

## Zechariah's Eight Night Visions (February 15, 519 BC)

Zechariah 1:7–6:15

### The First Vision—The Horsemen

1:7 On the twenty-fourth day of *the* eleventh month, the month of Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of Yahweh came to Zechariah the prophet, son of Berekiah, son of Iddo, saying,

8 I had a vision in the night, and look, a man riding on a red horse. And he *was* standing between the myrtle shrubs that *were* in the ravine, and behind him *were* red, reddish-brown, and white horses.

9 And I asked, "What *are* these, my lord?" And the angel *who was* talking with me said, "I will show you what these are."

10 And the man standing between the myrtle shrubs answered and said, "These *are* those whom Yahweh has sent to patrol *the* earth."

11 And they answered the angel of Yahweh who was standing between the myrtle shrubs, and they said, "We have patrolled the earth, and look, all the earth is dwelling in peace."

12 The angel of Yahweh answered and said, "O Yahweh of hosts, how long will you have no compassion on Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, *with* which you showed fury these seventy years?"

13 *With* gracious and comforting words Yahweh answered the angel who was talking with me.

14 And the angel who was talking with me said to me, "Proclaim, saying, 'Thus says Yahweh of hosts: 'I am very jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion!

15 And I am extremely angry with the nations that are at ease, for *while* I was a little angry, they furthered disaster.'

16 Therefore, thus says Yahweh: "I have returned to Jerusalem with compassion. My temple will be built in it," declares Yahweh of hosts, "and a measuring line will be stretched out over Jerusalem."

17 Proclaim again, saying, 'Thus says Yahweh of hosts: "My cities shall again overflow from prosperity, and Yahweh will comfort Zion again, and he will choose Jerusalem again.' "

### The Second Vision—Four Horns and Four Smiths

18 And I looked up and I saw, and look, *there were* four horns!

19 And I said to the angel *who was* talking with me, "What *are* these?" And he said to me, "These *are* the horns that have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem."

20 Then Yahweh showed me four skilled craftsmen,

21 and I asked, "What *are* these coming to do?" And he answered, saying, "These *are* the horns that scattered Judah, so that no man lifted up his head; but these have come to frighten them, to strike down the horns of the nations that lifted a horn against the land of Judah to scatter it."

### The Third Vision—The Surveyor

2:1 And I looked up and I saw, and look, a man, and in his hand *was* a measuring rope!

2 And I asked, "Where *are* you going?" And he answered me, "To measure Jerusalem to see what *is* its width and what *is* its length."

3 And look, the angel who was talking to me *was* coming forward, and another angel *was* coming forward to meet him.

4 And he said to him, "Run, say to that young man, 'Jerusalem shall be inhabited like villages without walls because of the multitude of people and animals in its midst.

5 And I will be for it a wall of fire all around,' declares Yahweh, 'and I will be *the* glory in its midst.'"

6 "Woe! Woe! Flee from *the* land of *the* north," declares Yahweh, "for I have scattered you like *the* four winds of the heavens," declares Yahweh.

7 "Woe, Zion! Escape, you inhabitants of *the* daughter of Babylon!"

8 For thus said Yahweh of hosts, after glory he sent me against the nations plundering you: Truly, the one touching you *is* touching the apple of his eye.

9 "Yes, look! I *am* going to wave my hand against them, and they will become plunder for their servants, and you will know that Yahweh of hosts has sent me.

10 Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion, for look, I *am* coming and I will dwell in your midst," declares Yahweh.

11 "Many nations will join themselves to Yahweh on that day, and they will be my people, and I will dwell in your midst. And you will know that Yahweh of hosts has sent me to you.

12 And Yahweh will inherit Judah *as* his portion in the holy land, and he will again choose Jerusalem.

13 Be silent, all people, before Yahweh, for he is roused from his holy dwelling."

### The Fourth Vision—The Cleansing of Joshua the High Priest

3:1 And he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of Yahweh; and Satan was standing on his right to accuse him.

2 But Yahweh said to Satan, "Yahweh rebukes you, O Satan! Yahweh who has chosen Jerusalem rebukes you! *Is* this not a stick snatched from the fire?" [cf. [Jude 1:9](#)]

3 And Joshua was clothed *in* filthy garments and was standing before the angel.

4 And he answered and said to the ones standing before him, saying, “Remove the filthy garments from him.” And he said to him, “See, I have taken away your guilt from you, and will clothe you *with rich garments.*”

5 And I said, “Let them put a clean headband on his head.” And they put a clean headband on his head, and they clothed him *with garments.* And the angel of Yahweh *was standing by.*

6 And the angel of Yahweh assured Joshua, saying,

7 “Thus says Yahweh of hosts: ‘If you will walk in my ways, and if you will keep my requirements, then you will judge my house, and you will also guard my courtyards, and I will give to you passageways among these that are standing here.

8 Listen, please, O Joshua the high priest, you and your companions that are sitting before you. For *the men are* a sign that, look, I *am* going to bring my servant *the Branch.*

9 For consider, the stone that I set before Joshua, on one stone *are* seven eyes. Look, I am going to engrave an inscription on it,’ declares Yahweh of hosts, ‘and I will remove the guilt of that land in a single day.

