Zechariah 4:1-14 - The Glory of God's Work!

Scriptures:

<sup>1</sup> Now the angel who talked with me came back

Notes: It is believed that Zechariah received all eight visions in one night. It appears that he had to be awakened.

and wakened me, as a man who is wakened out

of his sleep.

stir up

Scriptures: Exodus 25:37 - You shall make seven lamps for it, and they shall arrange its lamps so that they give light in front of it.

Revelation 4:5 - And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

<sup>2</sup> And he said to me, "What do you see?" So I

Notes: 'seven lamps' (Exo 25:37: Rev. 4:5)

'seven' is the number of completeness or wholeness. Three times seven suggests perfect completeness.

said, "I am looking, and there is a lampstand of

## solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the

H1531 -

stand seven lamps with seven pipes to the seven

H4166 - spouts

lamps.

Scriptures: Revelation 11:3-4 -And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth." 4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. <sup>3</sup> Two <u>olive trees</u> *are* by it, one at the right of the

Notes: 'Two olive trees' – (Rev. 11:4)

Olive trees produce oil for the lamps.

bowl and the other at its left."



<sup>4</sup> Sol answered and spoke to the angel who

Notes:

talked with me, saying, "What are these, my



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<sup>5</sup> Then the angel who talked with me answered Notes:

and said to me, "Do you not know what these

are?" And I said, "No, my lord."

Scriptures:

Scriptures: Haggai 1:1 - In the second

year of King Darius, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying...

Hosea 1:7 - Yet I will have mercy on the house of Judah,

Will save them by the LORD their God, And will not save them

by bow, Nor by sword or battle,

By horses or horsemen."

Haggai 2:4-5 - Yet now be strong, Zerubbabel,' says the LORD; 'and be strong, Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; and be strong, all you people of the land,' says the LORD, 'and work; for I am with you,' says the LORD of hosts. 5 'According to the word that I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt, so My Spirit remains among you; do not fear!'

Galatians 3:3 - Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh? <sup>6</sup> So he answered and said to me: "This is the



H2428 – physical strength or power

nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the LORD of

H3581 -

H7307 -

Notes: Zerubbabel is the governor of Judah at this time (Hag. 1:1).

'Not by might nor by power...' – God doesn't need us to be strong to save ourselves – He is strong enough to save us in our weakness (Hos. 1:7). God doesn't need our strength, but He does want us to be strong (Hag. 2:4-5).

Human effort is insufficient to accomplish God's work (Gal. 3:3). God's work must be empowered by God's Spirit working in God's people who humbly apply themselves to the work.

"Relying solely on human resources, human sagacity, and human strength, their efforts would be worthless." (Kaiser, 1992) page 339-340

Sixteen years earlier they had tried to rebuild the temple and were resisted by the other people's living in the land and stopped the work.

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hosts.

Scriptures: Jeremiah 51:25 -Behold, I am against you, O destroying mountain, Who destroys all the earth," says the LORD. "And I will stretch out My hand against you, Roll you down from the rocks, And make you a burnt mountain.

Matthew 7:20b - I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.

### <sup>7</sup> 'Who *are* you, O great mountain? Before

Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he

#### shall bring forth the capstone with shouts of

H68/H7222 – stone/top

"Grace, grace to it!" ' "

H2580 – kindness, favor

#### Notes:

'great mountain' may be symbolic for one of the great world powers (Jer. 51:25). It might be pointing to those who would stand in the way of the work God was doing – rebuilding the temple. It could also mean that the work seemed impossible to the few people who were doing the work (Matt. 7:20).

Faith in the power of God's Spirit to accomplish God's work can move even mountainous obstacles from the path.

'capstone' = the final stone that completes the building. That would be a time for rejoicing and celebration. Scriptures:

<sup>8</sup> Moreover the word of the LORD came to  $me_{t}$ ,

Notes:

Notes:

Scriptures: Ezra 3:8-10 -Now in the second month of the second year of their coming to the house of God at Jerusalem, Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel. Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and the rest of their brethren the priests and the Levites, and all those who had come out of the captivity to Jerusalem, began work and appointed the Levites from twenty years old and above to oversee the work of the house of the LORD. 9 Then Jeshua with his sons and brothers, Kadmiel with his sons, and the sons of Judah, arose as one to oversee those working on the house of God: the sons of Henadad with their sons and their brethren the Levites. 10 When the builders laid

the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests stood in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, to praise the LORD, according to the ordinance of David king of Israel.

Ezra 6:14-15 - So the elders of the Jews built, and they prospered through the prophesving of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. And they built and finished it, according to the commandment of the God of Israel, and according to the command of Cyrus, Darius, and Artaxerxes king of Persia, 15 Now the temple was finished on the third day of the month of Adar, which was in the sixth year of the reign of King Darius.

Philippians 1:6 - being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

#### saying:

### <sup>9</sup> "The hands of Zerubbabel

have laid the foundation of this temple; his hands

H3245 -

'laid the foundation' (Ezra 3:8-10) 'shall finish it' – (Ezra 6:14-15)

When God sets out to do a work, it will be completed (Phil. 1:6).

There are 1,189 chapters in the Bible. In 2005, I started writing devotionals on a verse or two of the Bible. I now have a goal of writing one for every chapter of the Bible. I am now at about 1,000. How do I do it? One at a time!

### shall also finish it. Then you will know that the

H1214 -

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Scriptures: 2 Chronicles 16:9a - For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him.

Proverbs 15:3 -The eyes of the LORD are Recepting watch on the evil For these seven rejoice to see the plumb line in in every place, and the good.

<sup>10</sup> For who has despised the day of small things?

H936 – 'To look down on with contempt.'

H8055 -

H6996 insignificant

H68/H913 stone/plumb Notes:

'small things' – Every work of God is a great work even when it is small in the eyes of humans.

"No work that God directs is unimportant or insignificant but has eternal value and importance." (Hocking, 2000)

'eyes of the Lord' (2 Chron. 16:9) God sees everything (Prov. 15:3).

"...little is much when God is involved..." (Barker, 2008) page 762

'plumb line' in the original is difficult to interpret. Some suggest that a better interpretation is 'chosen stone' referring to the capstone.

the hand of Zerubbabel. They are the eyes of the

LORD, which scan to and fro throughout the

whole earth."

Scriptures: Revelation 11:4 - These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. <sup>11</sup> Then answered and said to him, "What are

Notes: 'two olive trees' – The two witnesses in the Tribulation (Rev. 11:4).

these two olive trees—at the right of the

lampstand and at its left?"

Scriptures:

<sup>12</sup> And I further answered and said to him, "What Notes:

### are these two olive branches that drip into the

### receptacles of the two gold pipes from which the

golden oil drains?"

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Scriptures:

<sup>13</sup> Then he answered me and said, "Do you not

know what these are?" And said, "No, my lord."

Scriptures:

# <sup>14</sup> So he said, "These are the two anointed ones,

H1121 - Literally 'Son of oil'

who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth."

H5975 - H5921 -

Notes:

'two anointed ones' might refer to Joshua, the high priest, and Zerubbabel, the governor.

'stand beside' = serving

God chooses to use people to do His great works. He may use small people to do small works and he raise someone up to do great works. He can do great works through small churches and through great church groups. Ultimately, any work that God does in this world is great.

Never despise even the smallest of works, it is playing a part in God's great work of redeeming the world.

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