

Zechariah 3-4 Not By Might or Power But My Spirit

Share a time when you started a project but didn't get around to finishing it?

Thankfully God finishes the projects He starts! Zechariah was ministering among the Israelites who returned to the Promised Land at the end of the Babylonian captivity. However Jerusalem and the temple were in ruins. But God was going to act! Zechariah 3-4 describe How God is going to build His Temple

Read Zechariah 3:1-10

1. Why do you think Joshua's uncleanness as the high priest is so serious? What does Joshua do about it? What does God do about it?

2. What is required of Joshua if he is to govern God's house? (3:6-7)

3. What will happen on the day that God brings His servant, the Branch? (3:8-10; see also Jeremiah 23:5-6, Isaiah 4:2-6)

4. What do you think it means that Joshua and his associates are symbolic of things to come as a result of the coming Branch?

5. Why is the role of *priest* necessary for God to re-establish his people in the land and then dwell in their midst? (See Zech 3:1-5, 10)

Read Zechariah 4:1-14

6. There are many barriers (or *mighty mountains*) on the road to rebuilding God's temple. How does the angel's words in verses 6-7 help to deal with these problems?

8. God is going to build His temple, not by might or power but by His Spirit (verse 6), How does the vision that Zechariah sees in verses 1-3 illustrate this?

9. What does the response of the people in verse 7 show about their attitude to Zechariah and his Words (also see Ezra 6:17-18)?

Implications: (choose one or more as time allows)

10. How does 1 Peter 2:4-8 suggest that Zechariah's prophecy is fulfilled?

a. What is the temple God's Spirit is building?

b. What is the celebrated cornerstone?

11. What does Acts 1:4-8 point to as being the fulfilment of Zechariah's vision?

12. How can Zechariah chapters 3-4 encourage Christians today, as they participate in Christ's work as builder of God's spiritual house?

Give thanks and pray

Praise God that Jesus, as God's priest-king, perfectly fulfils Zechariah's vision. Thank God for the provision of his Spirit, by whom he guarantees the completion of his kingdom building no matter what obstacles we as 'junior builders' face.

Pray about your personal efforts, and your church's contribution, proclaiming "the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light" (1 Pet 2:9).