

May 2017

## McInteer Sermon Outlines - Zechariah

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### Recommended Citation

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# MAN AMONG THE MYRTLE TREES

Zech. 1:7-17

- I. Many are the visions of Zech. - but the 1st to be studied is the Man among the Myrtle Trees.
  - A. Text Zech. 1:7-17.
  - B. Our job to read & explain.
- II. 1st see the time (V. 7).
  - A. 24th day of 11th month.
  - B. Sebat = Feb.
  - C. 2nd year of Darius.
    1. Exactly 5 mo. after start of temple reconstruction.
    2. 2 months after Haggai's prophecy. Describes political condition post exile.
  - D. At night.
    1. Darkness of night (could it mean dimness of restored condition?)
    2. Was not this the time for visions - not dreams.
    3. Visions come when people fully awake.
    4. Behold! Look! Arrestment of attention.
- III. Rider of the Red Horse Among the Myrtle.
  - A. We'll identify man later, but believe it's Jesus.
  - B. Red horse.
    1. Symbolize war?
    2. Mean Vengeance of God?
    3. Bloodshed?
  - C. Myrtle Trees.
    1. Native to Israel.
    2. Dark green, lowly shrub, scented leaves, delicate starlike flower, dark edible berries.
    3. Used in making booths at Feast of Tabernacle.

4. Emblem of peace - all wars shortly to end?
5. Hebrew associated modest beauty & freshness c Myrtles.

Isa. 55:13 "Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree"

6. Esther's Heb. name Hadassah means Myrtle.
7. Was this God's covenant people so represented?
8. In the bottom - low place.

D. Horses behind Him.

1. Red.

2. Speckled.

a.) Union of black & white.

b.) Checkered - state of affairs.

c.) Bays.

d.) Sorrel - tawny - plait or intertwined.

3. White.

a.) Some assign work via color of horses - is this accurate?

b.) Pale = hunger.

c.) White = conqueror.

4. Observations:

a.) Doesn't say they had riders tho probably did.

b.) Purpose of vision is to stress the rider on the red horse - thus not weakened by introducing the Cavalry!

c.) Seemingly different orders of angels.

d.) They are messengers, attending Capt. Jesus.

IV. He asks What are These?

A. Angel answers.

1. Lit. spake in me.

2. God appears as an angel.

## B. Study of the Angel.

1. Jesus took this form.

Gen. 16:7-14

Gen. 22:11-19

Gen. 31:11

Exo. 23:20-21

2. Jesus is sole lamb, **mediator**, intercessor.

(Note angel is messenger and teacher).

## V. The Explanation.

A. Some who walk to & fro.

1. Have a duty - report what they find.

2. Report on their 1st tour - as Devil (1 Pet. 5) walks to & fro so does God's counter force.

3. God's intelligence gathering forces.

4. Patrol earth - to determine its exact state.

B. Report "Earth Sits Still".

1. Earth at rest (ease).

2. Earth unconcerned.

3. Bad news to be at rest when he needs to "shake the nations."

Hag. 2:6-7

4. Cry of anguish of "How Long?" goes up as people deeply concerned about welfare of Israel.

5. I do not believe they were talking about future Israel."

C. Lord answers c good & Comfortable Words. (Words of Constitution & Consolation).

1. Cry it out.

a.) Vision not for prophet alone - share it.

b.) You've a real message to carry.

## 2. Jealous & displeasure.

a.) Degrees of displeasure.

(1) Sore (c heathen).

(a) Justly displeased - gave him a commission & he went too far.

(b) He can get as angry as he can get pleased.

(c) Enemies are bold & daring - even threatened to cut off name of Israel.

(2) Little.

(a) His people.

(b) Made a difference.

(c) Others had helped forward the affliction & God felt it.

(d) His folk lax & he felt that too.

## 3. Lord uses Mercy.

(a) 1st came in judgement, later mercy.

(b) Temple was to be rebuilt.

(c) God never lost His love for this Nation.

(d) Word for mercy shows it's the tenderest kind.

(e) God will not forget His promise.

(f) Shortly will show many evidences of His mercy.

(g) So certain is God to keep His promise He can say it's done even before it's started!

(h) Repeats promises 3X.

## 4. Stretches out a line.

a.) Once to destroy.

b.) Now to build.

Isa. 34:11 "But the cormorant and the bittern shall possess

## 5. City will be rebuilt.

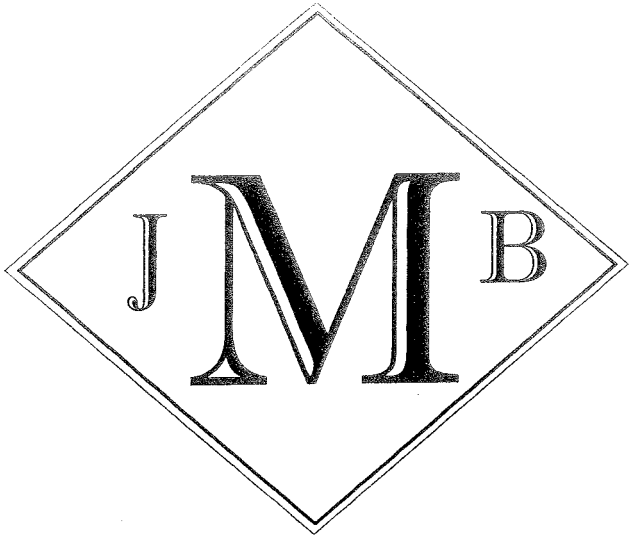
- a.) Accurately it will be rebuilt.
- b.) It will cause others to grow also.
- c.) God can enlarge us.

Isa. 60:22 "A little one shall become a thousand, and  
VI. I'm not rebuilding the Temple, nor do I expect  
another, so what's in the story for me?

A. The Myrtles.

- 1. Low & fragrant - Church lowly, but yields sweet fragrance.
  - 2. Yet Christ is there, Present, in midst of her.
  - 3. Ever c covenant people.
- B. There is a continuous interest and conversation of  
God & Man.
- C. Christ is ever ready & desires to give more  
knowledge to those who want it.
- D. The Leader is ever c the People. He also interced
- E. The cry, so restless, "How Long", has ever been.
- F. The threat of being at rest also there.
- G. There is ever the need to share the good news.
- H. The love of God until shut out ever pursues the  
sinner (Some conscious of the place they are but  
not that they have a heavenly watcher).
- I. God Keeps His Promises!
- 1. Reassurance comes at the right time.
  - 2. God reigns.
  - 3. What promises the gospel has!
  - 4. Do we importune God on behalf of His church?

*West End 10-10-79*



## 4 HORNS & 4 SMITHS

Zech. 1:18-21

I. We come to **Second Vision** of Zech.

- A. Lord has been displeased c the ingratitude, iniquity, idolatry & rebellion.
- B. Had power to return, but would not.
- C. He brings words of comfort & encouragement to effect such a return.

II. 2nd Vision.

A. I lifted up my eyes & saw.

- 1. Eyes not of body, but inner eyes of heart.
- 2. We'll see how God deals c His enemies.

B. 4 Horns.

1. Horns represent powers.

- a.) Assyrian.
- b.) Persian.
- c.) Chaldean.
- d.) Egypt.
- e.) Or was it the 4 of Daniel.

Amos 6:13

Ps. 75:4-5

2. What be these? Horns that scattered.

- a.) Horns represent strength & pride.
- b.) 4 warlike nations came against Israel.
- c.) Tho they were successive in their time, they are exhibited to Zech. as one.
- d.) These powers had absolute dominion over a people who should be free.
- e.) Figure 4 = world - power came on every side - all quarters.



f.) Universal enmity (is not now a fact tho - think what we spend.)

C. The Lord showed 4 Carpenters.

1. Not who are they, but what have they come to do

a.) Were they folks like Nabapolassar (Neb. dad) Cyrus, Alexander & Ptolemy.

b.) Was it as important to know who they were as what they were?

c.) Carpenter = fabricator of material used in wide range, technicians, cunning workmen in stone, metal or wood.

2. What did they come to do?

a.) Fray (lit. terrify).

(1) Break.

(2) Pound.

(3) Reduce to Powder.

(4) Rub.

(5) File down.

(6) Winnowed God's folk unmercifully.

b.) To cast out the horns of the Gentiles.

(1) God sent 4 equalizers.

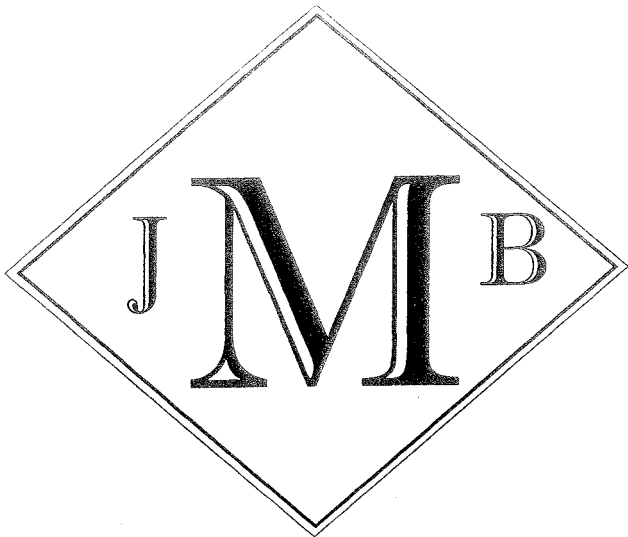
(2) Need men equal to the job. Spurgeon said you don't open an oyster c a razor.

(3) God in smiths has his proper instruments of power

(4) They'll be too weak to lift up head when God's thru c them.

(5) Smiths presence show there is no longer any opposition to the rebuilding of the temple.

(6) Not full end of Jews.



## When I Say Towns -

Zech. 2

- I. To use the word towns in your hearing immediately brings to mind a picture.
  - A. For us today-it does the name of a man.
    1. My memories go all the way back to childhood - Olivia, Mary Samples and Carrie Sue - confused as to which name belonged where.
    2. Came from town and with them a handsome man - Joe Townes.
    3. Names like Wink, Cadillac, city all increased the impression.
    4. I was destined to become better acquainted with one Joe Townes.
      - a) Regular at West End
      - b) Our parking lot conversation as he decided to come our way
      - c) Agony of an illness of Carrie Sue
      - d) Adjustment to a loss
      - e) Feature story in a paper about Joe

- f) Greetings at the door -  
"How are you, boy?"
  - g) His own illness and family concern
  - h) Our last visit - a matter of hours prior to death
5. Good, gentle, genial, successful man - checks at Christmas - "help some poor people."
  6. When I think of Townes- I will of Joe--even 80 never old--just Joe.
- B. I'll also recall other townes.
1. Jesus Ministry

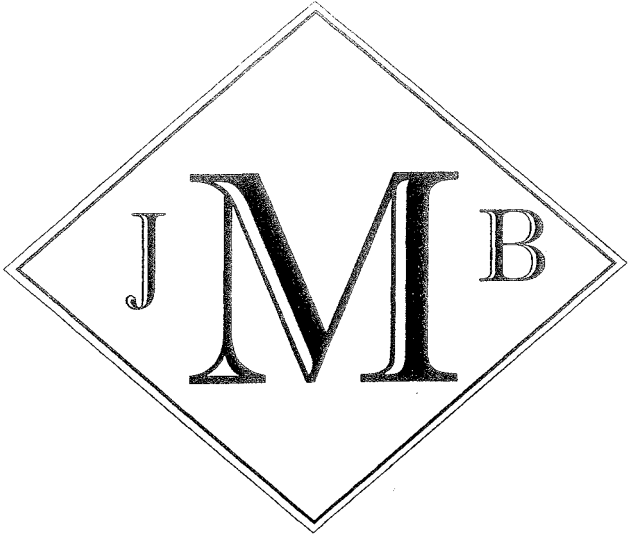
Mark 1:38

Luke 9:6

- a) This is what he wanted to hear-the gospel of Jesus
  - b) Don't know what the week brought him - just knew he started it - kind attention - friendly consideration - obvious interest.
2. Why is perhaps found prophetically in Zech. 2?
    - a) Man with a measuring line.

- b) Her property is connected with her measurements.
- c) Town without walls - multitudes there
- d) God wall of fire round about and glory in the midst
- e) This Joe Townes faith - fulfilling what he knew and relying on the promises of God.

Heb. 11:10 "For he looked for the city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.



