

THE GREAT PARADOX OF THE AGES

ZECHARIAH 6:1-8

(Outline # 2)

Meditation: 57 p. 728.1 (or choose another).

INTRODUCTION: The study concerning the Great paradox of Zechariah is not commonly taught in our church. Different interpretations are given but the safest way is to go back to the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy and let them do the interpretation.

Read: Zech. 6:1-8

Review: Describe vision in your own words and point out especially the last chariot with a double set of horses going in different directions.

1. What Does The Mountain Represent?

Read: Zech. 8:3

- a. God's people or church (Zion-Jerusalem) are here being likened to a Holy mountain.

Read: Dan. 9:16,20

- a. Daniel prays for God's people or church-Jerusalem and compares them to a Holy mountain.
- b. Daniel could not be praying for the Jewish temple (though in ruins, located on Mount Moriah) or some other literal mountain because mountains cannot sin.
- c. We conclude thus far that, people, a church, or kingdom, in Scripture is symbolized by a mountain. Seeing, however, that the mountains in Zechariah are metallic, it denotes a church of strength, filled with the Spirit, they must represent two churches of God.

Further proof: Isa. 2:2, 3 (Last days); Mic. 4:1,2; Rev 17:9 (New Testament)

2. Why brass?

- a. The mountain of brass, a metal that has everlasting qualities, that does not deteriorate. It shows two churches of God with holy and eternal qualities. Therefore, the two brass mountains must represent two churches having enduring and spirit-filled qualities—strong like brass. The only two churches that meet this description would be the early Christian church (Acts 2:1-4) and the S.D.A. in its purified state (Joel 2:28, 29).

Read: Rev. 1:15

- a. Here we note that Christ is standing among the seven churches of the New Testament and His feet is revealing that Brass is related to the Christian era (A.A. 585). This again shows that the two brass mountains meet their fulfillment in the Christian dispensation.

3. **What does the valley or space represent?**
- a. The space must symbolize the time between the two glorious churches. We also must be near the end of this space or valley today and closer to the second Brass mountain since we are in the latter days.

4. **What is the meaning of the symbolic horses and their carriages?**

Read: Zechariah 6:5

- a. Here we are told that these chariots are sent by God to do a work in the earth. The only thing that God sends to the earth to go in various directions is His church with soul-saving truths.

Read: Zechariah 1:8-11

- a. These horses must be people - especially preachers/teachers since they were sent by the Lord (verse 10) and can speak (verse 11). God does not send literal horses throughout the earth and literal horses cannot speak.

Read: Zechariah 10:3

- a. This text reveals that the church is likened to a goodly horse in battle.

Read: TM 489,490

- a. Here God likens Christians to horses.
- b. Since the horses are pulling the carriages, the horses must symbolize leaders, and the chariot (carriage) itself the followers/lay members. Hence the horses and chariots represent Heaven-born messages carried by the church on the earth during the time between the two glorious churches (brass mountains).

Further proof: Zech. 14:20; Joel 2:4,5. Christ Our Righteousness p. 51

6. **What is the meaning of the various colors of the Horses?**

The color show the circumstances, time, and condition of the people of God.

7. Red horses

- a. Red in the scriptures has at least two meanings, sin and bloodshed. But here in Zechariah chapter six it must symbolize bloodshed for the chariots are from the Lord, (verse 5).

Read: Zechariah 6:6,7

- a. The angel informed Zechariah of the direction of each chariot except the red; they were martyred and went no where so far as their final destination is concerned.
- b. Therefore, red horses symbolize martyrs just after the establishment of the early church up to 538 **A.D.**

Further proof: EW 18,19; Acts 8:1; GC 40:1.

8. Black horses

Read: Zechariah 6:2

- a. Black is a symbol of bondage and spiritual darkness.
- b. The period of martyrdom was followed by the Dark Ages of religion (538-1798 A.D.). The black horses preached in this prophetic period when God's true church was subjected to Papal bondage.