10 On that day,’ declares Yahweh of hosts, ‘you will invite one another under *the* vine and under *the* fig tree.’”

#### **The Fifth Vision—The Gold Lampstand and Two Olive Trees**

4:1 And the angel *who was* talking with me returned, and he wakened me as one who is wakened from his sleep.

2 And he said to me, “What do you see?” And I said, “I see, and look, a lampstand all of gold, and a bowl *was* on its top, and its seven lamps on it, and seven lips on *each of* the lamps that *are* on its top.

3 And *there are* two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left.”

4 And I answered and said to the angel *who was* talking to me, “What *are* these, my lord?”

5 And the angel *who was* talking with me answered and said to me, “Do you not know what these *are*?” And I said, “No, my lord.”

6 And he answered and said to me, “This *is* the word of Yahweh to Zerubbabel, saying, ‘Not by strength and not by power, but *only* by my Spirit,’ says Yahweh of hosts.

7 ‘Who *are* you O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel *you will become* level ground, and he will bring out the top stone amid the shouts of “Grace, grace to it!” ’”

8 And the word of Yahweh came to me, saying,

9 “The hands of Zerubbabel have founded this house, and his hands will finish it. And you will know that Yahweh of hosts has sent me to you.

10 For whoever has despised the day of small *things* will rejoice and will see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel.” These seven *are* the eyes of Yahweh which *are* ranging throughout the whole earth.

11 And I answered and said to him, “What *are* these two olive trees on the right of the lampstand and on its left?”

12 And I replied a second *time* and asked him, “What *are* these two twigs of olive trees on the right of the lampstand and on its left?”

13 And he replied to me, “Do you not know what these *are*?” And I said, “No, my lord.”

14 And he said, “These *are* the two anointed ones standing by the Lord of the whole earth.”

#### **The Sixth Vision—The Flying Scroll**

5:1 I looked up again, and I saw, and look!—a flying scroll!

2 And he asked me, “What *are* you seeing?” And I said, “I *am* seeing a flying scroll twenty cubits long and ten cubits wide.”

3 And he said to me, “This *is* the curse going out over the surface of the whole earth. For everyone who steals has gone unpunished according to it, and *likewise* everyone who swears *falsely* has gone unpunished according to it.

4 ‘I have sent it out,’ declares Yahweh of hosts, ‘and it will go into the house of the thief and into the house of the one swearing falsely by my name, and it will spend the night in that house and will destroy it, with its timber and its stone.’”

#### **The Seventh Vision—The Woman in the Basket**

5 And the angel who was speaking to me went out, and he said to me, “Please look up! See what this *is* going out.”

6 And I asked, “What *is* it?” And he said, “This *is* a basket going out. And he said, “This *is* their iniquity throughout all the earth.

7 And look, the lead cover was lifted and a woman *was* sitting inside the basket.

8 And he said, “This *is* Wickedness!” And he thrust her *back down* into the basket, and threw the lead cover on top of it.

9 And I looked up and saw, and look!—two women coming forward, and *the* wind *was* in their wings, and they had wings like those of a stork, and they lifted up the basket between the earth and the sky.

10 And I asked the angel who was talking to me, “Where *are* they taking the basket?”

11 And he said to me, “To build for it a house in the land of Shinar, and *when* it is put in place, it will be placed there on its site.”

#### **The Eighth Vision—The Four Chariots**

6:1 I looked up again, and I saw, and look!—four chariots coming out from between two mountains, and the mountains *were* mountains of bronze.

2 With the first chariot *there were* red horses, and with the second chariot *there were* black horses.

3 And with the third chariot *there were* white horses, and with the fourth chariot *there were* strong dappled horses.

4 And I answered and said to the angel *that was* talking to me, “What *are* these, my lord?”

5 And the angel answered and said to me, “These *are* the four winds of the heavens going out after presenting themselves before the Lord of all the earth.

6 The one with the black horses *is* going out to *the* north country, and the white *horses* go after them, while the dappled *ones* go to the south country.”

7 When the strong *horses* went out, they were anxious to go to patrol the earth. And he said, “Go, patrol the earth.” And they patrolled the earth.

8 And he cried out to me and said to me, “See those going out to *the* north country have set my spirit at rest in the north country.”

#### **Instructions to Zechariah Concerning Joshua the High Priest**

9 And the word of Yahweh came to me, saying,

10 “Collect from the exiles—from Heldai, Tobijah, and from Jedaiah, *all of* whom came from Babylon—and go on that day, go to *the* house of Josiah son of Zephaniah.

11 Take *the* silver and gold and make a crown, and set *it* on the head of Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest.

12 And say to him, ‘Thus says Yahweh of hosts: “Look, *here is* a man whose name *is* Branch, and from his place he will sprout, and he will build the temple of Yahweh.

13 And he will build the temple of Yahweh, and he will bear majesty and will sit and rule on his throne. And he shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace will be between the two of them.”’

14 And the crown will be for Helem, for Tobijah, for Jedaiah, and for Hen son of Zephaniah, as a memorial in the temple of Yahweh.

15 And those who are far off will come and build the temple of Yahweh, and you will know that Yahweh of hosts has sent me to you.

And it will happen if you will listen diligently to the voice of Yahweh your God.”

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