

BOOK OF ZECHARIAH
SYMBOLIC CROWNING OF THE HIGH PRIEST!
ZECHARIAH 6:9-11

Introduction

We see here that although the eight **VISIONS** were completed, yet the **LORD** was not finished speaking to **HIS SERVANT**. Next we find a beautiful and fitting **CLIMAX** not only to the **VISIONS**, but also to the **HISTORY OF THIS WORLD** as man has known it.

Immediately following the overthrow of the world's **COMMERCIAL, POLITICAL, and RELIGIOUS POWERS** symbolized in the **VISION OF THE FOUR CHARIOTS (6:1-8)** comes **THE REVELATION OF MESSIAH IN HIS KINGDOM GLORY (6:9-15)**.

The **PROPHESED RETURN** of the **MESSIAH** for **HIS ROYAL CORONATION** is foreshadowed here by the **CROWNING of the HIGH PRIEST, JOSHUA**. **JOSHUA** represented **THE BRANCH**, the coming **MESSIAH, WHO** will **REBUILD THE FUTURE TEMPLE** and will be both **PRIEST** and **KING!**

The **VISIONS** and their **CLIMAX** follows the **PROPHETIC ORDER** of first the **CLEANSING AND REFINING OF GOD'S PEOPLE** under **HIS** protection until history culminates in the **JUDGMENTS of the DAY OF THE LORD**, then the return of the **KING** and **HIS KINGDOM BLESSINGS**. (*Isaiah 11:1-10, Revelation 19:19-21, 20:4-6*).

LET'S SEE THIS SYMBOLIC CROWNING OF THE HIGH PRIEST! (Vs 9-11)

The **MAN** to whom **ALL of HISTORY** points is **THE BRANCH from the house of DAVID**. Everything will be laid before **HIS** feet. **HE** will set up an **UNPRECEDENTED KINGDOM—UNPRECEDENTED IN LENGTH and GLORY!**

It would seem that shortly after the eight **VISIONS GOD** spoke verbally to **HIS PROPHET** (as we read in *verse 9*) "*And the Word of the LORD came unto me, saying*". At this point **ZECHARIAH** was spoken to by the **LORD** in the way **HE** normally spoke to **HIS PROPHETS**.

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Verse 10 mentions some recently **RETURNING EXILES** that it appears had brought a donation from those **REMAINING EXILED** in **BABYLON**. **ZECHARIAH** was directed to "*take*" their gift.

The emphatic "*go*" in *verse 10* indicates that **ZECHARIAH** was **to go promptly and perform this task**. He had been prepared for this event by his previous **VISIONS** and **EXPERIENCES** and thus **he was the one who was to carry this out**.

The making of **CROWNS** and their **PURPOSE** is **COMMANDED** in *verse 11* and is significant. Note that the noun '**CROWNS**' is plural here and the word that is translated '**CROWNS**' actually indicates **ONE SPLENDID CROWN** made up of **SEVERAL CIRCLETS**, for it was intended for the head of **JOSHUA, the HIGH PRIEST alone**. (**JOSHUA** here being a **TYPE** of the coming **MESSIAH** both in **NAME** and in his **OFFICE**.) Both **JOSHUA** and **JESUS** mean **JEHOVAH IS SALVATION!**

Additionally the use of two metals makes it likely that what is described as **CROWNS** consisted of **MULTIPLE RINGS**. Presumably there would have been at least **TWO RINGS**—one of **SILVER** and one of **GOLD**. It was therefore an item of considerable **MAGNIFICENCE** and **SPLENDOR!**

When **CHRIST** returns: *Revelation 19:12*—"His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself."

The **CROWN'S DUAL METALS** also correspond with the **DUAL ROLE** of the **ONE CROWNED**. Understand that with the **LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD** there was no **CROWNING** of the **HIGH PRIEST**.

That is because a **CROWN** did not pertain to the **PRIESTLY OFFICE!** A **MITRE** belonged to the **PRIESTLY OFFICE!**

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A **CROWN** belonged **ONLY** to one in the **KINGLY OFFICE!**

The surprise **CROWNING** of a **HIGH PRIEST** as **KING** [instead of **ZERUBBABEL**, the **GOVERNOR** in the **DAVIDIC LINE**] is shocking. Such a **UNION** of the **OFFICES** of **KING** and **PRIEST** had previously been forbidden.

Back in **2 Chronicles 26:16-21**, we read of when **KING UZZIAH** tried to **BURN INCENSE** on the **ALTAR OF INCENSE**, he was punished for his usurping of the **PRIESTS'** role.

So this act was symbolic of a **PRIEST** becoming **KING** one day!

In **Psalms 110:4**, **DAVID** had prophesied that the **LORD'S ANOINTED KING** was also declared to be a **PRIEST AFTER THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK!** What does that mean?