# THE MAN WITH THE MEASURING LINE

Zech. 2:1-5

- I. Now comes another vision: "Man c Measuring Line"
  - A. Read Zech. 2:1-5.
  - B. Our task: what does this mean?
- II. Call to the 3rd Vision.
  - A. Lifted up my eyes.
    1. Heb. conjunction "WAW" connects all visions.
    2. I must anticipate good.
  - B. I looked.
    1. Now will come a realistic unfolding of comfortable words.
    2. Hope is for a downtrodden folk to triumph over foes.
    3. Behold! Look!
- III. Features of the Vision.
  - A. Man c Measuring Line.
    1. Can identify line easier than the man! Because it is literally a measuring tape.
    2. "Man" is a bit difficult.
      - a.) Clark said a representation of Nehemiah. (?)
      - b.) Young man is Zech. (?)
      - c.) Pulpit Comm. says the prophet sees a man c a measuring line; he asks whither he is going, told going to measure Jerusalem. Angel #1 leaves prophet's side to receive the explanation of the man's proceedings, is met by a superior angel, who bids him tell prophet meaning of vision.
      - d.) Says man is angel in human form.
      - e.) Easy to get lost as to speaker & measurer.

## B. Measurement of Jerusalem.

1. Shall we take it literally &amp; know her size?

a.) Jews felt Jerusalem should be fortified guardian of nation's throne &amp; altar.

b.) But, like days, our measurements &amp; God's do not jibe - nor can we measure his work.

c.) Our efforts would be superficial.

d.) Actions are not pleasing.

2. Rather "Run speak".

a.) Days needs must be met with speed.

b.) Also clarity - run &amp; speak.

c.) "Young" has wide latitude: *Infant* infancy to prime of life.

d.) Actions must immediately be exercised.

e.) Got a great message - hasten to speak it.

3. God's vision of Jerusalem.

a.) "Towns w/o walls".

(1) So big can't stay c ancient limits.

(2) W/o walls shows safety, confidence, spaciousness

(3) Jerusalem will resemble a succession of villages on an open place.

(4) Reestablishment greater than former state.

b.) Multitude of men &amp; cattle.

c.) Lord a wall of fire about her.

(1) Her safety consists of God's defense.

(2) Great promise - the assurance of protection.

(3) Both safety & light plus will consume all who come against her.

d.) Glory in the midst of her.

1. God's more than a wall - also her glory.



2. All his works magnify His name.

3. There is a future security of good folk.

4. We are recipients & reflections of divine glory.

IV. What does all this mean to me?

A<sup>1</sup> God is the wall around His people.

Rev. 21:23 "And the city had no need of the sun, neith

B<sup>2</sup> The city (and church) needs to be of the dimension

God ordained - *None have right to shorten or alter*

C<sup>3</sup> God keeps His promises.

1. Wall was rebuilt.

Neh. 4:7-8 "But it came to pass, that when Sanballat,

6:15 "So the wall was finished in the twenty and

Hag. 2:9 "The glory of this latter house shall be greater

2. Church today preserved - gates of hell shall not prevail.

D. God is all time current *→ Allow no narrow view* to the needs of His folk & able to meet them.

E. Wherever church is, *or work of God* enemies are too.

2 Cor. 10:4 "(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal)

F<sup>6</sup> Future God has for His folks can be better than past.

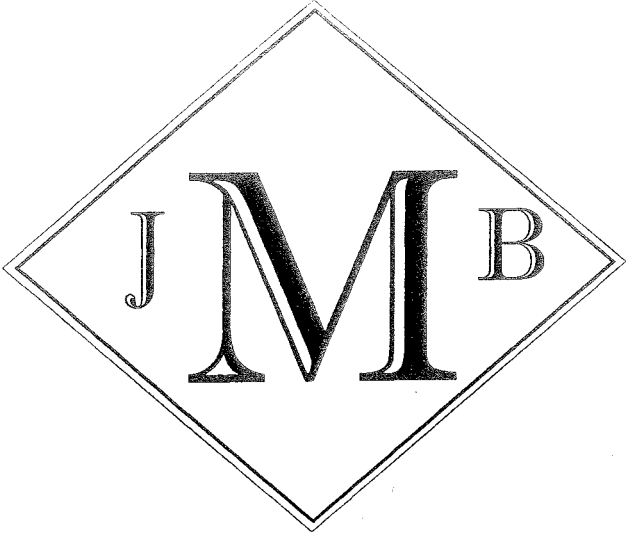
G. Don't judge the work of God by human capacities & instruments, rather by will of God & His design.

H<sup>8</sup> Real glory of God cannot be set down in ft. & yards. Your tape line will miss the most important things. How do you weigh love?

~~I. We must not have too narrow a view of God's work.~~

~~II. Stone walls vs. trust in God - What's our security?~~

~~III. No man has a right to go beyond the measurements of God.~~



## WALLS OF FIRE

Zech. 2:1-5

- I. It was a special time in Jewish history.
  - A. Part are in Babylon.
  - B. Part in Jerusalem building the city again.
  - C. It's a time of decision.
    1. Go on or stop.
    2. Come home or play it safe in Babylon.
    3. Don't we face same decisions?
- II. To Fortify God Sends Another Vision via Zechariah.
  - A. I lifted up my eyes again.
    1. Vision #3.
    2. God has future plans and they are great.
    3. Are we looking for more via faith?
    4. Imperative we not quit.
  - B. Vision #3--Measuring Line Event.
    1. See man with line to measure.
      - a) God builds by line & level.
      - b) Remember Jerusalem had no walls at this time.
    2. Question, "Where are you going?"
      - a) Answer to measure length and breadth.
      - b) Like you, God's concerned about the size of his house.
      - c) Man who had the line was young.
        - (1) God ever has a place for youth.
        - (2) Youth usually needs more instruction--they do not know it all.

- (3) Youth's idea of walls won't work--it will be a city without walls--only God.
- (4) When youth listens they learn much.
- d) Run--Speak to him.
- (1) Imperative we get to him quickly.
- (2) Youth does not wait.
- (3) Haste is urged.
- (4) Don't creep, nor walk, run.
3. Tell all about the new City.
- a) Jerusalem shall be inhabited.
- b) God who scatters, gathers!
- c) There is more to come! And it's good.
4. City Without Walls.
- a) This one will be open.
- b) No fear of danger.
- c) (Did not however intend to stop them building the new wall.)
- d) Don't get discouraged--though few you will make it.
- e) Stay at your task.
- f) Land of unwalled villages.
- Ezek. 18:11
- g) Admittedly need walls--God's it!
- h) Assures them of his presence.
5. Walls of Fire.
- a) Multitude there--God likes growth.
- b) See the expanded city.
- c) Fire used.

d) God's Glory There.

(1) If not it's none of his.

(2) If God is her glory, we ought to be his.

(3) If no visible "wall" must turn to God.

(4) God will give them more than walls could ever do.

III. Question comes now, will captives return?

A. Come Forth--Flee

1. Exiles asked to leave Babylon.

2. Many stayed.

a) Born there--knew it.

b) Jer. 29 be a part of it.

c) Little connection with home and it is desolate.

d) Loss of faith.

e) Suspicious of Darius.

f) Wealth & secure where they are.

3. Easy for ease to take over.

4. Reason God gave loud summons.

5. So easy to forget.

6. Yet blessing to be at home

Woe to come to foe.

2 Thess. 1:7-10

7. People could leave Babylon.

8. No longer does God want them identified with Babylon.

B. Deliver Yourself.

1. Under grace but must deliver ourselves.

2. Obedience always needed.

3. (I'll let "glory" statement alone as much confusion as to its meaning)

## C. Spoil Them That Spoil You.

1. God keeps his own timetable.
2. Apple of his eye.
  - a) Lit. "door" of his eye, pupil.
  - b) Something exceedingly precious.

Ps. 17:8

Prov. 7:2

- c) Loss of eye irreparable.
- d) God has a tender love for his own.
3. Babylon is doomed.
4. God will show His power, He's in charge.

## D. Time to Rejoice &amp; Sing.

1. God gives us reason to celebrate.
2. Zion--city, not temple.
3. God scatters & gathers, I repeat.
4. Glorious times to come, so real reasons to obey Him.
5. Holy Land--only time used.

Ps. 2:6

2:15

99:9

6. Many nations--catholicity.

E. Will we be found a part of the remnant?

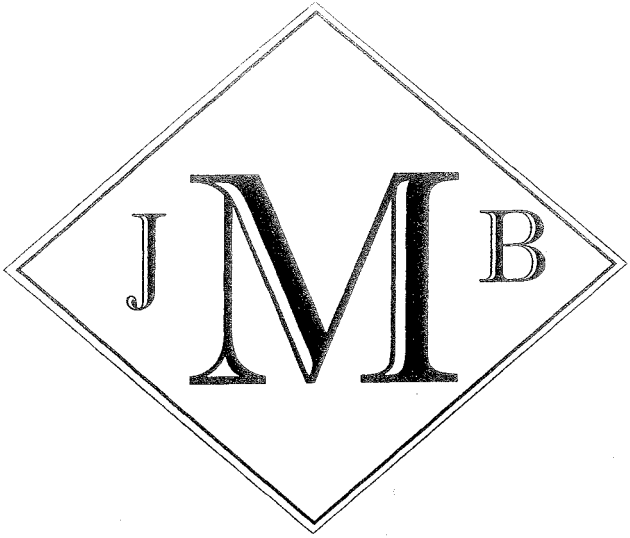
## IV. Be Silent

- A. When God moves men must wait in reverential silence.
- B. Lit. Hush!
- C. We are flesh, God's all wise.
- D. God is silent on some things today but will speak at his own time--patiently wait.
- E. Figure of a Lion aroused from lair.

F. Be still and know I am God.

Hab. 2:20

Locust Grove, KY (BC) - 4/16/95





# JOSHUA AND THE FILTHY GARMENTS

Zech. 3:1-5

I. Correctly has it been said these visions are hard to understand.

A. But remember their purpose so far - "good & comfortable words." 1:23

B. Diagnosis, prescribe, cure.

C. We'll see Joshua in dirty priestly garments.

II. Quickly we meet 5 folks:

A. He - an angel.

B. Me - the prophet.

C. Joshua. *High Priest who returned c. Zerubbabel*  
*949,699 exiles from Babylon*

1. High Priest.

2. Represents all the people. *Stand = technical term*

3. His condition that of the people. *"obedience"*

4. Name - Yahweh is Salvation. *"upon" prophetically same*

5. Attends as a priestly servant should in his work.

D. Angel - Lord Himself.

E. Satan.

1. Adversary, *Accuser Ps 109:6 Satan std. at right hand*

2. A real person - not a personification like Santa Claus.

3. See Satan as he is - accuser, not a friend.

4. "But at right hand", either;

a.) Representation of a false friend or

b.) Accuser in court of justice stood at right side - thus might be as one in court. *OR*

II. Rebukes Ordered. *C) took place at protector who usually stood there. Thus*

A. The Lord Rebuke Thee.

1. God stepped in to Rebuke Satan. *Joshua had*

*Satan spurs rebellion then accuses fallen none to save man*

2. Rebuke repeated for emphasis.

Ecc. 7:24 "That which is far off, and exceeding deep,

3. Chosen Jerusalem - God has a plan.

B. Brand from Fire.

1. Some worth left. *3. Always in fire yet never destroyed*

2. Why pluck it out to stick it back in? *Deut 4:20*

III. Joshua in Filthy Garments. *Iron Furnace*

A. Clothed in filthy garments.

1. Excrement covered. *Most loathsome word for filth*

2. Dirty - offensive - smelly. *Moral pollution.*

3. Used only here in OT as such adjective.

4. Some priest rotten. *- also v-1*

Mal. 2:5-6 "My covenant was with him of life and peace

2:9 "Therefore have I also made you contemptible

Ezek. 22:26 "Her priests have violated my law, and have

5. Filthy c Sin.

Isa. 4:4 "When the Lord shall have washed away the filth

64:5 "Thou meetest him that rejoiceth and worketh righteousness

B. Take them Away - Only God can remove the filthy

1. Cause the iniquity to pass.

2. God alone can remove sin.

3. God wants His redeemed folk clean.

C. Give Change of Raiment.

1. Put on clean clothes.

2. Change - restore.

3. Remove dirty & put on clean.

Rom. 3:25 "Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiatory sacrifice

Eph. 1:7 "In whom we have redemption through his blood

Rom. 1:16-17 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ

Rom. 3:22 "Even the righteousness of God which is by faith

Rom. 3:26 "To declare, I say, at this time his righteous

D. Fair Mitre on Head.

*Isa 61:10  
No clothes*

- 1. Turban = to wind around
- 2. Priest wore, in glory, Holiness to the Lord."
- 3. "Glisteningly clean & brightly pure." *Eph 2:8*
- 4. Garments are for covering, beauty, glory.

Exo. 28:4-5 "And these are the garments which they s

Lev. 8:7-9 "And he put upon him the coat, and girded

Exo. 28:39 "And thou shalt embroider the coat of fine

31-35 "And thou shalt make the robe of the epha

~~28:15-21 "And thou shalt make the breastplate o~~

5. Angel of the Lord stood by!

#### IV. Observations & Conclusions.

A. How can God bless such a people? *Sinful to  
They be?*

- A**. Are our garments clean?
- A**. Can God really do His work c a sin bimirched people?

