

Zechariah 08 – Israel: Light of Truth to All Peoples

Zechariah - 4:1-14
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Example of Eisegesis

- Zechariah's fifth vision has been variously interpreted through the ages reflecting what men want it to say rather than reading what it actually says
- This is not surprising since even Zechariah was suppose to know what the elements of this vision represented, and did not, reflecting the slowness of man to accept the clearly given word of God [He had an excuse]

There is no Church

- Many commentaries have seen the Church in various forms in their interpretations
 - This reflects *their* Replacement Theology worldview
 - Church was the *First Fruits* of the New Covenant
 - Church to be raptured at the start of Great Tribulation
 - Vision represents *Millennial Kingdom* viewpoint [Israel]
 - Vision represents *Israel* embracing the New Covenant

Wake Up Israel: Enter the Kingdom

- This vision begins with the angel waking Zechariah
 - Israel, true Jews, waking, receiving Messiah (Zc 12:10; Ro 11:25,31)
- Angel asks what Zechariah sees; he sees but does not see (Is 29:10-14; Ro 11:7-8)
 - Awakened from his stupor Zechariah sees but does not understand what he sees; blinded by Law (Flesh-Me)
 - Angel explains what the vision means to future Israel

There is no Candlestick

- Menorah (Hebrew) is the branched light stand
- Placed in the Holy Place
- Priests tended, cleaned (morning) and lit, wicks and oil replenished (evening) - Daily



Menorah: Metaphor of Israel

- Zechariah: clear vision
 - 1 Bowl: 7 Tubes
 - 1 Menorah: 7 Lights
 - 1 Light: 7 wicks
 - 2 Olive trees: 2 tubes
 - Olive oil: One
 - Unity of Christ/Spirit



Glimpse the Truth

- Zechariah, Old Testament Israel, could not see clearly because they were trapped in works of Law and flesh
- This vision reflects Israel entering the New Covenant providing light of Christ to the world
- Angel references Zerubbabel (זְרֻבָבֶל), born in Babylon
 - Though from Talmud, used of God for His glory

Angel *Interprets* the Menorah

- Israel will not rule in Millennial Kingdom through the power of the flesh but as conduits of God's Spirit
 - The Great Mountain (Lucifer's kingdom) defeated and world unified in truth (Plain) of Christ (Is 51:24-33)
 - Zerubbabel, present at foundation (Christ in Temple), will be there at the setting of the capstone of the Temple (Christ ushers in His Kingdom) (Sign: Near-Far Views)
 - Jerusalem is Babylon then cleansed by God (Zerubbabel) (Re 18:21-24)

Despised Small Things

- Those who mourned when comparing this Temple to Solomon's will rejoice to see completion of Temple
 - Man cannot envision God's goals unless God shows him, purpose of vision (Zechariah) (Is 64:4, Jer 2:5)
 - Teaching all men truth of God-Man unity via blood
 - Began in Godly faith by His word - Plumb line of truth (Isa 36:7)
 - Herod's Temple was of works - Murdered Messiah (Jho 2:15-17; Ro 3:19-23)

Seven Eyes of God - Lights

- The seven lights of the Menorah are the eyes of God bringing light to the world despite darkness of sin
 - Christ is the light of the world (Jn 1:1-9)
 - Nothing is hid from God, all will be revealed (Pr 15:3)
 - Christ will draw men to His light of truth (Jn 12:31-35)
 - Once saved they bear His light in themselves into the world: those attracted-saved; those lost-project dark light (Mt 6:22-23)

Two Olive Trees Revealed

- Olive trees providing oil to the bowl feeding the Menorah's lights
- Joshua, High Priest
- Zerubbabel, Governor
- But not these men per se



Not the Men - Their Offices

- The two branches of Christ's government
- Israel, nation of priests, taking truth to nations
- Government over flesh's rebellion: of those lost and of those saved



Man in the Flesh Needs Government

- The flesh of those entering the Millennial Kingdom (saved) will sin as the saved do today (Ro. 7:13-20, 1Jo. 1:8-10)
- Civil government enforces God's laws demanding moral behavior - Condemns sin in the flesh, instantly
- Priesthood teaches the Gospel-people born again into His Kingdom (Saved) - Answers penalty Law demands

Epilogue of Fifth Vision

- In the Millennial Kingdom Israel, true Jews, will receive Christ and His Kingdom on Earth
 - Israel as nation of priests guide men to learn of Christ
 - David as vice-regent provides law revealing fleshly sin
- Olive oil, Spirit of God, unites all together in Christ who is the only source of salvation and truth in God

Two Different Olive Trees (Re. 11:1-12)

- Two witnesses are olive trees that stand *before* the Lord
- Zechariah's two olive trees stand *beside* Lord of Earth
- Both are standing and therefore *slaves* of the Lord
 - Former, messengers to warn of Christ's coming (Great Trib.)
 - Latter, branches of God's established government (Mil. King.)
 - Both sets of olive trees pour forth Holy Spirit in Christ's grace
 - Do not conflate these - It's the Missions, not the men

Pinnacle of first Five Visions

- All the elements of Christ's Millennial Kingdom set
 - Gentile nations at rest - Israel's mission destroyed
 - Gentile nations rule the world - Living Lucifer's dream
 - Christ claims inheritance as Son of David & High Priest
 - Israel to be a nation of priest - Christ as High Priest
 - Holy Spirit binds all together with the Father and Son
 - Governments rest on: Christ's Truth and Limiting Flesh

Church Never Called to Govern

- Great Commission to the Church - Preach the Gospel
(Mt 16:15-16, 27; 4:12)
 - Went from persecuted to persecuting, based on works
 - RCC sought to merge religious - civil into one entity
 - Protestants became state churches-separate from civil
 - Become tools of Lucifer used against Christ's Gospel
 - *First Fruits*: Satan *allowed* to rule; we *must* teach Him
 - This is the error of Replacement Theology

Christ Taught Separation of Powers

- King (Civil) was never to be the source of spiritual truth (morality) - Men corrupt truth for power (Zch 26:16-21)
- Faith (Priesthood) defines God's morality for people
- Separation of Powers in function but same in truth
(Eph 4:4-7)
 - Civil punishes sin (Ro 13:1-5)
 - Bible teaches man the Gospel for each person to live

Nation-State Added New Branch

- In Ancient Israel - Priests/Judges decided disputes
- In Monarchy - King judged disputes, guiding by Law
- In Post Exile - Sanhedrin (Sadducees - Priests and Pharisees - Synagogues) judged disputes
- Gentile Nation-State - Judicial added to judge disputes between entities but stands as judge over other branches

Judicial Judging Is Not Wise (CC- 30.12)

- Modern law based on it's own precedents ergo based on man's reason which rejects Biblical truth (Ro- 8.7-8)
 - Reaction against RCC and Protestant state-churches
 - Freedom from truth promotes tyranny of majority - man's truth overwhelms God's truth: expected-inevitable
 - Commonality among false faith moralities (Gnosticism) all peoples to the acceptance of Lucifer's lies as truth

Rejection of God's Model = Tyranny

- Christ the living example of God's truth is conveyed exactly the same to all people via Holy Spirit {Body}
- Rejection of or addition to God's model = Tyranny
- In Millennial Kingdom man will live under perfect government based on pure form of God's Law under Christ's purview - Man will rebel with Lucifer, again