

ZECHARIAH – CHAPS 4-6 Vision of Lampstand and Olive Trees; Vision of the Flying Scroll; Vision of the Woman in a Basket; Vision of the Four Chariots; The Command to Crown Joshua

OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

Vision of Lampstand and Olive Trees (vs. 1-14)

Prepared for the vision (v. 1)

Zec 4:1 Now the angel who talked with me came back and wakened me, as a man who is wakened out of his sleep.

Presented with the Vision (vs. 2-3)

Zec 4:2 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.

Zec 4:3 Two olive trees are by it, one at the right of the bowl and the other at its left."

Perplexed by the Vision (vs. 4-5)

Zec 4:4 So I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, "What are these, my lord?"

Zec 4:5 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."

Purpose of the Vision (vs. 6-10)

Zec 4:6 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.

v. 1 Zechariah was awake when he received these visions. At this point he already has had six tremendous visions. He was working the swing shift and the night shift and it was time to have a little rest. So after he had been given the sixth vision, he dozed off. Now **the angel** has to wake him up because he is not to be given this vision in a dream; he will *see* every bit of it.

v. 2 With a bowl - Or basin. seven lamps - The temple candlestick had just so many. And seven pipes - So each of the lamps had a pipe reaching from it to the bowl. On the stand - These lamps were so set, as to stand somewhat higher than the body of the candlestick.

v. 3 Two olive - trees by it - All which is an emblem of the church, made of pure gold; to be a light in the world; to shine as lamps that continually burn, maintained with pure oil, distilled from the olive - trees, not pressed out by man, but continually, abundantly, and freely flowing from God. **Lev24:1-4**

v. 4 This young man Zechariah has no inhibitions, so he says, "I see these things, but what is the meaning of them?"

v. 5 The answer of the angel implies that Zechariah should know what it means. In effect he is saying, "You ought to be able to understand it. You are looking at the golden lampstand, and you ought to know the meaning of that." Zechariah didn't. He said, "No, my lord, I don't understand it at all."

v. 6 This is the word - Is particularly designed to Zerubbabel, and in an emblem prefigures what a church it is, how precious, how full of light, how maintained by God himself. Power - Courage and valor. But not by natural power. Not by my natural power; but by God's power! To get beyond our resources and move to His resources!! His call will out live all mountains! **He supplies the power of the Spirit of God. (Cf. 1 Sa 14:6; Ho 1:7; 2 Co 4:7; 12:9-10; Heb 11:34)**

The necessary resource for Gods work is the Holy Spirit and God promises Zerubbabel a rich resource in the Spirit of God to accomplish His work. When we trust in our own resources - whether they be small or great in the eyes of man - then we don't enjoy the full supply of the Spirit. Oh! May God send us poverty; may God send us lack of means, and take away our power of speech if it must be, and help us only to stammer, if we may only thus get the blessing. Oh! I rave to be useful to souls, and all the rest may go where it will. (Spurgeon)

By My Spirit: Why oil is a good representation of the Holy Spirit:

Oil lubricates when used for that purpose - there is little friction and wear among those who are lubricated by the Spirit of God. **Oil heals** and was used as a medicinal treatment in Biblical times (**Luke 10:34**) - the Spirit of God brings healing and restoration. **Oil lights** when it is burned in a lamp - where the Spirit of God is there is light. **Oil warms** when it is used as fuel for a flame - where the Spirit of God is there is warmth and comfort. **Oil invigorates** when used to massage - the Holy Spirit invigorates us for His service. **Oil adorns** when applied as a perfume - the Holy Spirit adorns us and makes us more pleasant to be around. **Oil polishes** when used to shine metal - the Holy Spirit wipes away our grime, smooths out our rough edges.

Zec 4:6 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.