**B**. Satan still accuses, tho cast out of Heaven.

- 1. Does it before God - "not right for you to save such a folk."
- 2. Does it to us "Look how bad you are - you'll never be better."
- 3. By endless discouragements & frustrations.
- 4. He's real interested in our worship, remember!

**E** Sin always gives the Devil a Platform for Attack.

Eph. 4:27 "Neither give place to the devil."

Matt. 12:43-45 "When the unclean spirit is gone out

I Cor. 5:5 "To deliver such an one unto Satan for the

I Jn. 5:16 "If any man see his brother sin a sin which

**E** All of us Have Had Narrow Escapes.

6. The God Who can pluck out firebrands & give clothing changes still lives.

7. We, cleansed, are given full equippt  
to do work at God.

Phil 3:7-9

Pinlon poem

In the familiar lines of Hezekiah Butterworth there are two significant buts, and we are in danger of noticing only the one:

But the bird with the broken pinion  
Never soared so high again.

This is the first. That is the truth that Huxley saw. But it is not the whole truth. There is another but:

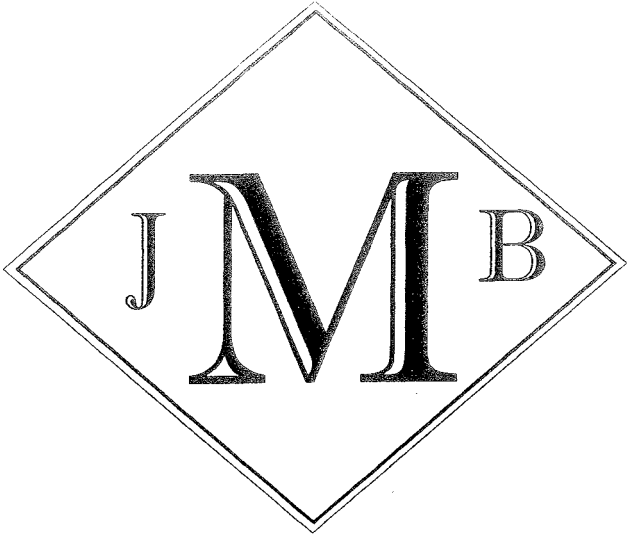
But the bird with the broken pinion  
Kept another from the snare,  
And the life that sin had stricken  
Raised another from despair.

Each loss has its compensations,  
There is healing for every pain;  
Though the bird with the broken pinion  
Never soars so high again.

F. W. Boreham, "The Luggage of Life", 68.

From "The Speaker's Bible" - Edited by Rev. Edward Hastings,  
M.A.

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# THE GOLDEN CANDLESTICK AND TWO OLIVE TREES

Zech. 4

- I. One great thing about the study of this prophecy-- since God did not interpret it, you can't say my conclusions are wrong!
- II. One distressing thing - He asked, "Knowest thou not what these things be?" (V. 5) & the implication is he expected him to know - irrespective of how difficult the matter is!
- III. So with proper fear & awe we approach the Vision of the Golden Candlestick Zech. 4.
  - A. Zech. was wakened out of his sleep.
    1. Baron said lying in ecstatic slumber, but must be awakened to do more & know more.
    2. So easy for us to level off.
    3. We must practice spiritual wakefulness.
    4. Sadly, Christians cease to feel.
    5. Too late in life & opportunity we begin to see.
    6. Remember transfiguration - "heavy c sleep" RV says "When they were fully awake they saw Christ's glory."
    7. Question arises - how do we awaken folk?
    8. Angel (messenger) sent - has God quit?
  - B. Next try to see the picture.
    1. Candlestick - all of Gold.
    2. Bowl on top of it.
    3. 7 lamps on the candlestick.
    4. 7 pipes to 7 lamps, thus 49.
    5. 2 olive trees on right & left of bowl.
  - C. Interrogated.



1. Visions are & give a shadowy representation of some important truth.
  2. Surprised Zech. couldn't interpret.
  3. "Don't you know" suggests "you ought to know."
- D. What could these things mean?

1. Candlestick.

- a.) All of gold - shows estimate God places.
- b.) Main part of vision.

Ezek. 5:5 "Thus saith the Lord God; This is Jerusalem

- c.) Was it Israel & then church?
- d.) Was not its purpose to give light?
- e.) God puts a high estimate on witnessing.
- f.) All showing pure service to God.

2. Bowl.

- a.) Collects oil to send to 7 pipes.
- b.) Was the bowl the gospel?

3. 7 Lamps.

- a.) All burn unhindered.
- b.) Constantly supplied - never ran out.
- c.) Lamps were self feeding.
- d.) Lamps shine for benefit of others - not self.
- e.) 7 = perfection.
- f.) Perfection of light.

4. 7 Pipes.

- a.) Little canals.
- b.) Lit. "little pourers."
- c.) 7 shows plentifulness.
- d.) 7 each 7 lamps = 49.
- e.) Men are channels of grace - not the grace itself
- f.) Pipes show means of grace reaching you.

g.) Are pipes ordinances?

5. 2 olive trees.

a.) They supply bowl with oil.

b.) Joshua & Zerubbabel?

c.) Or Jesus as prophet & high priest?

d.) Source of infinite love.

e.) Sons of oil--heavy laden--to cause to hang down  
fully ripened, tree c endless fruit.

f.) See V. 11-14.

g.) Oil they give is golden.

(1) Color.

(2) Word is one for fresh oil.

(3) No human hand had to administer. It came  
completely automatic & spontaneous.

6. Oil.

a.) Temple needed pure & often replaced.

Exo. 27:20-21 "And thou shalt command the children of

Exo. 30:7-8 "And Aaron shall burn thereon sweet incense

b.) Here there was no need for a priest to attend.

c.) Fed spontaneously.

d.) Unlimited supply - inexhaustible.

e.) Grace of God?

f.) We need constant supply of oil of the spirit.

E. Other things in Vision.

1. Plummets (V. 10).

a.) Lit. stone of tin.

b.) Instrument to true with.

2. Eyes of the Lord.

a.) 7 shows all seeing eye of God in constant search  
of earth.

b.) Runs - sweep, go, rove about, range, continuous activity.

IV. What is the Significance of all this?

A. 3 great truths.

- 1. "Not by might."
- 2. "Mt. a plain."
- 3. Who despises day of small beginnings.
- 4. We'll examine each.

B. "Not by might" - (V. 6).

- 1. We achieve not by might of own.
- 2. Nor by power or authority of another.
- 3. But by Most Hi.
- 4. No secular arm, no human prudence, no earthly policy; no suite of laws result in founding & extension of church.
- 5. Thus, poorness of material resources not an obstacle.
- 6. We are warned not to get creature confident.

Jer. 17:5 "Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that

Phil. 3:3 "For we are the circumcision, which worship

Hab. 1:16 "Therefore they sacrifice unto their net, and

- 7. God won't give His glory to another.
- 8. Herod eaten of worms for doing it.
- 9. Might = strength of men.

Power = strength of one, thus captures all combine strength.

- 10. Strength embraces physical, mental, material.
- 11. All could neither advance nor retard God's work.
- 12. It will be by power of God.

Deut. 32:8 "When the most High divided to the nations

Rom. 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Chris

### 13. Providential care & direction of God is there!

#### C. Mt. & Plain (V. 7).

1. Mt. = hindrances thrown in the way of righteous achievements.
2. All of us have difficulties.
3. Mt. shows they are colossal!
4. Temple constructions - Israel or ours always has opposition.
  - a.) Hardhearted men.
  - b.) False friends.

Ezra 4:1-4 "Now when the adversaries of Judah and Benjamin..."

- c.) Force.
- d.) Stratagem.
- e.) Weak confederates.
- f.) World allurements.
- g.) Seasonal & spasmodic help.
5. But inspect your difficulties - you are greater than they.
6. Watch a Mt. become a plain.
7. All personal difficulties can be conquered.
8. We can overcome our temptations.
9. God's work will be finished - fully & quickly.
10. You, as governor, will lay cornerstone & set crowning top stone (V. 7).

Ezra 3:12 "But many of the priests and Levites and children..."

11. We'll shout Grace (V. 7).

#### D. Day of Small Things.

1. Day of small beginnings are to be crowned with completion.
2. Why would one despise the small things?

a.) Pity for feebleness.

Neh. 4:2 "And he spake before his brethren and the ar

b.) Obvious faults.

I Sam. 17:28 "And Eliab his eldest brother heard when

c.) Sneer & ridicule.

Matt. 13:55 "Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his

d.) Silent neglect.

Acts 5:38 "And now I say unto you, Refrain from these

3. Some folks won't do it: elders, parents, soul winners, Jesus.

Isa. 65:8 "Thus saith the Lord, As the new wine is four

4. Some ferns have seeds so small can't see a natural eye.

5. Most all great things have small beginnings - a baby, for instance.

Matt. 7:14 "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the

Ps. 2:8 "Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen

6. Satan knows the power even of 1 thought.

Josh. 10:1-5 "Now it came to pass, when Adonizedek

Ezra 3:12 "But many of the priests and Levites and chief

7. Little is much & will eventually become much if God is in it.

## V. Closing Qts.

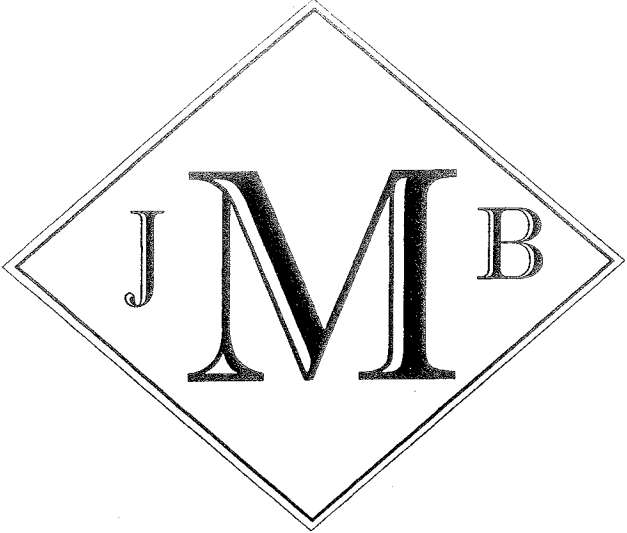
A. Are we an anointed one

Why stand by the Lord (V. 14).

1. Do we properly minister in religion & civil affairs

B. Zech. prophecy was real word of the Lord - do we so respect (V. 8).

1. It knows how to handle all our problems.



I. I've heard of the

A. Flying Blue Angels.

(Tennessean from Elizabethan just took over Jet persision wing.)

B. Flying wedge--Football.

C. Flying Dutchman--Baseball.

D. Flying Carpet--Fantacy.

E. But only recently the Flying Roll.

F. Others take their place in war, entertainment and make believe--this is religion.

II. What is a Flying Roll? (Papyrus or Skins as paper unknown).

A. Orgin.

1. Came from God (v-4) *"I bring it forth"*

2. Represented so interpereting angel said "a judgment."

B. Description.

1. 20 x 10 cubits or 30 x 15'.

a. Same as tabernacle, *some measure as blessing!*

b. God takes the measure of sin we must be measured by God's standard not ours. It's not "I'm as good as my neighbor".

Lev. 11:44 "Ye shall be holy for I am h.

c. Judgment begins at the house of God. Is proportionate to nearness of God and knowledge of him? *Not by custom or sentiment but by God!*

2. Inscribed.

a. Contents beyond escape or repeal.

b. Front and back=comprehensiveness.

3. Unrolled.

a. Open--all knew.

4. Went flying over all earth.

a. Universal and swift.

### C. Purpose.

1. Cry out the judgment against specified sins of thief and perjury.

2. Look at sin of stealing.

a. Do we take money?

b. Do we misrepresent?

(1) Time I work. *or*

(2) Tax forms--avoid or evade?

Do we rationalize I don't like relief program and Tito. *Best bank but not God!*

(3) Report what gave to church accurately?

(4) Does a sharp pencil destroy our genuine honesty.

(5) Madison Sarratt said 2 test--trig and honesty.

c. Do we a reputation?

(1) David would do nothing against God's anointed? Do we hurt today's kings. Rev. 1:6.

(2) Is our word our bond? Drunkards have good moral reputation.

d. When a man steals he's false with his neighbor.

3. Look at Perjury.

a. This was false with his God.

(1) Head of all ungodliness.

b. Broke 3 and 8th commandments--one on both sides of table.

c. Are we dishonest of minds and vows.

(1) Have we truly worshipped.

