “That by no means clears the guilty” after the mercy, grace, and Love of God, there is judgment that awaits.

C. Four Chariots

i. Chariots are a Symbol of Power,

- a) in history, it was the war machines that got the attention,
 - in history one of the most powerful machines was the chariot,
 - in fact the Hebrew word for Chariot, is still used today:
 - Merk-Abah- it is the name of Israels tanks.
- b) Pharaohs army was noted as having chariots, indicating they were prepared for war.

ii. God's Chariots,

- a) have always been superior than anything on earth,
- b) He overthrew Pharaohs chariots in the Red Sea
- c) **II Kings 6:17** Elisha prayed the eyes of his servant opened to see the hills lined with the chariots of the Lord (flaming chariots)
- d) David wrote “The chariots of God *are* twenty thousand, *even* thousands of angels: the Lord *is* among them, *as in* Sinai, in the holy *place*.” **Psalms 68:17**
- e) The chariots often picture judgment:
 - **Isaiah 66:15** “For, behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.”
 - **Jeremiah 4:13** “Behold, he shall come up as clouds, and his chariots *shall be* as a whirlwind: his horses are swifter than eagles. Woe unto us! for we are spoiled.”

iii. The Horses,

- a) it does not mention the riders here, but a traditional chariot has three, one to steer, one with a shield, and one with a bow.
- b) But it does mention the horses, and the color of the horses,
- c) The first is Red,
 - if we follow the picture of revelation 6 red represents war. He is carrying a sword
- d) Second is Black
 - **Revelation 6** uses black to picture of destruction and death. In Revelation he is carrying a scale announcing judgment.
- e) Third is White
 - in Revelation the white horse has a bow, and pictures the Antichrist who will lead a army into war.

- f) Fourth is Grisled,
 - the word grisled means speckled. And there is no speckled horse in Revelation, but there is a pale one, Death.
- g) But there are those who think the four horses here are a picture of judgment on the gentile nations that took Israel captive.
 - Babylonian, Med-Persian, Grecian, and Roman
 - Notice the black and white go to the north country (vs.6)
 - the north was a way of saying Babylon,
 - the Speckled, or Grisled goes to the south.
 - **Ezekiel 38** refer to Libya, Saudi Arabia, and Ethiopia as the “south”
 - so some will look at this as a prophecy of the God and Magog war.
 - The scripture does not tell where the red horse goes.
- h) they are all Bay Horses
 - simply they are all strong steeds, they are able to complete their task.
 - To and fro in all the earth, it is going to affect the entire world,
 - and this means if it is a parallel to Revelation 6, or if it is the Gog Magog war
- i) the second part of **Zechariah 6** turns to....

II. Prophet, Priest & King

A. The BRANCH

i. Title of Jesus

- a) the branch is a title given to Jesus in the millennium kingdom.
- b) **Revelation 5:5** “And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.”
- c) **Jeremiah 23:5** “Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.”
- d) **Isaiah 4:2** “In that day shall the branch of the LORD be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth *shall be* excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel.”
- e) Notice the writing of the word BRANCH,
 - all large capitol letters,
 - this is a way of naming the LORD.
 - When they replaced the name of God with another name, a proper noun, it would be capitalized as well.
 - It is clear that the name of the LORD is BRANCH

ii. Building the Temple,

- a) the true temple of God is not built by man, but by God,
 - in fact if we read **Acts 17:24&25** “God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;25Neither is worshipped with men’s hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;”
 - We see a similar thing when it comes to building the church
 - **Matthew 16:18** “**And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.**”
 - so it is Jesus that will build the church, it is also Jesus that build the temple.

B. Crown for the Priest,

i. After the Visions,

- a) the message of God was not over. We do not know how long after the visions that

Zechariah got the word of the Lord to make a crown, but the assumption can be made, it was pretty close to the time of the visions.

- b) But the message was for everyone,
 - and Zechariah would pass it on to everyone.

ii. Three Travelers,

- a) We are told three would be coming from Babylon to bring gifts for the temple to be rebuilt.
 - In a way it looks like the magi bringing gifts to baby Jesus.
 - However these three are Jews, who have gifts of Gold and Silver,
- b) Heldai- kel-day, wordilenss
 - in **vs. 14** referred to as Helem- kel-em, a dream
 - **Proverbs 13:22** “A good *man* leaveth an inheritance to his children’s children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.”
- c) Tobijah- tow-biah, goodness of Jehovah
- d) Jedaiah- yakda-yah- God knows
- e) While we are on names look at Josiah, founded of God,
 - Hen- Chen “Grace/ Gracious”

iii. A Crown for the Priest,

- a) the crown is a double ringed crown,
 - **Vs.11** refer to it as “crownS” plural, this does not mean there were two crown, but one with two rings.
 - Most likely one of silver and one of Gold.
 - One would think, perhaps one for the priest and one for the governor,
- b) The crowns were to be placed on the same man,
 - this was all a symbolic act, this was not to crown Joshua as king, but to serve as a picture of what would one day happen.
 - I find it interesting that the name of the priest at this time was Joshua, do you know what the Greek translation of that name is? Jesus.
 - The crown would serve as a memorial of the promise of what would one day take place,
 - it pictured Jesus as Priest and King.
 - No time in the history of Israel did one man serve in the two offices.
 - The closest reference we even have is the person of Melchizedek,
 - **Genesis 14**, but the origins of this man was unknown.
 - Jesus will be able to serve as both High Priest and King,
 - bringing the two ruling orders under the same authority,
 - c) What happened to the crown?
 - I have looked, and asked other Pastors,
 - but there is no other reference to be found about them.