Throughout Scripture, **oil is a picture of the Holy Spirit**—a perfect picture it is. Oil brings about **lubrication and eliminates friction**—just as the fruit of the Spirit is love (Galatians 5:22). In addition to being a source of **illumination, oil brings about healing**. Just as the good Samaritan poured oil in the wounds of the man who had been beaten, James instructed the elders to anoint with oil those who were sick (5:14). Oil is also **the base of costly fragrances** (Matthew 26:7). **Truly, the Holy Spirit illuminates the Word for us**. He reduces the friction between us. He heals our hurts. He is a soothing perfume that allows us to take on a fragrance that is very unlike our natural scent. God says here to Zerubbabel, I'm going to see you through!

Prepared for the vision: v. 1—awakened by an angel! We also need to be awakened from our spiritual sleep!

Presented with the vision: vs. 2-3—a Menorah with a bowl over it and olive trees standing at each side. Zechariah would have understanding about the difficulties of keeping the Menorah filled with oil and trimmed as necessary.. The reservoir on top showed there was no need for mans' labor to keep the lamps filled with oil.

Perplexed by the vision: vs. 4-5—No, I don't know what these are! He didn't have the answer

Purpose of the vision: vs. 6-10: This vision was to be passed on to Zerubbabel. 16 years earlier, Zerubbabel and Joshua led about 42,000 from Babylon back to Jerusalem. They started well, but soon they became discouraged. Their enemies started intimidating them. They said let's forget this building of the temple. Let's just build our own houses. But now Haggai and Zechariah have been raised up! Get back to what you're supposed to be doing! **Is. 42:6; Is 49:6**—chose to be a light to the Gentiles! But the Jews began to turn inward, thinking the Gentiles were only fit to fire the fires of Hell! But later and now the Church has become the light! (Rev. 1) but now, **'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,'** Not by your abilities, by your efforts! But apart from you! Don't despise the small things! Greater is coming!

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Zec 4:7 '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!" ' "
Zec 4:8 Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying;

Zec 4:9 "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.

Zec 4:10 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."

Pondering over the Vision (vs. 11-14)

Zec 4:11 Then I answered and said to him, "What are these two olive trees—at the right of the lampstand and at its left?"

Zec 4:12 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?"

Zec 4:13 Then he answered me and said, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord."

Zec 4:14 So he said, "These are the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth."

Vision of the Flying Scroll (vs. 1-4)

Zec 5:1 Then I turned and raised my eyes, and saw there a flying scroll.

Zec 5:2 And he said to me, "What do you see?" So I answered, "I see a flying scroll. Its length is twenty cubits and its width ten cubits."

Zec 5:3 Then he said to me, "This is the curse that goes out over the face of the whole earth: 'Every thief shall be expelled,' according to this side of the scroll; and, 'Every perjurer shall be expelled,' according to that side of it."

Zec 5:4 "I will send out the curse," says the LORD of hosts; "It shall enter the house of the thief And the house of the one who swears falsely by My name. It shall remain in the midst of his house And consume it, with its timber and stones."

v. 7 O great mountain (of rubble) - All those who oppose put together. Become a plain - Thou shalt sink into nothing. The head stone - Shall assist at the laying of the finishing stone, as he assisted when the foundation stone was laid. Grace, grace - Wishing all prosperity, and a long continuance of it, to the temple and those that are to worship God therein. As the free favor of God began, and finished, may the same ever dwell in it and replenish it.

v. 8 t This is God's promise that the work won't drag on and finally be completed by someone else, but that Zerubbabel himself is going to finish it.. God is saying to Zerubbabel, "You have laid the foundation, and I was with you. Well, you are going to put the roof on it, too, and I will be with you."

v. 9 you - Zerubbabel and all the Jews.

v. 10 "For they shall rejoice, and shall see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven (the eyes of the Lord). God likes the work that He sees!! The "plumb line" is a weight on the end of a string, and it is used to determine if a building is vertical to the earth. The Lord say, I'm going to finish it, through your hands, Zerubbabel! **When Satan tempts us to despise the day of small things, he shines as an outstanding liar because Satan does not despise the day of small things. Satan fears the day of small things in our life because he sees what great things God does in them and brings out of them.** The kite string story!