4. It is judgment.

a. God will bring it to the house of the sinner. *How to hell, clip "stand in line!"*

(1) Chastises vice and set forth punishment.

(2) They'd all had a chance to do better but



didn't.

b. Enter the house.

(1) This was where he was strongest.

(2) Here he least suspected trouble.

(3) Here it remains = lit. lodge til the  
nite of utter destruction accomplished.

c. Destroy House -- Consume. *Not seen lightly nor  
less severely.*

(1) I Kings 14:10 -- Take away as a man does  
dung.

(2) Upturned house of the dead a lesson to  
us all.

(3) God wouldn't spare even Jerusalem.

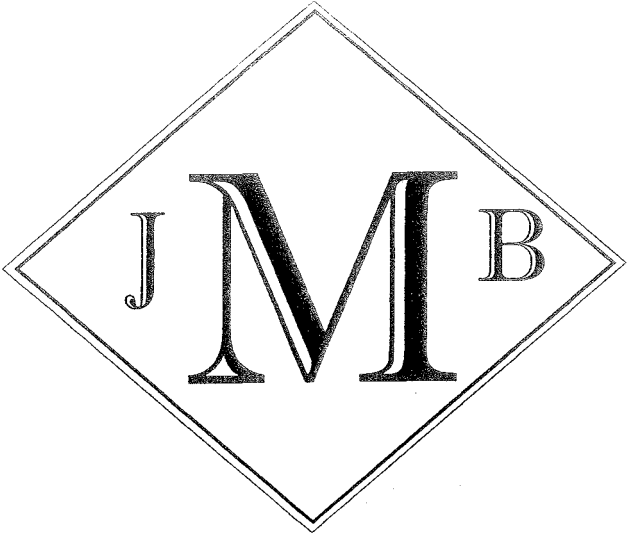
(4) Not one vestige of it was left. —

(5) Adumbration of the destruction at  
judgement.

(6) In <sup>fluencia</sup> - evil parents never perish.  
In a single death, not holy one eat  
meal of blessing alone.

Winstead 1/21/62

DeVries, Wm. 3/19/62



## THE FLYING ROLL

Zech. 5:1-4

I. Now the nature of the visions change.

A. It was "good & comfortable words"---pep them up, carry on!

B. But if you carry on you must be worthy of serving--so what's it like in your life? Are you what you should be?

1. Is there sin there?

2. Will God take notice?

3. Will He punish?

II. Vision of Flying Roll (Zech. 5:1-4).

A. "Then I turned"

1. As surely as he does bodily, so psychologically the nature of the vision is turning.

a.) Up to this point it's been blessings for Israel.

b.) Now gaze turns inward.

c.) Luck said God deals c sin in 2 ways:

(1) Grace.

(2) Judgement - price God pd. for redemption show exceeding sinfulness of sin Rom. 7:13.

d.) Thus we move from sunshine to storm.

2. Time & again his attention was redirected.

B. Saw Flying Roll (Ezek. 2:9-10).

1. Don't know whether leather or papyrus.

2. Largest papyrus on 30 ft. X 10 inches - put either Isa. or Genesis on this.

3. Usually wound on two sticks & written only on one side.

4. This one unrolled & evidently written on both sides, open.

5. Interpreting angel there to inquire & interpret.

C. Described Roll.

1. Flying.

a.) Swiftess of something - here it's judgement.

Amos 3:2 "You only have I known of all the families of

b.) Easily seen by all.

2. Size.

a.) 20 X 10 cubits = 30' X 15'.

b.) Same size as tabernacle.

c.) Same size as Solomon's Porch at Temple.

3. Significance.

a.) Contains catalogue of crimes of people - many.

b.) Written front & back.

c.) Shows message of God to the Land.

d.) Does judgement begin at house of God?

e.) Is sin's punishment proportionate to nearness of God & knowledge of Him?

f.) Don't say, "I'm no worse than my neighbor - but rather measure me by divine record & holiness.

Lev. 11:44 "For I am the Lord your God: ye shall there

Matt. 5:48 "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father

g.) Men measured by sanctuary--not by themselves.

1 Sam. 2:3 "Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let no

h.) Judgement proceeds according to holiness of God - same as tabernacle.

D. This is the curse.

1. Punishment.

2. Retribution.

3. Came from Heaven's Judgement seat.

4. Falls on whole earth - evidently Israel as no other nation under the law.

E. Crimes of Stealing & Swearing.

1. Broken commandments in middle of the Law.

2. Honor God - love neighbor - breaks both. Exo. 20.

3. Perjury & thieves.

4. Were these sins samples of the whole since come in the middle?

5. Violation of oath is head of all ungodliness.

6. Thievery is injustice to neighbor.

F. God Brings it Forth.

1. May hide from man but not God.

2. His judgements are certain.

3. God keeps watch & lets no offense go unpunished

4. Words on scroll are unchangeable.

5. None sin & hide from God.

G. Destruction.

1. They will be cut off.

a.) Purged.

b.) Lit. cleansed away.

c.) Poured out, thus vessel left clean.

2. Enter house.

a.) Made no difference what kind it was, scroll settled over it if it was wrong.

b.) Remained.

(1) Abide.

(2) Spend the nite - curse thus remains day & nite.

(3) Doesn't pay a passing visit but lodges there.

c.) Consumes.

(1) Once scroll came, whole thing rotted.

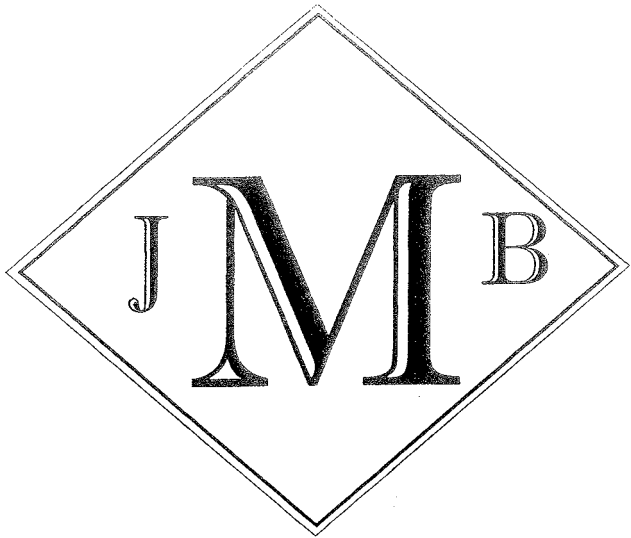
(2) Law actively pronounces curse on evil actions & speech.

(3) Curse does its work rapidly.

(4) Upturned house of dead a lesson to us all - don't venture to be like it.

(5) Only 1 way to escape curse; be cleansed.

Gal. 3:13 "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of 1



# THE WOMAN IN THE BUSHEL BASKET

Zech. 5:5-11

- I. You no doubt have seen women come out of various things:
  - A. New cars.
  - B. Beauty parlors.
  - C. Pumpkin shells.
  - D. But did you ever see one come out of a bushel basket? If not, now you will.
- II. Vision of Zech. - Read 5:5-11.
  - A. Once again, it's a helpful angel that sets it all in motion.
  - B. Flying Ephah.
    1. Little more than a bushel.
    2. 7 1/2 gallons.
    3. Same as bath - largest measure of dry goods among the Jews.
    4. Significance.
      - a.) God measures Israel's sins & brings them to judgement.
      - b.) Is Ephah symbol of commerce?
  - C. Talent & Woman.
    1. Lift up talent (125#) or as margin "weighty piece".
    2. There sits a woman in the midst of ephah.
      - a.) Sits or dwells.
      - b.) Satisfied where she is.
      - c.) Delights in evil.
      - d.) Contented.
    3. Woman symbol of evil.



Matt. 13:33 "Another parable spake he unto them; The

1 Tim. 2:12 "But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to

Rev. 2:20 "Notwithstanding I have a few things against

Rev. 17:1-7 "And there came one of the seven angels

D. This is Wickedness.

1. Identified.

2. God allows sin to fully develop itself.

E. Casts wt. of lead upon the Mouth.

1. Was she trying to escape & is thus cast down.

a.) Knows fate of Babylon & wants to avoid it.

b.) Prov. 5:22.

2. Or was she trying to hide?

3. Why do we place a lid on wickedness - to hide it or hold it in?

4. Talent = a circle.

F. The Escape.

1. 2 women.

a.) Behold! graphic, arrest interest.

b.) Don't know who they are.

2. Wind in their wings.

a.) Extra help to move ephah since burden so heavy

b.) Wickedness usually has friends to move it along

3. Wings of Stork.

a.) Long wide wings.

b.) Unclean bird.

Lev. 11:19 "And the stork, the heron after her kind, (

c.) Wings & wind show velocity.

G. Where to?

1. Off to Shinar.

2. Wickedness traced to its origin & judgement pronounced on the place of its origin.

3. Idolatry started in Babylon - sins come home to roost.

4. Babylon scene of 1st rebellion.

Gen. 12:2 "And I will make of thee a great nation, a

### III. Points of Significance.

A. When God did His judgement, He lifted it up for all to see.

B. When you rebuild the temple, you must remove evil from the land. He does not want wickedness to remain.

C. Sin is a heavy load.

D. Materialism is enticing.

Amos 8:5 "Saying, When will the new moon be gone,

1. Hard to be honest.

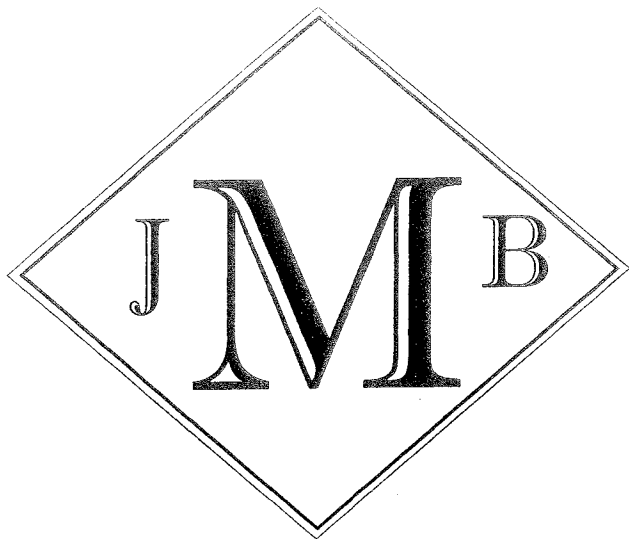
2. We bow to money's power.

3. Yet commerce not necessarily evil.

E. We get trapped & bound by sins.

Rev. 22:11 "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still; c

*West End Med. Night Class 12-12-79.*



## 4 CHARIOTS

Zech. 6:1-8

I. We come to the next to last vision.

A. Only Joshua's crowning remains.

B. Some count this the last one.

C. I think it one of the hardest.

II. Some things we can readily see.

A. 1st read the vision.

B. Now see points of interest.

1. Figure Four.

a.) Perhaps shows universality - 4 corners of earth.

Isa. 11:12 "And he shall set up an ensign for the na

b.) Horses are ready to go in every direction.

2. Chariots.

a.) Evidently war chariots.

b.) Signify Judgement.

c.) God will judge all world powers.

d.) Horses will show fleetness.

3. Mts.

a.) Not identified.

b.) Moriah & Olivet c valley of Jesophat between

c.) Signifies strength.

d.) Definite article - "two" Mt. - as tho well known.

e.) Bronze = divine judgement on sin.

Nu. 21:9 "And Moses made a serpent of brass, and

Exo. 27:2 "And thou shalt make the horns of it upon

f.) Powers are strong as brass, unsurmountable undecaying.

## 4. Colors.

a.) Red = war.

Black = Famine &amp; death.

White = victory.

Grizzled = pestilence.

Ezek. 14:21 "For thus saith the Lord God; How much

Rev. 6:1-8 "And I saw when the Lamb opened one of

b.) Drivers not mentioned.

c.) "In to the" - harnessed to - weren't in the chariot!

d.) Red horse unaccounted for.

e.) 2 words that give difficulty used for last horse grizzled &amp; bay.

f.) Bay means strength, "strong" horse.

## 5. 4 Spirits.

a.) Not winds but personalities.

b.) Not 4 Gentile empires.

c.) Hard to identify - angels or personification of another.

## 6. To &amp; Fro.

a.) Babylon to North.

b.) Egypt to South.

c.) This is heart of the vision - in 1st vision wicked go to &amp; fro while God's folk sore distressed - now tables are turned &amp; it's spirits that go to &amp; fro.

d.) They execute judgement on all the earth.

e.) Some people deserve punishment.

f.) Readiness on God's part to let the blow fall.

g.) After going N & S then ready to go to & fro - covers it all.