9. White horses

Read: Zechariah 6:3

- a. White being the opposite of black, signifies *liberty* showing that the white horses, a free church, carried their message after the Dark Ages (1798) in an era of religious freedom. This movement could only be the Millerites (1831-1844)

Read: Great Controversy p. 401

- a. *White also signifies Purity.* —The Millerites or First Day Advent Movement was considered a relatively pure Church. Thus, they are termed "White Horses".

Read: Rev. 3:7

- a. The Millerites are also known as the Church of Philadelphia - which means Brotherly Love. We notice that they were free from condemnation. This reveals that the Millerites are represented by the White Horses.

10. **What is the meaning of the north country?**

Read: Ez. 26:7

- a. The north country is the Biblical term for ancient Babylon, but as we are dealing with the New Testament era, the north country here is modern Babylon or Apostate Christianity, especially the Papacy. (See G.C. p. 55:1; 356:1).

Read: Zech. 6: 6

- a. The Millerites also preached in the north country-Catholics and Protestants. (See G.C. p.382, 383 - Apostate Protestants are also included in the term Babylon).

Further proof: *TM* 61:3; Rev. 3:7 —the church of Philadelphia —the church of brotherly love.

11. **What is the meaning of the phrase "quieted my Spirit in the North Country"?**

- a. Since the churches of Miller's day (Babylon) rejected the first angels message, then Babylon **fell** and the Holy Spirit was withdrawn, thus the Holy Spirit was quieted. (See *EW* 240)

12. Grisled and Bay horses

Read: Zechariah 6: 3

- a. This last chariot has two sets of horses
- b. Two types of leaders
- c. Go in different directions
- d. This last chariot follows the Millerite movement which ended in October, 1844.

- e. This chariot could only symbolize the last church in Rev. 3— The Laodicean —S.D.A.

13.

Why Grisled?

- a. Grisled is a color neither white or black - indefinite. A faint grayish, spotted color. This denotes hypocrisy.
- b. Thus, the first set of leaders are not true Christians or fully worldlings.
- c. The grisled horses are the ones first seen and actually the ones leading the chariots (members), symbolizing leaders who are in the forefront - General Conference Leadership.

14.

Why Bay?

- a. The bay color denotes strength (see margin)
- b. The second set of horses are the true Christian leaders.
- c. They are not in the forefront. They are pulling in another direction-trying to finish the Gospel (walk to and fro).
- d. Since they are in the background they must be laymen who will one day lead the chariot.

15.

What is the meaning of the south country?

- a. The Biblical term for the south country is Egypt. (See Gen. 20:1- those lands are Egypt).

Read: 5T217

- a. The SDA Church has turned back from following Christ and going toward the world/worldliness.
- c. This poor spiritual condition is because the Testimonies are unread and unappreciated.
- d. Clearly then, the Grisled horses have strayed off the path and is leading God's last church not to glory, but to be like the world in thought and practice.

Further proof: 1T287, 288; TM86.2; 2T124; 1T608, 609

Note: So we see that in God's Remnant church there is conflict taking place between Christ and Satan and their respective servants (horses). Each striving to gain hold of the chariot; one class to worldliness, the other to all the world to preach the truth. However, both are in the same church (S.D.A.) hitched together by the traces. Soon though, the Grisled will be unhitched and the Bay will take the chariot to finish the work.

16.

What allows the Bay leaders to take the chariot?

Review: Read verse 7-"Go"

- a. The separation is directed by an angel showing that this work is done by God —a miracle. Evidently it is the separation of the wheat and tares. (TM 46, 47)

Read: 3T266, 267

- a. The true people of God who recognize and separate from sin is

- the 144,000.
- b. The sealing of the 144,000 is the closing work for the church.
 - c. This sealing work is described in the Bible with men (angels-Dan 9:21) having slaughter weapons and one among them who seal those who sigh and cry for the evils taking place within the church.
 - d. The servant of the Lord admonishes us to read the Ninth chapter of Ezekiel.

17. **Read Ezekiel 9.**

(See Revelation Seven, part I outline for more details on Ezekiel nine).

CONCLUSION: This study clearly gives us an understanding on the manner God will separate the wheat and the tares, the good and the bad or the righteous and wicked in the church. And that those who will be left will He used as His servants to proclaim the last Gospel invitation.

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