v. 11-12 Zechariah is asking again for an explanation. And the angel's answer, "Do you know what these are?" implies that he *ought* to know. But he doesn't know. **Cf. Rev. 11:3-12**

v. 13 Do you not know? — God would awaken His people to zeal in learning His truth.

v. 14 These are the two Spirit-filled men, Zerubbabel, the civil ruler, and Joshua, the religious ruler. We have already seen that Joshua, representing the nation, has been cleansed and now stands in clean garments. When the remnant of Israel confessed their sin and accepted God's redemption, they were cleansed and now stand in the righteousness of Christ. Therefore, they can be Spirit-filled and can be used of God. Near fulfillment is Joshua and Zerubbabel for far term see **Rev. 11:3-12**

v. 1 A flying scroll - A volume, or book spread out at large, flying in the air, swiftly.

v. 2 The size of the scroll is possibly significant as it is the same size as the Holy Place of the tabernacle and of the Porch of Solomon in the temple.

v. 3 In This - This scroll or book contains the curse, due to sinners. The whole earth - Either the whole land of Judea, or all the world, wherever these sins are found. According to it - According to the threats inscribed thereon. perjurer - Profanely, or falsely.

v. 4 It shall enter - This curse shall come with commission from me. It shall remain - It shall stick close to them and theirs like Gehazi's leprosy. And the stones - Nothing shall remain, as when both the timber and stones of a house are consumed.

Zec 4:7-10 '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!" ' "
[8] Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying: [9] "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. [10] 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."

Through Zechariah, the Lord said to Zerubbabel, "I know what you're thinking. Sixteen years have passed and the project you began is now stalled. But I have good news for you. **I am going to complete that which I began.** And your hands will be the hands I use to do it. Therefore, be patient. **Don't despise the day of small things.** Just be faithful. How will all of this come about? Not by your might or by your resolve. The stalled project will be completed by My Spirit. Just as the oil from the olive trees passes through the lamps apart from human effort, so too, I will work apart from anything man does."

There is a time in virtually all of our lives when the Lord lays something on our hearts. A promise is given. A dream is placed on our minds. A vision is set before our eyes. It might be a business or a marriage, a family or a ministry. We begin. We lay the foundation—but then the difficulties come. As the months and years pass by, we say, "It's not going to happen." And our hearts sink. But, just as He said to Zerubbabel, the Lord would say to us, "I am going to allow the hands that laid the foundation to finish the work. You are going to bring the capstone—the finishing piece—with shouts of grace at the end. It's all by My grace. So don't despise the days of small things, of small beginnings. And don't give up."

Zec 4:11-14 Then I answered and said to him, "What are these two olive trees—at the right of the lampstand and at its left?" [12] 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?"

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Vision of the Woman in a Basket (vs. 5-11)

Zec 5:5 Then the angel who talked with me came out and said to me, "Lift your eyes now, and see what this is that goes forth."

Zec 5:6 So I asked, "What is it?" And he said, "It is a basket that is going forth." He also said, "This is their resemblance throughout the earth:

Zec 5:7 Here is a lead disc lifted up, and this is a woman sitting inside the basket";

Zec 5:8 then he said, "This is Wickedness!" And he thrust her down into the basket, and threw the lead cover over its mouth.

Zec 5:9 Then I raised my eyes and looked, and there were two women, coming with the wind in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork, and they lifted up the basket between earth and heaven.

Zec 5:10 So I said to the angel who talked with me, "Where are they carrying the basket?"

Zec 5:11 And he said to me, "To build a house for it in the land of Shinar; when it is ready, the basket will be set there on its base."

Vision of the Four Chariots (vs. 1-8)

Zec 6:1 Then I turned and raised my eyes and looked, and behold, four chariots were coming from between two mountains, and the mountains were mountains of bronze.

Zec 6:2 With the first chariot were red horses, with the second chariot black horses,

Zec 6:3 with the third chariot white horses, and with the fourth chariot dappled horses—strong steeds.

Zec 6:4 Then I answered and said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these, my lord?"

Zec 6:5 And the angel answered and said to me, "These are four spirits of heaven, who go out from their station before the Lord of all the earth.