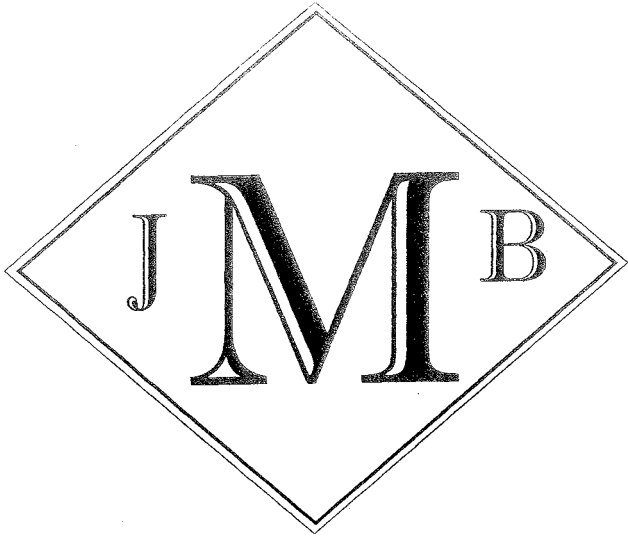
7. Quiet Spirit.

a.) God's anger can be appeased.

b.) Earth at peace under God's control.

c.) Chariots also convey His protesting providence.

*West End Med. Night Class 12-19-79.*



"Behold The Man Called BRANCH" Zech 6:1-15

I. Time - during the captivity at Babylon and attempted return to rebuild Temple-500BC  
Place - Jerusalem

Persons Zech, the prophet and his vision

II. This 7th Vision

A. Many others have occurred in Book. Shall we see this one.

B. Detail Vision

1. 4 chariots - red, black, white, *gristed*  
*gusted* and bay.

2. Between mt. of brass.

C. Questions asked and Vision explained.

V-4 "Then I ans: and said unto the angel

1. Explain chariots and colors

(a) War chariots to execute God's judgement

(b) ~~Cred~~ mean God's judgement on world.

(c) Are they Baby. Medes GK, Roman

(d) God uses strange ministers to His glory both varied and complex.

(e) They "stand" (v-5) Before God-go at His bidding-He exalts and dethrones.

(f) Red-blood (Baby, already gone reason not rementioned.)

(g) Black-heavy lot (Medes) Famine Rev Isa 13:18" no pity on 6:5-6  
fruit of womb"

(h) White - joy, gladness,

(i) ~~Gusted-mangled~~, dappled, gray.

*Erized-mingled - strong (Morgie)*



## 2. Explain Mountains

- a. strong, unsurmountable, undecaying  
asked permission (v-7) to go-shows  
supremacy of God.
- b. Impossible to identify *literally*.
- c. Chariots between not over
- d. As ocean amid all ebbing, flowing,  
rage, obeys moon-so nations God..
- e. Mt. of brass-cannot be shaken,  
reassures in these times.

## III. The birth of Etenal King

### A. Gifts of captivity

1. Those actually captured and in cap-  
tivity
2. go now- emergency, urgent
3. ~~Then~~ - impressive
4. Accept of gifts from afar (all names  
used express relation to ~~God~~ <sup>God</sup> i.e.  
Tobiah - The Lord is my good)
5. Make crown-one crown uniting many  
crowns-he rules all
6. placed on head of Josh., priest, not  
zerababel

### B. Acts explained

1. His name is Branch "thy"  
a. ~~Shout~~ his name, not ~~they~~ as tho to  
Joshua, *but "his"*
- b. Josh. means Savior-forshadowed  
Christ.
- c. Long the cry "He cometh" now here.
2. Grow up out of his place  
Isa. 53:2 "For he shall grow up be-  
fore lowly-no seeming account.
- A. Unknown of man-known of God  
1. We see one bright flash at

temple - 12 years Lu 2:51" and he went downc  
see-then

3. Build the temple

(a) A new temple

Eph 2:19-21 "Now therefore ye are no

Matt 16:18 "On this rock I will build

~~Eph. 2:21 "In whom all the bldg~~

Acts 7:48 "The most Hi dwelleth not in

I Pet 2:5 "Ye also as lively stones

Penetrate deep enough-find this rock.

Even he!

1. Shall bear the glory.

In 1:14 "and we behold His glory the g.

Rev. 5:12 "worthy is the lamb which

Lu 1:32-33 "He shall be great, I shall

Matt. 25:31 "When the Son of Man shall

2. Sit and rule

(a) 1st cross then crown

(b) who do you love-Jesue or preacher

Bill Perkins illustration

3. Priest and King-gov. on his shoulder

Ps. 2:6 I set my king upon my holy hill

a. Matt. 28:18 "All power is given me

b. Yet ever lives to make intercession

c. He alone, our King, Saviour, Object  
of our love.

Ps. 110:4 "The Lord hath sworn and

4. To him men may come from afar.

5. Build upon the temple lot.

6. There faithfulness determines their  
share in temple.

2.) Behold the Man - he's Wonderful  
Crown Him with Man # 3

Church  
quote  
#1

Kindly  
#2

Church founded on faith in him, dedicated by his blood, established by the stayedness of divine virtue, adorned divine and eternal riches. (1)

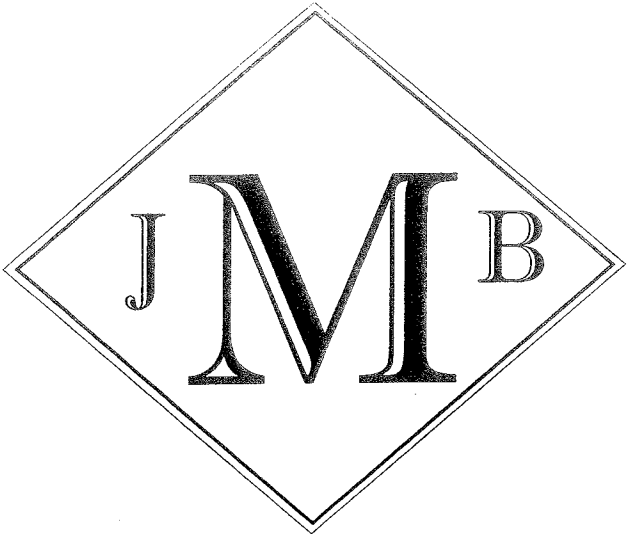
O the kindly hands of Jesus, Puring blessings on all men, Bleeding, nail-scarred hands of Jesus! Can I nail them once again?

Shall I crucify my Savior? Crucify my Lord again? (2)  
Once, Once I crucified Him: Shall I crucify again?

Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne;  
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns All music but its  
own!

A wake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,  
And hail Him as thy matchless King Thro' all eternity.

(3)



# COMPASSION: JUDGED BY THE COMPANY IT KEEPS

Zech. 7:8-10

I. We often judge a matter by the company it keeps.

- A. Drinking crowd.
- B. Library folks.
- C. Convention delegates.

HAND OF <sup>God's will</sup> COMPASSION -  
5 Fingers - COMPASSION  
THE BIG ONE

II. I judge the value of compassion by the company it keeps.

Zech. 7:8-10 "And the word of the Lord came unto Z"

A. There are 5 features of association. We shall name them.

B. 1st feature is antiquity & continuity.

V. 8 "The word of the Lord came saying

V. 9 "Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts

1. Clearly this means precepts of the past were God's will & currently are his unchanged will.

2. Zech. is repeating what former prophets are saying.

3. Omni temporal application of moral principles.

4. What was earlier said is now valid.

5. God's always said so & says so now.

C. 2nd feature is Judgement based on fact.

V. 9 "Execute true judgement".

1. We know well "Judge not", but know little "execute true judgement." John 7:24

2. Define this.

a.) Render judicial decision based on truth.

b.) Imperative - judicial decision characterized by truth based on objective evidence, utter impartiality, & absence of dishonesty.

(3 things)

Ezek. 18:8 "Hath executed true j. between man & man  
c.) Judge w/o bias or partiality.

3. Results are a perfect fairness in dealings.

D. 3rd companion - Show mercy.

V. 9 "Show mercy & compassion every man to his brot'l

1. Reach for infirm.

2. Help in calamities.

3. Practice kindness & compassion in general conduc

4. Word means "do", "practice", "work" kindness.

5. Compassion is an intense plural with a singular meaning. *from the Op*

6. From "rehem" = womb - brotherly feeling.

7. Show compassion to the unhappy.

8. It's pity for the afflicted.

9. Perfect kindness in dealings.

E. 4th Companion - Oppress not.

V. 10 "Oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the

1. Oppress = vex, torment.

2. Must not only not hurt but must help our fellow man.

3. Do not oppress the helpless.

4. Lists 4 classes of helpless society.

(a) Widow.

(b) Fatherless.

(c) Stranger.

(d) Poor. - *you are coming over?*

Lu. 4:18

~~Prov. 24:31 "And, lo, it was all grown over with thorn~~

Jere. 7:5-7 "For if ye thoroughly amend your ways and

5. Omit no act of love.

6. Peculiar kindness to those needing it most.

*because he laid down his life for us* 3.  
1 Jn. 3:16 "Hereby perceive we the love of God, because  
7. If you see a need & do not help, are you a Chr.?  
"Whoso hath this world's goods

F. 5th Companion - No evil imaginations.

V. 10 "Let none of you imagine evil against his brother

1. Let none think evil of his bro. in his heart.

2. Cogitate no evil. *wolves story*

3. Imagine = devise.

4. God prohibits a thought of revenge or injury against a brother.

5. Entertain no malicious thought.

Deut. 15:9 "Beware that there be not a thought in the

III. God's always practical. *wicked heart*

A. These truths:

1. God's more pleased with loving obedience rather than empty ceremonies.

2. Duties are not keeping fasts & offering sacrifices as earlier verses show but doing justice & loving mercy. *Zech 7:4-7*

3. Pursue duties to help the public welfare & pursue peace.

4. True fasting is to loose the bands of wickedness & leave off oppression.

5. Fasts of Isa.

Isa. 58:3-5 "Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and

6-10 "Is not this the fast that I have chosen?

Deut. 10:12-13 "And now, Israel, what doth the Lord

I Sam. 15:22-23 "And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as

6. Remember the man's duty to his neighbor

presupposes his relationship to his God.



7. Are we -

- a.) All theologians as we battle for dogmas.
- b.) Or all devotional as we praise & pray.
- c.) Or all zeal as we make converts.

8. We must have self sacrificing benevolence.

9. We may be great theologians, great pietist, great propagandist, but it takes benevolence to make the complete Christian.

Poem on Prayer

West End 10-16-77

1977 Christian Child Care Conference, St. Louis  
 Shady Grove Church, Duck River 10-13-77

## A PRAYER

I knelt to pray when day was done,  
And prayed, "O Lord, bless everyone,  
Lift from each burdened heart the pain,  
And let the sick be well again."  
And then I woke to another day,  
And carelessly went on my way.

The whole day long I didn't try  
To wipe a tear from any eye:  
I didn't try to share the load  
Of any brother along the road:  
Why, I didn't even go to see  
The sick man just next door to me.

Yet, once again when day was done,  
I prayed, "O Lord, bless everyone."  
But as I prayed, into my ear  
There came a voice that whispered clear,  
"Pause, friend, before you pray,  
Whom have you tried to help today?"

God's sweetest blessings always go,  
To hands that serve Him here below:  
And then I hid my face and cried,  
"Forgive me, God, for I have lied:  
And if You'll let me live another day,  
I'll try to live the way I pray."

--Author unknown

## 5 — GRASP THE DEEPER MEANING OF COMPASSION

There is a hidden challenge in the word "compassion."

Derived from "cum" (with) and "passus" (from the verb — to suffer), "compassion" is defined as "sympathy with pain or sorrow that prompts one to help or relieve it."

It is all very well to express in words our sadness at the difficulties of others. The true test or challenge, however, comes when we are called upon to accept some inconvenience or suffering for their sake.

- Try to develop insight into the deeper, unspoken joys and sorrows of people.
- Assist them to grow in maturity, self-reliance and responsibility.
- Respect their opinions, even when they do not coincide with your own.

St. Matthew relates this moving incident from the life of the Master: "*Seeing the crowds, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were bewildered and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd.*" (Matthew 9:36)

## 6 — TAKE PEOPLE WHERE YOU FIND THEM

Few men in history have been shrewder judges of human nature than Benjamin Franklin. The following tips he gave deserve thoughtful attention:

"The best thing to give your enemy is forgiveness;

- to an opponent, tolerance;
- to a friend, your ear;
- to your child, good example;
- to a father, reverence;
- to your mother, conduct that will make her proud of you;
- to yourself, respect;
- to all men, charity."

Taking people where we find them is far more arduous in fact than in theory. Such a continual attitude, multiplied over and over by millions of people, could bring about a heartening renewal in individuals, the family, as well as public and private institutions of all types. And it all begins with you!

