

# Zechariah 04 - Horns of Power Become Shofars

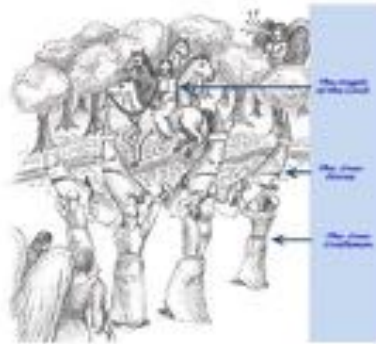
Zechariah - 1:18-21  
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## Context of this Vision

- God addressed the complacency of the Gentile nations in the first vision
- In this vision the nations are again addressed but as adversaries of Jerusalem, city of His presence - Peace
- God will judge the nations who seek to destroy His people, His salvation, following Satan

## The Vision Itself

- Four horns appear as the Gentile nations
- Four craftsmen appear to subdue the horns
- The key to understanding is contained in Hebrew language and culture



## Four Number of Completion

- Four encompasses, completes and contains the subject:
  - Four corners of the globe (Isa 11:10-12)
  - Four winds on earth (Isa 7:1)
  - Four horns of the altar (Ex 27:1-2)
  - Universe completed on Day Four ready for life (Gen 1:14-19)
  - Four Cherubim around God's Throne (Isa 4:5-8)
  - Four Gospels completes history of Christ's sacrifice

## Horns Represent Powers

- This imagery probably goes back to Nimrod, first world ruler at Babel, a "mighty hunter" before God (Gen 10:8-12)
  - Horns associated with grazing animals usually of great strength or speed (Isa 31:13-17)
  - Once horns are removed they are *worked* and used as shofars to call people to worship or war (Isa 6:1-16, Joel 2:1-17)
- Horns only removed by one stronger than its owner (Isa 7:7-8)

## Horns of the Altars

- Sacrificial and Incense altars had horns at corner
- Power of God over sin-blood
- Rectangle-God contains sin
- Sinners will find mercy at the horns if innocent (Isa 27:2-5, 1Isa 1:49-53, 2:25-4:1)



## Looking at the Hebrew

- Scattered (הַרְפֵּץ) - Conveys the idea of winnowing
  - Separating the wheat from the chaff (Le 26:27-49)
  - The wind (Spirit of God) removes the chaff while the wheat falls to the floor to be gathered by the reaper
  - Used as discipline with idea of recalling when complete
    - God recalled a remnant from Babylon
    - God to recall a remnant from the nations at the end of age

## Specialists *Terrify* the Horns

- These specialists are Angels empowered by God (Ze 3:1-2)
- Terrify (רָחַף) -Such a profound fear producing involuntary shaking (seizure-like)
  - Elihu *shakes* as he beholds God's majesty (Job 37:1-5)
  - People and Mount Horeb *shake* at God's Presence (Ex 19:16-18)
  - Egypt will *shake* at the Day of the Lord, repenting (Is 19:16-20)

## Specialists Defeat the Horns

- Cast Down (הִפֵּץ) - Not only do the angelic specialists defeat these powers but also results in their confession of God's deity and glory and their sin; righteously judged as guilty (Is 49:22-23; Ps 139:11)
  - They knell and confess that Christ is above all powers
  - Christians will also knell before Him confessing Him (Is 44:30-32)
- Angels remove the horns of power turning them into shofars declaring God's glory (Is 73:10)

## Which Nations?

- All nations were against His people, His message
- Four horns means all nations, not specific ones
- Past, (their) present and future nations against His people (True Jews)



## Horns: Nations Rejecting God

- Many have tried to show specific nations which misses truth: all nations, peoples, against God's Gospel (Sin)
  - Gentiles led His people astray via the error of Balaam (Dt 2:34-16, Jc 10-11, Rr 2:14)
  - His people wanted to be led astray; thus, exiled (1K 8:27-34)
  - They repented and He recalled them (Dt 9:1-19)
  - They will proclaim His message by rebuilding Temple (1K 8:41-43)

