

October 24, 2010

“The King, the Candlestick and the Spirit of God”

Zechariah 4

I. The King –

1. Zerubbabel was not Solomon –

A. Not in his gifts –

And God gave Solomon wisdom and exceedingly great understanding, and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore. ...³⁴ And men of all nations, from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom, came to hear the wisdom of Solomon. (1 Kings 4:29-34 NKJ)

B. Not in his resources –

⁵ And behold, I propose to build a house for the name of the LORD my God, as the LORD spoke to my father David, saying, "Your son, whom I will set on your throne in your place, he shall build the house for My name."⁶ Now therefore, command that they cut down cedars for me from Lebanon

(1Ki 5:5-6 NKJ)

¹⁰ Then Hiram gave Solomon cedar and cypress logs according to all his desire. ¹¹ And Solomon gave Hiram twenty thousand kors of wheat as food for his household, and twenty kors of pressed oil. Thus Solomon gave to Hiram year by year. (1Ki 5:10-11 NKJ)

²² The whole temple he overlaid with gold, until he had finished all the temple; also he overlaid with gold the entire altar that was by the inner sanctuary. (1Ki 6:22 NKJ)

C. Not in his title, power or worldly fame – “and his fame was in all the surrounding nations.” 1 Kings 4:31

1 Kings 10 -

Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to test him with hard questions. ...⁴ And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built,⁵ the food on his table, the seating of his servants, the service of his waiters and their apparel, his cupbearers, and his entryway by which he went up to the house of the LORD, there was no more spirit in her. ⁶ Then she said to the king: "It was a true report which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom. ⁷ "However I did not believe the words until I came and saw with my own eyes; and indeed the half was not told me. Your wisdom and prosperity exceed the fame of which I heard. (1 Kings 10:1-7 NKJ)

Zerubbabel was not technically a King, He could not be because Israel

was under control of Persia, his building was humble and by some despised –³ `Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? In comparison with it, is this not in your eyes as nothing? (Hag 2:3 NKJ) See Haggai 2:1-9

2. Yet, God's eyes were upon him- Zechariah 4

⁶ So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: `Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts. ⁷ `Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone with shouts of "Grace, grace to it!"'"⁸ Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

⁹ "The hands of Zerubbabel Have laid the foundation of this temple; His hands shall also finish it. Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you. ¹⁰ For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice to see The plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. They are the eyes of the LORD, Which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth." (Zec 4:6-10 NKJ)

A. He is a type of Christ

Both build Temples - :7-9

Both are humble kings - :10 Zerubbabel was the king of “small things”

Both are anointed ----

B. He is (along with Joshua the High Priest) a son of oil / an anointed one –

Then I answered and said to him, "What are these two olive trees-- at the right of the lampstand and at its left?"¹² And I further answered and said to him, "What are these two olive branches that drip into the receptacles of the two gold pipes from which the golden oil drains?" (Zechariah 4:11-12 NKJ)

Then he answered me and said, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord."¹⁴ So he said, "These are the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth." (Zechariah 4:13-14 NKJ)

II. The Candlestick –

1. Symbolic of the church, God's faithful Old Testament Saints and the New Testament Saints as well –

and the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches.

(Rev 1:20-1 NKJ)

2. Called to be the “lights of the world” –

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

¹⁵ "Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

¹⁶ "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (Mat 5:14-16 NKJ)

3. Gold representing preciousness and purity ... Yet, it is only SYMBOLIC of something even more precious –

⁷ that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, (1Pe 1:7 NKJ)

4. Olive Oil representing The Holy Spirit Who is our Life and Power, our ANNOINTING!

III. The Spirit of God –

So I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, "What are these, my lord?"⁵ Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord."⁶ So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," Says the LORD of hosts. (Zechariah 4:4-6 NKJ)

Do we need Solomon's Temple to do God's work? Do we need silver and gold (money) and the Cedars of Lebanon? Do we need a great crowd of people? NO! The main point of this passage is we need nothing more and nothing less than God's Holy Spirit!

1. Even Jesus depended upon God's Spirit –

The greatness of the Holy Spirit is seen in the life of Jesus Christ -

1. The Holy Spirit formed Christ's human body in the womb of the virgin Mary – Luke 1:31 & :35

2. The Holy Spirit endowed Christ with all graces – Isaiah 11:1-2

3. The Holy Spirit anoints Jesus Christ at the beginning of His earthly ministry:

A. His title Christ means "the Anointed One" therefore His most popular title is one taken from the Spirit's influence on His life and ministry – Isaiah 61:1-3; Matthew 3:16-17; John 1:29-34

C. This title rolls into one the three "anointed" offices of the Old Testament: Prophet – Acts 3:22, Priest – Hebrews 7:17 & 23-28 and King – Revelation 17:14

I believe Zechariah 4:14 is ultimately a reference to Christ's ministry

4. The Holy Spirit "led" our Lord Jesus Christ – Mathew 4:1

5. The Holy Spirit is the Power behind our Lord's casting out of demons – Matthew 12:24-32

6. The Holy Spirit "the Eternal Spirit" is the Power behind Christ taking up the cross as a Holy Sacrifice for our sins – Hebrews 9:14

7. The Holy Spirit is the great Power behind Christ's resurrection from the dead – Romans 8:11

2. Our ministry as the church is totally dependent upon God's Spirit –

A. Christ is the title He has because He was filled with the Holy Spirit --- ANNOINTED –

"For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure. (John 3:34 NKJ)

We are "Christians" because we share that same anointing!

Christ gives us the Holy Spirit –

So he said, "These are the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth." (Zechariah 4:14 NKJ)

Jesus' death was His glorification, it was necessary before the Spirit would be truly or fully given –

On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink."³⁸ "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."³⁹ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. (John 7:37-39 NKJ)

It is part of Jesus' Kingly rule to baptize with the Holy Spirit –

¹¹ "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. (Mat 3:11 NKJ)

The Spirit of God was with Zerubbabel in building the Temple, He is with us today! Let us pray!

⁹ "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

¹⁰ "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

¹¹ "If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish?

¹² "Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?

¹³ "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" (Luk 11:9-13 NKJ)