Often we fear that if we identify our faults to our brethren, this information will be used against us. Generally, exactly the reverse occurs. When scientists were studying the habits of wolves, they noted an intriguing development. The researchers observed wolves fighting each other. When one clearly achieved dominance over the other, with hair and blood and passion raging, if the losing animal turned his throat and bared the jugular vein, the winning combatant would refrain from the death grip and allow the victim to go away defeated, certainly, but alive. Something in that helpless appeal struck an instinctive chord of compassion in the beast.

Open Heart-Open Mind, by Karen Burton Mains, p. 107

*Compassion*

*Companion*

Mrs W O Begone was moping around the house one morning when the phone rang. "Hi there," said a friendly feminine voice. "How are you today?"

"Oh, terrible," said Mrs. Begone. "I'm so tired. The house is a mess, there's ironing to be done, my back is killing me and my feet hurt. Just getting the kids off to school this morning wore me out. I just can't face it."

"Why you poor thing," exclaimed the caller. "Tell you what. You lie down and rest and I'll be right over. I've baked a cake and I'll bring that. I'll sort of tidy up around your house and I could get some of your ironing done while we chat. How does that sound?"

"Wonderful," the tired mother said, "just wonderful."

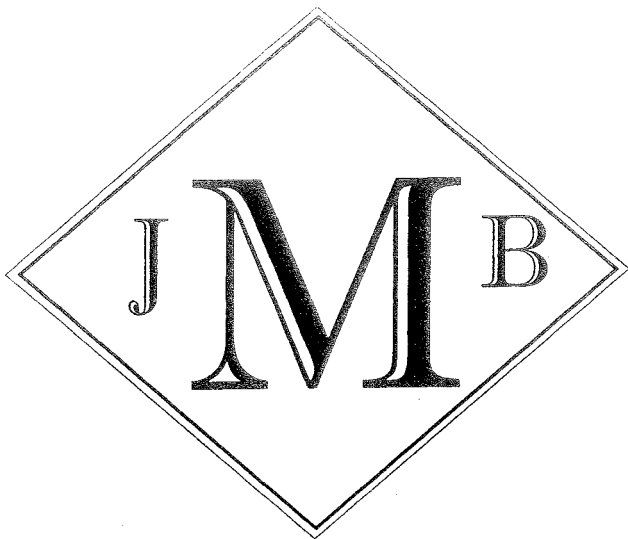
"Fine," said the caller. "I'll be over in ten minutes, Harriet."

"But my name isn't Harriet," replied Mrs. Begone.

"This isn't Harriet Crouse?" the caller went on. "My stars, I must have dialed the wrong number."

There was a long pause, then Mrs. Begone asked, abjectly. "Does that mean you aren't coming over?" — *Nuggets*, 1-74. f

A well-respected community leader died after a long and active life, then went to his



# WILL GOD NOT HEAR SOME PRAYERS?

Zech. 7:9-11

- I. Baptist Bailey Smith got himself into controversy by:
  - A. God won't hear Jews.
  - B. Jews have funny noses.
- II. No one is complimented when told "God won't hear your prayers." But it's still true that some He won't!
  - A. Sinner.
  - B. Rebellious.
  - C. Unbeliever - w/o faith can't come.
- III. We want to see spirit Zech. described.
  - A. Introduction.
    1. Delegation from Bethel wanted to know if fasts now have relevance since the exile is over and temple work has started.
    2. Prophet to make it clear it's not ritualistic fasting but obedience, justice, & kindness that's wanted
    3. He repeats to them what former prophets have said.
  - B. Their Duty.
    1. Execute true Judgement.
      - a.) Football coach was asked after his team's defeat what he thought of their execution. "I'm all for it."
      - b.) Genuine action.
    2. Show mercy & compassion.
    3. Oppress not (4 classes).
      - a.) Widow.
        - (1) Show compassion toward calamities & infirmities
        - (2) Help the sad.

b.) Fatherless.

(1) Practice deeds of kindness.

(2) Meet their needs.

(3) Must not hurt but rather help fellow man.

c.) Strangers.

d.) Poor.

Prov. 24:31 "And, lo, it was all grown over with thorn

Jer. 7:5-7 "For if ye thoroughly amend your ways and

4. Don't imagine evil against your brother in your heart.

a.) Brother - from same womb.

b.) Imagine = devise.

c.) Do not indulge unfavorable opinion of another.

d.) Do not harbor unbrotherly feelings.

e.) Entertain no malicious thought.

Deut. 15:9 "Beware that there be not a thought in thy

f.) No revenge or injury against a brother.

C. They Refused to Harken.

1. Pulled Shoulder.

a.) Like unbroken ox at plow.

b.) Animal that constantly rebelled.

c.) Recalcitrant folks.

2. Stopped ears.

a.) Heavy ears.

b.) Note interesting figures.

3. Adamant heart.

a.) Like diamond.

b.) Impenetrable.

Ezek. 3: 9 "As an adamant harder than flint have I made



- c.) Heart = mind, affection, will.
- d.) By set purpose they hardened themselves.
- e.) Progressive spiritual deterioration.
- f.) Stone so hard couldn't be graven.
- g.) Don't know what kind of stone it was.
- h.) Not thru infirmities but thru willful purpose would not hear - could if they would.

#### 4. Refused law.

- a.) Bible claims inspiration for itself.
- b.) Holy Ghost his agent; men his instrument.

Neh. 9:30 "Yet many years didst thou forbear them,

#### IV. Thus Prayers Not heard!

A. Reason for calamities - their disregard for prophet rejected word.

I Cor. 10:11 "Now all these things happened unto the

B. God's more pleased c loving obedience than with empty ceremonies.

C. No divine recourse but to visit Judgement on them.

1. Note great wrath.

2. They'd be powerless in prayer (V. 13).

3. As **the** crime, so the punishment.

4. Lasted 70 years.

Jer. 11:11 "Therefore thus saith the Lord, Behold, I

Isa. 1:15 "And when ye spread forth your hands, I w

Prov. 1:20-28 "Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth h

5. Scatter = storm, rage, be mad, insane.

6. He'll hurl them away.

7. No going out or coming in.

8. Called it Pleasant Land.

Jer. 3:19 "But I said, How shall I put thee among the

Ps. 106:24 "Yea, they despised the pleasant land, the

Dan. 11:16 "But he that cometh against him shall do e

Dan. 11:41 "He shall enter also into the glorious land

9. God will be patient just so long.

2 Chron. 36:14-16 "Moreover all the chief of the prie

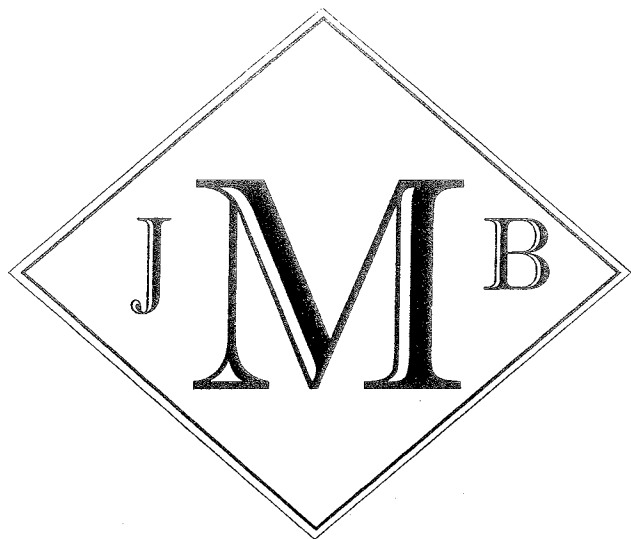
10. No remedy - continue to sift.

11. Land w/o people and a people w/o land.

12. Too late for mercy - now only time for justice.

D. How do I stand in a figure - are my prayers heard

*West End Med. Night Home Builders Class 1-7-81*



# ARE YOU PRACTICING THIS QUARTET OF DUTIES?

Zechariah 8:16-17

I. There are things of God that never change.

A. The same thing may come to some & results may vary; i.e., sun melts wax, rots a banana, & hardens clay.

B. But the character of God never changes.

1. He wants to champion only that which is good for us.

2. He hates all that hurts us.

II. Zech. spoke of a quartet of duties that will be a blessing to all.

Zech. 8:16-17 "These are the things that ye shall do;

A. Before examining these specific duties, there are several practical things we need to see.

B. We cite 4 things:

1. Whatever we dream of Heaven granting us & however joyous its life, there are still some very practical approaches to life that must be fulfilled here.

2. Grace & salvation thereby is no enemy of moral conduct nor license to violate it.

3. Service to God is more than an outward, church-house ritualism.

4. He who pleases God is a doer.

James 1:22 "But be ye doers of the word, and not hear

a.) God has specified various things.

b.) Word for "things" lit. is "words"--thus, power of written word.

III. Now let's look at the specific quartet of commands  
2 positive, 2 negative.

A. "Speak every man the truth to his neighbor."

- 1. Deal strictly in truth.
- 2. Truth controls lips & heart.

Matt. 12:34 "O generation of vipers, how can ye, be!

- 3. It controls our actions.
- 4. Do we always tell the truth?

- a.) In business.
- b.) Socially speaking?

5. Truth involves:

- a.) Sincerity.
- b.) Accuracy.

6. Note truth to neighbor (surely to foreigner too) but to abuse brethren simply compounds our sins.

B. 2ndly, Execute the judgement of truth & peace in your gates.

- 1. Let the court render verdicts that result in peace.
- 2. It's a judicial decision for peace.
- 3. There can be judgements that come that cold-bloodedly decide accurately a matter but lead to strife; whereas some can be equally truthful & lead to peace.

4. Peace is a precious commodity.

- a.) Mentioned 250 X in OT.
- b.) 91 X in NT, 24 X in gospel.
- c.) Means rest, safety, freedom from cares, trustful
- d.) It is well-being in the widest sense; prosperity.

5. Interpreter's Bible had it well, "Render judgement that lead to reconciliation of contending parties."

6. Pusey, "Judgements which issue in peace."

7. FJB, "Equitable decisions tend to allay feuds."

C. 3rdly, Let none of you imagine evil in your hearts against his neighbor.

1. Meditate no evil against another.
2. Hatch up no ugly scheme.
3. Keep both hand & heart from evil.

D. 4thly, Love no false oath.

1. Don't tolerate perjury.
2. If you see you are a party to one, get out.

IV. Why do these things - God said them!

A. Furthermore, they are what God hates.

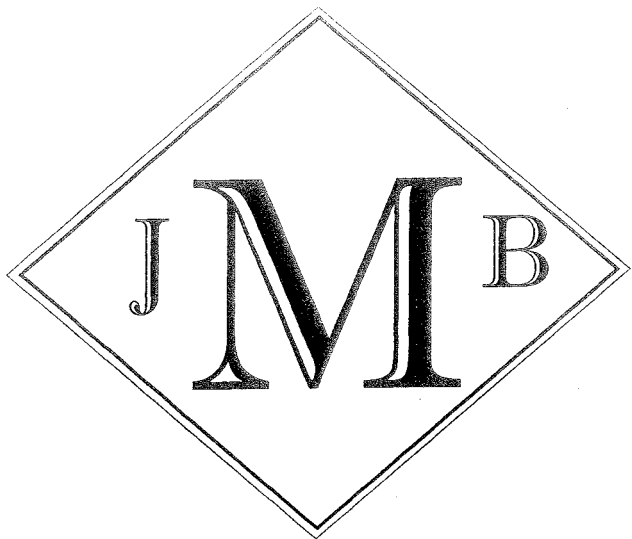
1. Whatever God hates, we should.
2. He hates it because it is a breach of two tables of law - God & Man.
3. This is the sum of the things God hates.

B. Concluding observations.

1. Religion consists in our being conformed to God's life.
2. To secure the promises of good men must do the will of the Heavenly Father.
3. Prevalent sin was not idolatry but cheating, lying, injustice, dishonesty.
4. We must be concerned about your neighbor.

Eph. 4:25 "Wherefore putting away lying, speak every

*Hand End 9-2-79*



# MINE EYES ARE ON THE LORD

Zech. 9:1-8

- I. Times are perilious.
  - A. San Salvador
  - B. Persian Gulf
  - C. Poland
- II. Are they any more perilious than the people of God suffered centuries ago? Let me tell you Zechariah's story.
  - A. The Burden of the Word of the Lord.
    1. Burden means oracle, utterance, sentence.
    2. Here the vision is a heavy one.
    3. We say "let me lay one on you."
    4. Burden lit. "to lift up."
    5. It's prediction of threatening act.
    6. It's one admonitory in nature.
    7. It's a Burdenson message.
    8. Words of God that oracle gives.
  - B. 1st to feel it was Damascus in land of Hadrach.
    1. People puzzled over Hadrach.
      - a)Used only here in Bible.
      - b)Compound name = sharp & soft.
      - c)Is it symbol? place? King? Messiah? a god? Proven now a city. Location unknown.
    2. Damascus
      - a)We are to see victories of Alexander which circled the holy land without hurting it, yet ended in destruction of Persian empire.



