

# ZECHARIAH

DAN STOLEBARGER - HGE  
KFIR WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY - SESSION 4  
CHAPTER 4



THE OFFICIAL  
SYMBOL OF  
MODERN DAY  
ISRAEL

There existed graphic precedents for the combination of the menorah and olive branches, in fact, the combination may be traced to a specific text, one of the mystical visions of the Prophet Zechariah

(Zechariah 4:1-3,  
11-14).

# INTRODUCTION

## CHAPTER 4

There seems to be an interval between this and the previous visions.

It was God's purpose that Israel should be His lightbearer and witness to the surrounding nations engulfed in the darkness of paganism.

Israel, however, failed abysmally in her national calling.

The rejection of the Messiah resulted in the destruction of the Temple and the institution of national blindness (Luke 19:42) until the "fullness of the Gentiles be come in." (Romans 11:25).

# CHAPTER 4

## VISION OF THE LAMPSTANDS AND OLIVE TREE

Now the angel who talked with me came back and wakened me, as a man who is wakened out of his sleep. <sup>2</sup> And he said to me, "What do you see?"

So I said, "I am looking, and there *is* a lampstand of solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the *stand* seven lamps with seven pipes to the seven lamps. <sup>3</sup> Two olive trees *are* by it, one at the right of the bowl and the other at its left." <sup>4</sup> So I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, "What *are* these, my lord?"

<sup>5</sup> 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."

### COMMENTS

Bowl on top - two olive trees on each side

7 lamps / 7 pipes to each lamp (49). Got the picture?



One of the more tedious duties of the temple service was the constant care of the lamps on the golden lampstand. They had to be continually refilled with oil, cleaned of soot, and their wicks had to be maintained. In this vision, Zechariah sees “self-filling” lamps, fed directly from two olive trees.

While the Tabernacle lampstand had to be filled with oil by the priests, this lampstand in the vision was automatically filled with an endless supply of oil without human agency. This is indicated by three significant and peculiar features:

- 1) A bowl for storing oil was suspended over the lampstand (Zech. 4:2);
- 2) Oil was transported by gravity from the bowl through seven channels or conduits to each of the seven lights of the lampstand, apparently 49 conduits in all (v. 2);
- 3) The lampstand was flanked by two olive trees which were tapped by two gold pipes through which golden oil flowed constantly into the bowl (vv. 3, 11-12).

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF OIL**

### **SEVEN ATTRIBUTES, EACH SPEAKING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Oil is a source of light; illuminates.

Oil soothes, heals.

Oil lubricates; abolishes friction; soothes over.

Oil warms.

Oil invigorates.

Oil adorns; emblem of adornment. Especially in sorrow and grief

Oil polishes. He's not finished with any of us yet.

.

<sup>6</sup> 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.

## COMMENTS

How Zerubbabel will accomplish the work: by the Spirit of God.

God says, “not by the resources of many or one, but by My Spirit. It will not be by your cleverness, your ability, or your physical strength that the temple will be rebuilt, but by the Spirit of God.”

Spirit - This was the Spirit - the breath - the *ruach* of the LORD which worked in creation (Genesis 1:2), at the Red Sea, to open and close it (Exodus 15:8, 10) and that gave life to dead bones (Ezekiel 37:1-14).

Zerubbabel - This is good news! He knows your name and knows of your labors!

Hebrew and context here denotes ‘might’ not as in armies but in human ingenuity. We can be loaded for bear on the horizontal BUT the question will always be “How are we doing with the vertical?”

Unless the Lord builds the house they labor in vain those who build it - **Psalm 127**



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!" ' "

## COMMENTS

What obstacles make up your mountain?

For Zerubbabel? The work of rebuilding the temple was so massive it seemed like a great mountain. Here God promised that by His Spirit, that great mountain would be leveled into a plain.

In this case, the great mountain may have literally been the mountainous pile of rubble at the temple site. That rubble would be removed and the work carried on.

Zerubbabel also faced: threats, apathy, discouragement, depression, lack of building materials

CAPSTONE - a finishing stone of a structure / the crowning achievement, point, element, or event.

For God - His crowning achievement is GRACE multiplied!

When the work is done through human might or power we can take credit for it, but when the work is done by the continual supply of the Spirit, then it is all to the glory of God's grace.

## HIGHLANDS - Hillsong United

So I will praise You on the mountain  
And I will praise you when the mountain's in my way  
You're the summit where my feet are  
So I will praise You in the valleys all the same

No less God within the shadows  
No less faithful when the night leads me astray  
You're the Heaven where my heart is  
In the highlands and the heartache all the same

Whatever I walk through  
Wherever I am  
Your Name can move mountains  
Wherever I stand  
And if ever I walk through  
The valley of death  
I'll sing through the shadows  
My song of ascent



<sup>8</sup> Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying:

<sup>9</sup> "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.

<sup>10</sup> 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."

## COMMENTS

In many of God's choice workers He uses a powerful season of small things. Those days are not a mistake nor are they punishment; they are days of priceless shaping and preparation.

Though the work was empowered by the Spirit of God, Zerubbabel still need his plumb line. He still needed to get to work. God could have given Zerubbabel a shortcut and instantly, miraculously finished the work. That's isn't God's way of doing things, because His work in the life of Zerubbabel was just as important to Him.

<sup>11</sup> Then I answered and said to him, "What *are* these two olive trees—at the right of the lampstand and at its left?" <sup>12</sup> 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?"

<sup>13</sup> Then he answered me and said, "Do you not know what these *are*?"

And I said, "No, my lord."

<sup>14</sup> So he said, "These *are* the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth."

## COMMENTS

Context - Joshua and Zerubbabel

"The Lord of the whole earth." Indicates the Millennial scope of the vision. (see Micah 4:1-13)

Some link Zerubbabel and Joshua as the two witnesses of Rev 11.

Further fulfillment - Revelation 11 (Civil and Spiritual Leader). Moses and Elijah?

# MICAH 4

## MILLENNIAL REIGN

1 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days  
*That* the mountain of the Lord's house  
Shall be established on the top of the mountains,  
And shall be exalted above the hills;  
And peoples shall flow to it.

2 Many nations shall come and say,  
"Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
To the house of the God of Jacob;  
He will teach us His ways,  
And we shall walk in His paths."  
For out of Zion the law shall go forth,  
And the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How is the Spirit of God sustaining and empowering you today?
2. What are the great mountains are in your life?
3. What are the small things have you overlooked?
4. How is the vertical in your life?



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