Zec 6:6 The one with the black horses is going to the north country, the white are going after them, and the dappled are going toward the south country."

v. 5 We're at the launching pad, and we are ready to see another vision.

Actually, we are going to see the first astronaut. Believe it or not, we will learn that it is a woman who is in one of those capsules. It could be called an ephah or a bushel basket.

v. 6 He - The angel. A basket - A measure which held about three bushels. Going forth - Out of the temple. Their resemblance - This is an emblem of this people everywhere. Thus there is limited time and measure for them, while they sin, and are filling the basket with their sins, they will find that the ephah of wrath is filled up also, to be poured out upon them.

v. 7 Here is - Here is another part of this vision. Lifted up - Brought thither to cover it. A talent - A piece of lead of a talent weight, as large as the mouth of the ephah. A woman - A woman, the third in the vision. Perhaps this vision was purposely obscure, least a plain denunciation of the second overthrow of the state and temple, might discourage them from going forward in the present restoration of them.

v. 8 This is Wickedness - This woman represents the wickedness of the Jews. He cast it - The angel cast down this woman. On the mouth - And so shut her up, to suffer the punishment of all her sins

v. 9 coming with the wind - From the same place whence the ephah came. Their wings - They had wings, like the wings of storks, large and strong, and flew before the wind with great swiftness. The judgments came thus flying, and so bore away with them those that were incorrigible.

vs. 10-11 Notice that Zechariah asks the interpreting angel, "Where are they carrying the basket?" And the angel answered, "To build a house in the land of Shinar." Where is Shinar? It is the land of Babylon. God will return this evil system to the place it came from

v. 1 Four chariots - Angels who are sometimes styled chariots of God. These as employed in the affairs of church and empire, act their part in the revolution and changes of things, 'till the gospel be preached by the Messiah, and the apostles. Of brass - These denote the immovable decrees of God, his steady execution of his counsels and the insuperable restraints upon all empires and countries, which God keeps within the barriers of such impregnable mountains.

v. 2 Red horses - Perhaps denoting bloody times, Rev 6:4. Black horses - Perhaps a time of mortality, and wasting diseases, Rev 6:5.

v. 3 White horses - Signifying joyful and prosperous affairs, Zec 1:8. Dappled - A mixed state of affairs.

vs. 4-5 "These are the four spirits of the heavens." The "spirits" are obviously angels so that the four chariots are, *angelic beings, or heavenly powers*—those invisible "messengers" of His "who excel in strength, and who ever stand in His presence, hearkening unto the voice of His word," and then go forth in willing obedience, as swift as the "winds," to carry out His requests. In other words, the angels are in charge of the judgments which will be coming upon the gentile nations, as we see also in the Book of Revelation.

[13] Then he answered me and said, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord." [14] So he said, "These are the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth."

As Zechariah ponders the vision, he is told that the branches by which the oil of the Spirit flows **are the two anointed ones**. Historically, this speaks of **Joshua and Zerubbabel**. Prophetically, **Rev. 11 refers to this verse in relation to the two witnesses, (the two olive trees/the two candlesticks)** who will be raised up in the Tribulation.

But most importantly, **symbolically, the two olives trees speak of the anointed Ones—Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit**. "I am the vine," Jesus declares. "You are the branches" (John 15:5). **We're to be the branches through which the oil of the Spirit flows into the reservoir so that the light, the church, might burn brightly**. Therefore, if we want to be filled with the Spirit, **we must position ourselves as did Joshua and Zerubbabel—in the place of service**.

You will find that the church burns brighter, that the kingdom is expanded, and that your own life takes on significance when you do this. **Position yourself to receive and then to be an outlet!** When you realize it is only by the power of the Spirit that anything will happen, you'll quit trying to muscle your way through your ministry. **Instead, you'll get on your knees before the Lord and say, "It's only by the work of Your Spirit, Lord, that anything will take place in my life."** And it is then that the mountain will be removed; the lamp will burn; the temple will be completed—and the Lord will be glorified.