- b) Alexander passed harmlessly by Jerusalem, fought Egypt, chastised Samaria.
- c) Neighboring nations whose land lies within the promised boundries are denounced.

Gen. 15:18

- d) Damascus the goal of this judgement.
- e) They will wonder as the scope of the judgement to befall.
- f) Yet it's the Lord's doing & when they see Alexander they see the Lord because He is using him. He is God's servant.
- g) Our eyes need to be on the Lord.

2 Chron. 20:12

Ps. 123:2

Ps. 119:166

C. Next came fall of Tyre.

1. Speaks of two Phoenician capitol-- Tyre & Sidon.
2. They too will feel the judgement.
3. Tyre = rocky stronghold & she wisely made it stouter.

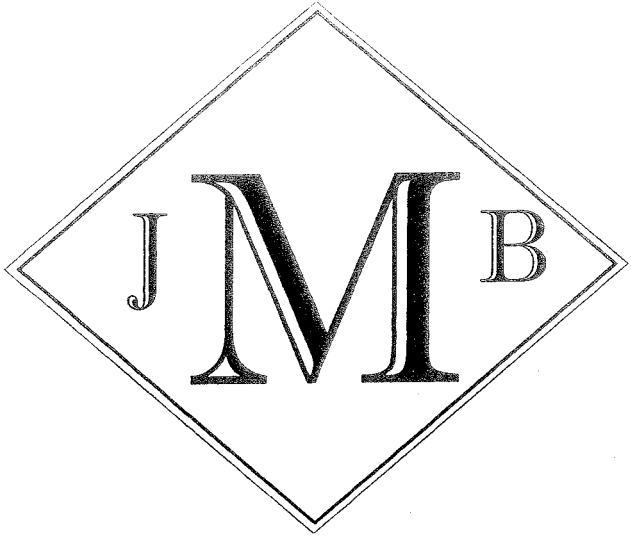
Isa. 23:4 "The stronghold of the sea"

- a) Play on sound of words:  
"Tyre built herself a tower."
- b) Word means rock.
- 4. She trusted not God but herself.
- 5. Her fortress.
  - a) Jutted out into sea.
  - b) Walls 150' high & with breath proportionate.

- c) Built 2nd wall 15' broad and left space 7 1/2' wide they filled with stpmes and earth.
  - d) Profusion of catapults & other seige machines
  - e) Invented new engines of war regularly
  - f) Diver to loosen the mole
  - g) Grappling hooks & nets to entangle.
  - h) Melted metal or heated sand to penetrate joints of armor.
  - i) Bags of seaweeds to deaden blows of battering machines.
  - j) Fireship to destroy boats
  - k) Fiery arrows
  - l) Wheels that constantly rolled to turn aside missiles
  - m) Read Ezek. 28:2, 4-8
6. Wealth and strength without God only invite the spoiler
  7. Gold & silver as common as dust and mire; yet it's yellow & white dirt itself.
  8. Scene of her pride her overthrow.

9. Alex "Ye despise this land  
army thru confidence in the  
the place, that ye dwell is  
an island but soon will I  
show you that ye dwell on a  
continent.
  10. Shalmaneser (Assyria) tried  
5 years; Neb. (Babylon) 13  
years and failed - Alex.  
took it in 7 months.
  11. He built bridge and walked  
in.
  12. Worldly wisdom, natural  
strength and material  
resources powerless against  
God.
  13. You cannot barricade  
against God.
  14. "Behold" "Look" - call to  
attention - it's the Lord  
not Alex. that dispossessed  
her.
  15. Burned city of the sea.
- D. Next Phoenicia - 4 of 5 capital  
cities names.
1. Gath omitted.
  2. Bates, King of Gaza, saw  
10,000 inhabitants slain,  
rest sold into slavery. He  
was bound to chariot, throngs  
thrust through feet & he was  
dragged to death.

3. Fear comes to their cities.
4. Bastard - meaning doubtful
  - a) Born unlawfully whether out of marriage, or via forbidden, or adultery
  - b) Illegitimate
  - c) Mixed blood
  - d) Ignoble birth
  - e) "Foreigner" - blemished birth.
5. Blood out of mouth
  - a) Idolatrous practice.
  - b) Abomination - blood drinking
6. Remnant remains
  - a) See II Samuel 24 & I Chronicles 21 as man sold David site for temple then offered to sacrifice oxen and plow
  - b) Philistine shall be as amalgamated as was Araunah.
7. God sets up as shield and protector.
  - a) Oppressor - task master or one who makes slaves perform
  - b) God will look again
8. God saves for a purpose - the Messiah to come.



# Behold Thy King Cometh

Zech. 9:9-11

- I. Some things are so magnificent the recipients are commanded to rejoice.
  - A. Prayers of gratitude raised for our President's sparing.
    1. LSU team had more important matters.
    2. Oklahoma classroom clapped and despaired he was not dead.
    3. We all do not rejoice over the same thing.
  - B. But there are events so powerful that all should rejoice - shall we see?

Zech. 9:9-11 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter . . ."

## II. Rejoiced and Shout

- A. Rejoice greatly
  1. Note the command and its extent
    - a) God never commands men to rejoice greatly in fleeting earthly joys.
    - b) Willard Collins said Thursday at Franklin not baptizing as men - "I see a change."

- c) Spiritual joys are lasting - I saw on a pilot's gripe in Atlanta "God has not promised a smooth flight only a safe landing."
- 2. Rejoice greatly means there should be no measure in exaltation.
- 3. Ecstatic joy commanded.
- 4. Rejoice - go round & round
- 5. Why rejoice?
  - a) Sin removed
  - b) Death trampled underfoot
  - c) Human nature called to freedom
  - d) Man's crowned with grace of adoption
  - e) Man's illuminated with the heavenly gift.

Luke 2:10-11

B. Shout

- 1. Sound of triumph
- 2. Openly expressed
- 3. Boldly exclaimed
- 4. The character of the King calls for loudest praise.

III. Behold thy King cometh.

A. Behold.

- 1. Arrest attention

B. Thy King cometh

1. He is the ruler - and the more we learn of him the better we like him. (Helen Young told of her audience with the Shah of Iran not allowed yet she got in gloves and hat. Don't approve of his method, but did his dream - educate the people so that when oil is gone there will be something of resource for country, namely intelligence that's trained.)
  - a) Now story of true King of Israel.
  - b) His strength not in chariots and horses.
2. Anointed with righteousness - true picture of King and kingdom.
3. He not only is righteous, but the fountainhead of it
4. From Zerubbabel to Jesus Israel had no king.
5. Jesus is the true one.

## C. Prophesied - cometh

1. Personal
  - a) Thy

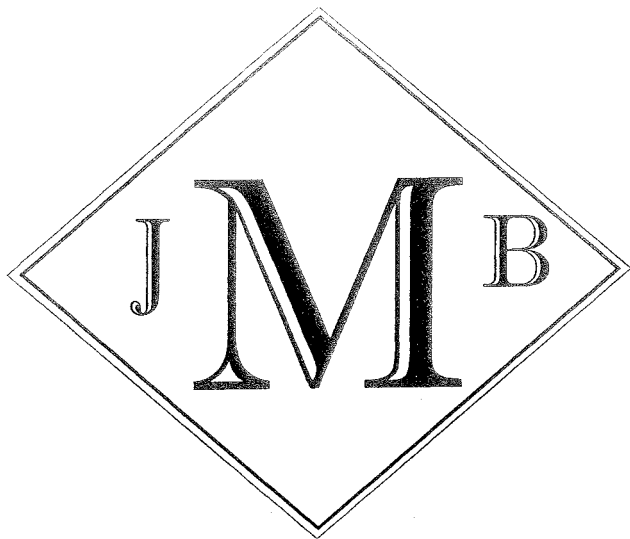


b) Unto thee

1) For thy good

2) No wonder it brings  
joy

D. What's my personal reaction?



# The Nature of the Kingdom

Zech.9:9-11

I. If an institution is the lengthened shadow of one man, then seeing the nature of our king will allow me to see the nature of the kingdom.

II. Zechariah gives us facts about the king

v-9 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of

A. The coming king is just

1. We shall in at least five points contrast him with the Grecian conquerors
2. He's just
  - a) Ever sought the glory of the father
  - b) Did no sin

I Peter 2:22

3. Came not for himself but others
  4. Came to do what was right and fair
- B. He has salvation
1. He can give remission of sins
  2. Then in him holiness is to be found and sin abhorred
  3. Endowed with salvation he freely gives it to others

## 4. Songs about Jesus saves

Matt. 27:39-43

Heb. 5:9

## 5. He shows himself to be the Savior

Luke 9:56

## 6. He possesses salvation and can bestow it on others

## C. Lowly, riding on an ass

## 1. Define lowly

a) Lit. "bowed down"

b) Lit. "brought low thru opposition, affliction, desolation, poverty

c) Poor, afflicted - not in outward pomp or display

d) Foxes have holes - he became poor for our sake

Phil. 2:5-8

## 2. Ass story

a) King's ride in state

b) Stopped using asses

Judges 10:4

12:14

5:10

c) David used mule

I Kings 1:33

38

44

- d) Mohammed rode camel
- e) From time of Solomon on no dignitary so far as records go show one riding an ass
- f) Jesus rode one-rode two!
  - 1) His kingdom not of this world
  - 2) Prophet-king; not a world king
  - 3) Colt - an unbroken animal

Matt. 21:2

Mark 11:2

Luke 19:30

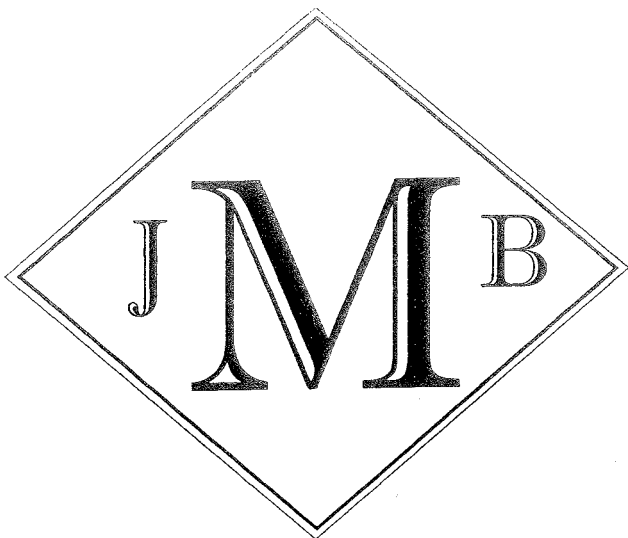
- 4) Shows Savior of Jew and Gentile (unbroken)
- g) Ass shows peace fulness; horse shows war
- h) At crucification said he was a king
- i) Only Christ's character conforms to this image.

#### D. Peace

- 1. As with salvation, he speaks peace as one who has the power to give it
- 2. His doctrine sets forth peace
- 3. He speaks it yet we war

4. He removes hostility -  
how can I hate you?  
(Ps. 72)
  5. He brings peace internally and externally.  
Removes hostiles
  6. Battle bow cut off - no  
arrow is laid in it
- E. He is Catholic (v-10)
1. Has wide geographical picture
    - a) Ephraim - tribes and Jerusalem
    - b) Judah - peace and still no longer do they trust in horses
    - c) Goes beyond promised land- Mediterranean Sea to Euphrates
    - d) Embraces whole world
    - e) End of earth - extreme west, where earth ceases to be
    - f) From sea to the other end of the world-where the sea begins again
  2. He altered the world's center and standard of judgment - he taught what true greatness is.

III. Do I exemplify these qualities?



# Prisoners of Hope

Zech. 9:11-17

I. How are we to be described?

- A. Lost
- B. Redeemed
- C. Children
- D. Prisoners of hope

II. Foreshadowing our day the prophet Zechariah had some interesting words.

A. All were once Prisoners of the Pit.

1. First of two important words is "covenant."

a) Not by blood of old, but by new covenant.

Rom. 9:29

b) Blood shed for me

2. Second is Pit

a) Picture of release

Isa. 42:22

b) No water in pit, shows:

1) Mercy of God else they'd perish, or

Psa. 40:2-3

2) Without any comfort-sin is like that, or



- 3) Total helplessness of victim - it took another to get me out, freed by blood.
- 4) Joseph in a pit.

Gen. 37:24

B. Turn to the stronghold, ye prisoners of hope.

1. God provides the stronghold.

Ps. 61:3

Prov. 18:10

Ps. 31:3-5

2. There must be a willing return -- by conversion and will as man fulfills his part.

Col. 1:23 "If ye continue in the faith grounded .."