## Horns Show What Powers?

- The true powers are not the peoples or nations but the forces behind the nations which the peoples worship
  - The principalities and powers of spiritual wickedness are at work in this world against God (Ep 6:12)
  - They cannot separate God's people from God (Ro 8:37-39)
- Satan has one modus operandi, deception, running throughout the Scriptures resulting in death (Jc 8:43-45)

## Horns of Spiritual Power

- Satan - Dragon of old who is the source behind his people used to accuse God and men (Re 12:7-9)
- Antichrist - Visible expression of Satanic deception: (Re 13:1-17)
  - Cain (Ge 4:6-10)
  - Nimrod (Ge 10:8-10, 11:1-9)
  - Coming small horn speaking blasphemy to the people; embodiment of all earlier Gentile kingdoms (Da 7:2-8)

## Spiritual Horns of Power (Cont)

- False Prophet - Via religion he legitimizes and deceives men to believe Satan's lies to follow his man (Religion: morality, one's values, basis of right and wrong) (Re 13:11-17)
- Demons - Fallen angels who follow Satan empowering human rulers via a vast network fulfilling **the plan** (Re 12:3-4, 7-9; 16:13-14)

## Glimpse of Powers at Work

- Daniel prayed for understanding for his visions
  - His pray was immediately answered; however,
  - The angel tasked with answering took three weeks as he was contending with the *demon* over Persia and was awaiting relief by Michael, angel over God's people
- This glimpse reveals the ongoing spiritual war which continues today: God holds nations in check (Da 10:16-18)



## Zechariah Concerned with Jews

- Zechariah's vision concerned the Jews welfare
  - All nations controlled by Satanic powers
  - They are at rest believing God deserted His people; thus, no Lake of Fire for them {No people - No Savior}
  - God shows Zechariah He has not deserted His people; He is dealing with the nations according to **His plan**
  - In the end, all powers will acknowledge Christ as Lord

## Supports Daniel's Vision of Hope

- Daniel was told that Michael, the angel, has special charge over God's people (Dn. 12:1-4)
  - True Jews will be resurrected to eternal glory
  - False Jews will be resurrected to eternal shame
  - Time will be hidden until God reveals the Day
  - People will be busy in vain pursuits increasing knowledge but not of God

## Success Undid Satan's Plan

- Since Satan could not stop Christ's first coming, he agitated both *false Jews* and Gentile power (Rome) to crucify Messiah, to stop **the plan** (Jc 2:14-19)
  - Aspects of the plan were hidden from Satan (Mystery) (Ez 8:1-10, G+1:12, 1Ti 3:16, Re 10:5-7)
  - Satan's plan actually completed God's plan (2Ti 2:7)
  - By having Pilate place the title, King of the Jews, on the *stauros*, Satan acknowledged that Jesus was King, a title He will assume when He comes again at God's time (Re 19:11-17)

## End of the Horns of Power

- At the end of this dispensation when Christ returns:  
(Re 19:19-20:1, 7-10)
  - Satan will be bound (Always with his demons)
  - Antichrist and False Prophet go directly to Lake of Fire
  - At end of Millennial Kingdom Satan will be released
  - He will again ferment rebellion against God's people
  - God ends creation in fire as they surround Jerusalem
  - Satan put in Lake of Fire where others remain

## Christians Stand in Armor

- God does not leave us defenseless (Eph 6:12-13)
  - We put on His armor and stand where placed
  - This has always been God's plan from the beginning
  - We must understand and resist lies of Satan (Eph 2:15-17)
- We stand trusting God to never leave or forsake us; nor can Satan bring our sin between God's love and our salvation (Rom 8:37-39)

## Saved Live With Christ in Eternity

- The saved of all peoples will live in eternity future  
(Re 20:11-15, 21:1-7, 22:26, 22:14-17)
  - Christ will be in New Jerusalem above new Earth
  - We will walk with Him and He with us
- The lost go to Lake of Fire being searched for any speck of Christ's righteousness for expatriation; but, none will be found - they did not want His righteousness and He did not force it on them, as He did on us