What about that failing business of yours or that mountain in your life that doesn't seem to ever go away, no matter how hard you work and perspire? The Lord must be through with me? No, the hand that started it will complete it! Don't despise the small things. But once we utilize the power of the Holy Spirit it will be done! It will be completed! **Rejoice! Shout, Grace! Grace! Only by grace**. Not because of me! It's got to be the working of Your Spirit!

'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts.

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Zec 6:7 Then the strong steeds went out, eager to go, that they might walk to and fro throughout the earth. And He said, "Go, walk to and fro throughout the earth." So they walked to and fro throughout the earth.

Zec 6:8 And He called to me, and spoke to me, saying, "See, those who go toward the north country have given rest to My Spirit in the north country."

The Command to Crown Joshua (vs. 9-15)

Zec 6:9 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

Zec 6:10 "Receive the gift from the captives—from Heldai, Tobijah, and Jedaiah, who have come from Babylon—and go the same day and enter the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah.

Zec 6:11 Take the silver and gold, make an elaborate crown, and set it on the head of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest.

Zec 6:12 Then speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying: "Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH! From His place He shall branch out, And He shall build the temple of the LORD;

Zec 6:13 Yes, He shall build the temple of the LORD. He shall bear the glory, And shall sit and rule on His throne; So He shall be a priest on His throne, And the counsel of peace shall be between them both.' "

Zec 6:14 "Now the elaborate crown shall be for a memorial in the temple of the LORD for Helem, Tobijah, Jedaiah, and Hen the son of Zephaniah.

Zec 6:15 Even those from afar shall come and build the temple of the LORD. Then you shall know that the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you. And this shall come to pass if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God."

Vs. 6-7 The black and white horses will go forth into the north country. The dappled and "bay" will go forth into the south country.

v. 8 He called to me - Christ spoke aloud, and called to him. Have given rest - By doing what I appointed them in revenge of my peoples injuries, and by bringing my people back into Canaan.

vs. 9-10 Apparently an event which takes place during the days of Zechariah. Here we are given the names of three men who came from Babylon. They had not come with either of the two groups of the remnant that returned to the land of Israel, but they came on their own. The name *Heldai* means "robust"; *Tobijah* means "God's goodness"; and *Jedaiah* means "God knows." Linking these names together indicates that God knows that through His goodness He intends to put His King upon the throne, and He will do it in a robust and powerful manner. What will take place here is a symbolic crowning, but it pictures the coming of Christ to this earth to reign, which is, of course, yet future.

v. 11 Make an elaborate crown - One of silver, the other of gold. Set them - Put both of them, one after another. Joshua - Who herein is now a type of Christ, king and priest for ever for his people

v. 12 spoke to him - Joshua, but in the hearing of others. Whose name is the Branch - Whom you know by the name of the Branch, who was called so long since. Thou, O Joshua art the portrait, he is the Branch itself. Out of his place - Of the tribe and family, and in the place foretold. He shall build - He it is, though unseen, that stands by you, who build the material temple, far inferior to the spiritual temple, which Christ will build, preserve, and dwell in for ever.

v. 13 The glory - Of both kingly and priestly office; the glory of both those crowns shall abide on him. Shall sit - Which speaks both his royal magnificence, and the perpetuity of it. A priest - The great high - priest, to offer the great sacrifice to God, to make reconciliation, to intercede for his people. The counsel of peace - The peace made for God's people shall rest upon these two, the kingly and priestly office of Christ; by his priestly office he shall make their peace with God, by his kingly office he shall deliver them from their spiritual enemies.

v. 14 The elaborate crown (crowns) - The two crowns before mentioned. Helem - These persons we know no more of than their names. A memorial - Of the Messiah's certain and speedy coming.

v. 15 those from afar - This verse hath a double reference, one to the Jews, and the building of the material temple, the other to the bringing in of the Gentiles. And this - The literal part shall come to pass in your day, if you will obey the voice of the Lord. The mystical part shall come to pass also, and, if you will believe and obey, the Gentiles shall come in and be your brethren, and help to build the temple, the spiritual temple.