Well, we first read of **MELCHIZEDEK** in **ABRAHAM'S** day in **Genesis 14:17-20**. By name **HE** is **KING OF RIGHTEOUSNESS**. He is also said to have been both **KING OF SALEM** and a **PRIEST OF THE MOST HIGH GOD!**

Let's look at **HEBREWS 7:1-10** for a better understanding: **HISTORICAL FACTS CONCERNING MELCHIZEDEK. (7:1-3)**

1. **MELCHIZEDEK** suddenly appears in **Genesis 14:17-20** without any previous mention and then disappears.
2. **1000 years later**, the **PSALMIST DAVID** **PROPHESED** of **MESSIAH** being a **PRIEST AFTER THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK**.
Psalms 110:4—“The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou [art] a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.”

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3. **MELCHIZEDEK** was **BOTH A PRIEST** And **A KING!**
This is something unknown in the history of **ISRAEL**.

1. **HE** was a **PRIEST OF GOD!**
2. **HE** was **KING OF SALEM!** *i.e. JERUSALEM.*
(*Zechariah 6:9-15* here is a **PROPHECY** related to **MESSIAH'S** coming earthly **MILLENNIAL REIGN!**)

4. **ABRAHAM** Paid Tithes To **MELCHIZEDEK. (7:2a)**
This establishes **HIS SUPERIORITY**.

5. **HE** Is Called **KING OF RIGHTEOUSNESS OR JUSTICE** (the meaning of **HIS** name) And **KING OF PEACE. (7:2b)**
These titles are in specific order. There can be no **PEACE** without **RIGHTEOUSNESS**.

6. **HE** Is Without Father Or Mother. **(7:3a)**
i.e. Without descent (pedigree or genealogy).
This emphasizes the fact that he did not inherit the **PRIESTHOOD**. **HE** did not have a "*pedigree*" like the **LEVITICAL PRIESTS**.

GOD chose **HIM** as **PRIEST** without regard to family.
(*JEWISH tradition identifies HIM as SHEM, but there is no real basis for this.*)

7. **HE** Is Made Like Unto The **SON OF GOD. (7:3b)**
HE must be considered as a pre-incarnate appearance of **CHRIST**, at least in **TYPE**. There are many similarities:

- a. As **PRIESTS** neither came from families.
- b. As **PRIESTS** both were **CHOSEN OF GOD**.
- c. As **PRIESTS** both were **SUPERIOR TO AARON**.
- d. As **PRIESTS** there is no recorded end to their ministry.

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THE GREATNESS OF MELCHIZEDEK IS ESTABLISHED BY THE FACT THAT ABRAHAM PAID TITHES TO HIM. (7:4-10)

1. **Abraham, The Father Of The Jewish Nation, Paid Tithes To Melchizedek. (7:4)**
2. **The Levites Take Tithes From The Israelites Though They Came From Abraham. (7:5)**
3. **Melchizedek Received Tithes And Blessed Abraham. (7:6-7)**
ABRAHAM was paying tithes to one not connected to the chosen people (or was he?).
MELCHIZEDEK'S PRIESTHOOD leaped over social barriers.
The HEBREW BELIEVERS learn that ABRAHAM acknowledged a "*non Jewish*" PRIEST as SUPERIOR.
The GREATER blesses the lesser. (7:7)
- D. **MELCHIZEDEK (Like CHRIST) Received Tithes As One Who Continued Forever. (7:8)**
- E. **LEVI Paid Tithes In ABRAHAM. (7:9-10)**

Conclusion

So, we should consider the qualities of MELCHIZEDEK'S PRIESTHOOD that makes it superior to Aaron.

1. It is a **PRIESTHOOD OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.**
2. It is a **PRIESTHOOD OF PEACE.**
3. It is a **ROYAL PRIESTHOOD.**
4. It is a **PERSONAL PRIESTHOOD.** i.e. Not inherited.
5. It is an **ENDLESS PRIESTHOOD.**

All of these are characteristics of **CHRIST'S PRIESTHOOD!**

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By virtue of the fact that it is a **PRIEST** in our text who wears the **CROWN**, and not just a **PRINCE** in some item of **PRIESTLY GARB**, there is demonstrated that it is the **PRIESTLY ROLE** of the **MESSIAH** that is **PRIMARY!** (The Sacrifice of HIMSELF!)

So here again **JOSHUA** wonderfully **PREFIGURES MESSIAH** or **CHRIST**. The **HIGH PRIEST WHO** performs **SACRIFICE** is **CROWNED KING!** There is only **ONE MAN WHO** is to fulfill the **PRIEST-KING** role and that is the **MESSIAH!**

But notice that even the **MESSIAH** is not a **KING WHO** becomes a **PRIEST**, but rather a **PRIEST WHO** becomes a **KING**.

MESSIAH first performed **HIS PRIESTLY WORK OF SACRIFICE FOR SIN** on the **CROSS** and then was afterward **RAISED TO THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER** and **CROWNED** with **GLORY AND HONOR!**

CHRIST must first be our **HIGH PRIEST** before **HE** can be our **KING!** **HE** must first **FORGIVE** us and **CLEANSE** us before **HE** can **RULE OVER** us!

Even now **HE** performs the function of **HIGH PRIEST** for us and **IN HIS COMING MILLENNIAL REIGN HE** will also perform the function of **SOVEREIGN KING!**

Next week, **LORD** willing, we will pick up in *verse 12* and see... **THE COMING BRANCH BUILDS HIS TEMPLE. (Vs 12-13)**