Isaiah 52 calls Jesus the root coming out of dry ground. The ground would be dry indeed. For four hundred years, a prophet would not be heard in the land of Israel. For four hundred years God was silent—when suddenly, out of the dry ground, the Branch appeared. **Looking ahead five hundred years to the First Coming of Christ, Zechariah says, "This One who is coming shall wear the crown of both king and priest." This would have been shocking in Zechariah's day for Old Testament law forbade anyone from holding the office of both priest and king.**

Jesus is the only One who can rule with authority as a King and minister compassionately as a Priest.

The first time Jesus came, He came as a Prophet. He taught the ways of God and revealed the heart of God. Then He ascended into heaven where He is now our Priest, where He ever lives to make intercession for us. He came as a Prophet, is in heaven as a Priest, and **He's coming back as King!!**

Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God,

Fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God,

Fall afresh on me.

Break me, melt me,

Mold me, fill me,

Spirit of the living God,

Fall afresh on me.

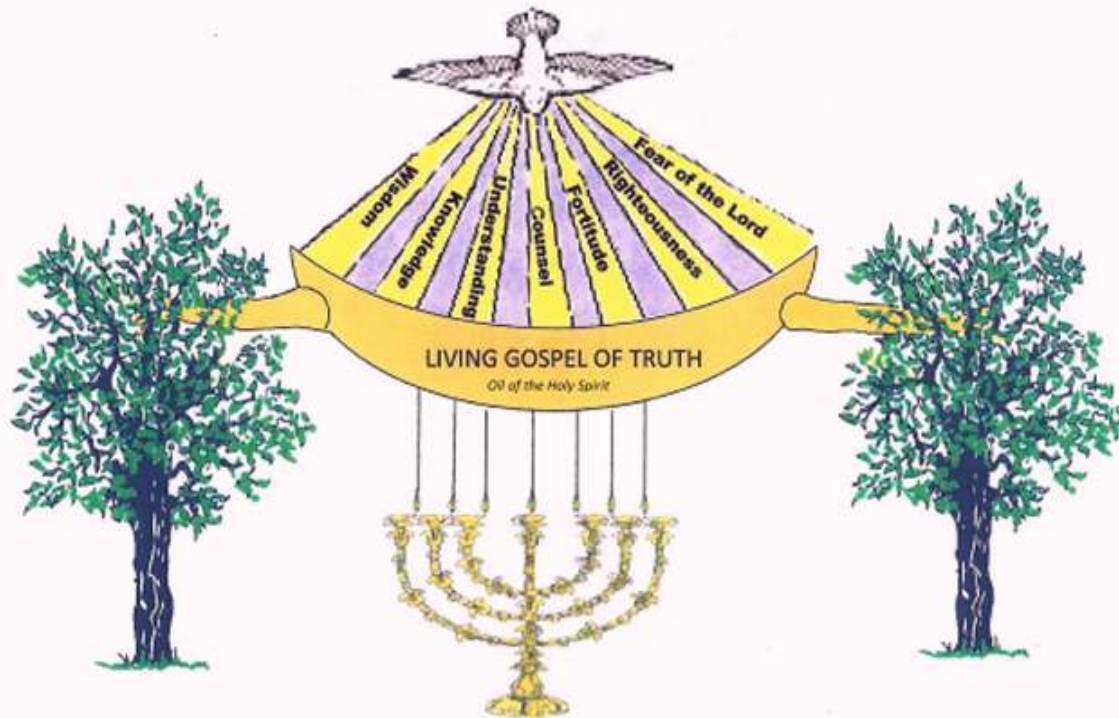
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FIRST WITNESS

The OLD TESTAMENT

The gospel in symbols

People empowered by
the Holy Spirit,
knowing Christ,
sharing the truth;
Causing the church
to burn brightly
for the Lord.

SECOND WITNESS

THE NEW TESTAMENT

**The gospel in the reality
of Jesus Christ**

Zechariah Four: “Not by might nor by power but by my Spirit, says the Lord.