3. Render a double portion
  - a) Judah the bow
  - b) Ephraim arrows to shoot against Greeks
  - c) Zion the sword
  - d) God the captain
  - e) Double trouble or expectation
  - f) Out of prison, but not out of woods - make hope your characteristic.

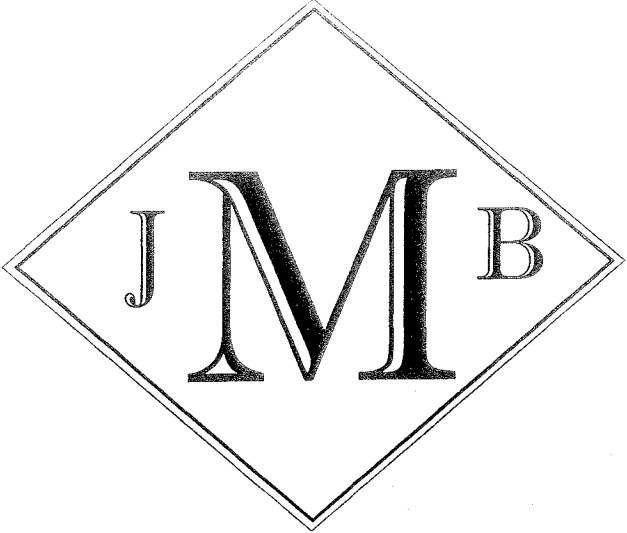
- g) It's God who fills the bow
- h) It's God who grants encouragement -Jr. Young at Norman prayed for young people who faced almost insurmountable odds.

C. God promises a victory.

1. Gain victory and banquet
2. Abundant sports taken
3. Young, happy and plenty of food.
4. Sword - a strength not their own.
5. Enemies shall fall as harmless and as of little account as the sling stones
6. Trample enemies under feet like sling stones that miss their mark.
7. Enemies either cease to be or else molest them no more
8. They disappear as food before the hungry.
9. They'll be consecrated instruments of God, prevailing for him; hallowed like bowls on the altar corner that receive the blood of the sacrifice.

10. God communicates His good  
to His followers.

- D. Great is God; goodness
1. God their good shepherd
  2. Psalms 100



J

M

B

# Ask of the Lord Rain

Zech. 10:1

I. Others may have larger crowds but no one a prettier audience. I salute you for your loveliness first for our Lord; secondly for your added interest and help to Harding.

A. Women mean so much

1. Nice at work #1
2. Judge and school teacher #2
3. Methodist ERA quote #3

B. Education so vital

1. Many ways to go bankrupt #4
2. Saved to go to Europe #5
3. Card on words #6

II. Read one verse with me.

Zech. 10:1 "Ask ye of the Lord rain in the ..

A. Ask

1. Trust God and expect of God
  - a) Spiritual
  - b) Temporal also
2. We have a part as well as God

Exo. 14:15 "And the Lord said unto Moses, Wherefore criest..

3. Our greatest resource is God
4. God hears prayers of good folks

- a) Article on worry #7
- b) Rid of mice #8
- c) Computer #9
- d) Eggs and watch #10

#### B. Rain

- 1. God knows man's greatest needs
- 2. God sends rain

Ps. 64:9-11 READ

Ps. 104:13-15 READ

- 3. We need dependency on one who can supply!
  - a) Endowed cats catch no mice.
  - b) The bigger a fellow's head the easier to fill his shoes
  - c) He put it all together animals and earthquakes #11
  - d) Value of second language-mouse #12

#### C. Bright clouds and showers

- 1. Literally Jehovah makes lightnings
- 2. God meets needs with great abundance
  - a) Article on hope #13
  - b) Cancer personality #14
  - c) Old service station men never die-just run out of gas

## D. Grass

1. Grass stands for all good  
food for man and beast
2. He withholds nothing from  
them that walk uprightly
3. Blessings for others
  - a) Not good PTA #13
  - b) Jesus - man for  
others #14
  - c) Clip on Pluralester  
world #15
  - d) Van Dyke poem #16
  - e) Alcoholic card #17

Insight into why we sometimes act as we do at home comes from a cartoon depicting a very courteous receptionist. She is extra nice to everyone. A visitor in the office comments, "I would certainly not want you for a wife." "Why?" was the surprised answer. "You are so nice at work--I'm sure you have a lot of steam to let off when you go home!"

"A Word Fitly Spoken" - By Robert J. Hastings - Page 92

d

A schoolteacher was stopped by police for driving through a red light and was immediately brought before the judge.

"So," said the Judge, "you're a schoolteacher. That's fine. Madame, your presence here fulfills a long-standing desire. For years I've hoped to have a schoolteacher standing there."

"Now," he thundered, "sit down at that table and write 'I went through a red light' 500 times!"

e

There are many ways to go bankrupt but hardly any is as effective as having two daughters in college at the same time.



A couple were discussing their finances and vacation hopes.

"I've got good news, dear," said the husband. "I've saved enough for us to go to Europe."

"Oh, wonderful!" exclaimed his wife. "When do we start?"

"As soon as I've saved enough for us to come back," he replied.

f

5, 1980

*Quote*

Wilfred Funk, noted lexicographer and dictionary publisher #6 suggests the 10 most impressive words in the English language.

Note their illustrative value:

"Alone"--the bitterest word

"Mother"--the most revered word

"Death"--the most tragic

"Faith"--brings greatest comfort

"Forgotten"--saddest

"Love"--most beautiful

"Revenge"--cruellest

"Friendship"--warmest

"No"--coldest

"Tranquility"--most peaceful

"A Word Fitly Spoken" - By Robert J. Hastings - Page 93

In addition to doing a good deed, junk something every day, suggests a philosopher. Junk your fears, junk your worries, junk your anxieties, junk your little jealousies, envies, and hatreds. Whatever interferes with your getting up and getting on in the world — junk it! Every night before you go to sleep, put upon the junk heap all your disappointments, all your grudges, your revengeful feelings, your malice. Junk everything that is hindering you from becoming a big, strong, vibrant character. The trouble with most of us is that we have no junk heap of this sort. We pull all our mental enemies, all our handicaps, our discouragements, our losses, our troubles and worries and trials along with us. That consumes more than 50 percent of our vitality and energy, so that we have only the smaller amount left for the great task of making life a success.

In the days when Bagdad was really Bagdad and Scheherazades were ten cents a dozen, an Arabian potentate summoned his wise men to complain that there were too many mice scurrying about the palace. "Get in about a dozen cats," ordered the wise men. The potentate did — and that was the end of the mice. But now the palace was overrun by cats.

"Bring in some tigers," suggested the wise men. "Tigers are death on cats." And indeed they were — but now there was a surplus of tigers skulking around the palace. "Elephants are what you need," proclaimed the wise men. "they'll get rid of the tigers in jig time."

Again their suggestion worked — but a palace overrun by elephants is no place for a not-too agile or wealthy potentate, either — so one more time the wise men were consulted.

"Ahm hah," nodded the wise men. "~~This time you really have nothing to worry about. Too many elephants? Just bring in a couple of dozen mice!~~"

*Bennett Cerf*

They now have a computer that's so human it's sluggish on Monday morning.

### COMPUTER—Brain

The brain contains ten thousand times more components than the present generation of most complex computers. And the computer is yet to be invented that also smells, tastes, sees, and touches, thus adding to its capacity for abstract thinking all the emotional richness and complexity of a total human response. — BARBARA WARD & RENE DUBOS, *Only One Earth*.

#10

A vacationer who ate his meals at restaurants was very fussy indeed about his breakfast eggs. They had to be boiled exactly three-and-a-half minutes. So seldom did he get them exactly to suit him that he finally bought a stop watch.

"Tell your cook," he instructed the waitress at one eating establishment, "to time my eggs with this. He should be able to do the job right now!" However, when the eggs came, he bellowed: "Waitress! These eggs aren't even half-cooked. I can't eat them. They're no good at all!"

"Neither is your watch, Mister!" the waitress snapped thumping it down beside his plate. "The fool thing stopped five seconds after the cook put it in the boiling water with the eggs."

# GEM BOX



## EARTHQUAKE PREDICTIONS

Which is better at predicting earthquakes: animals or scientific instruments? Evidence collected so far suggests that your ordinary animal — a dog, a horse, a pig — may give a more reliable warning of an impending earthquake than the expensive apparatus now used by scientists.

In August 1979, 200 instruments along California's Calaveras Fault failed to predict an earthquake so powerful it shook buildings in San Francisco, 130 kilometers away. But in 1974, several months before a massive earthquake struck China, hibernating snakes crawled out of the ground, pigs climbed walls and bit one another's tail, hens would not go to roost, trained German shepherds ignored commands, and barnyard geese refused to fly. The Chinese, heeding these signs, saved the lives of several hundred thousand people by evacuating them two days before the quake occurred.

The ability of animals to sense

such natural phenomena is not as puzzling as it may seem at first. Birds, dogs, and bats can sense the slightest vibrations in the earth — perhaps even better than sophisticated instruments can — some geologists say.

To be sure, humans are improving their own gadgets, which have found increased levels of radioactive radon in well water just before a quake. The water presumably was squeezed toward the surface by seismic forces far below. And space scientists are proposing satellites, lasers and even distant quasars to measure movements in the earth's crust. In the past few years instruments have successfully predicted earthquakes in Mexico and Asia.

But many scientists are taking a cue from animals. The USSR has animal warnings centers, and many nations are trying to learn what it is that animals are sensing so that instruments can be built to detect the same signals.

*over*

*#11*

*Knowledge*

*X*

## ISN'T IT THE TRUTH!

By Carl Riblet, Jr.

Animals don't blush. They don't have to. Only you and I blush, mostly in our youth—something we then wished we couldn't do and now wish we could.

The longer a marriage lasts the more the two spouses realize that the other's mind is not difficult to understand. That is because it is impossible to understand.

Life in reality is mostly a series of stumbles that have us falling on our face because we probably tripped over our own big feet.

The giver of love that is not returned in kind can be likened to a cup of sugar that is borrowed and returned empty.

Philosophers, physicians and statisticians have conflicting notions on precisely the time when humans reach their senior years. Why debate it? Any

## TEACHING

Teaching is often discouraging and always uphill work. Many of us are scandalously underpaid; often bullied by administrators and trustees; held in thinly veiled contempt by the general public; and not always much respected by our students. We swim against a constant current of anti-intellectualism and cultural chaos. Morale is understandably low. Which of us has not thought of changing careers at one time or another? Which of us has not cast envious eyes upon other higher paid professionals like lawyers and doctors and even administrators (just why administrators should be paid more than professors is an interesting question in itself)? Still, we hang in there. And most of us do so out of conviction, taking pride and satisfaction in the knowledge that we are doing an important and civilizing work. — BERNARD MURCHLAND, *Commonweal*, 9-26-80.

”

All truly wise thoughts have been thought already thousands of times; but to make them truly ours, we must think them over again, honestly, till they take

#12

## GOOD STORIES

A mother mouse was taking her babies for a walk, when a cat suddenly appeared. The young ones were petrified, but the mother mouse huddled them behind her and then started to bark with a loud "Arf! Arf!" The cat took off immediately.

Then the mother mouse turned to her offspring and said, "Now, children, that will teach you the value of a second language." — *Modern Maturity*.

a

Most "good Christians" were notoriously poor members of labor unions, P.T.A.'s, or social clubs. Opportunities to meet persons and confront them with the gospel were sacrificed on the basis of piety. There evolved a breed of Christians who were "so heavenly minded they were no earthly good." Involvement with non-Christians was almost totally in arranged situations, such as

#13

"People-Centered Evangelism" - By John F. Havlik - page 59

The Gospels reveal Jesus as "the Man for Others." He is the champion of the poor. He warns a large crowd of hypocritical church and social leaders to <sup>do not</sup> take advantage of widows and rob them of their homes, then make a show of saying long prayers! (Mark 12:40a). He treats women in a way that ignores the <sup>#14</sup> prejudices of the day. Where he stops to rest or stay, he begins immediately a clinic for the sick and suffering. He places love for neighbor alongside of love for God in true religion. He says that satisfying human hunger is more important than religious customs and rituals. He shows sympathy and understanding for children that is not common to his time. In parables, such as the good Samaritan, he teaches social compassion and racial equality. He insists that care of one's aged parents comes before religious obligations. He declares that being right with one's neighbor is more important than praying and indeed is a prerequisite to prayer.



He stretches out a hand of compassion and concern to foreigners who are not a part of the "chosen people." His value judgments of the life of a Christian are in terms of social and ethical standards and not in terms of religious rites or exercises.

"People-Centered Evangelism" - By John F. Havlik - Pages 14-15

Seemingly in this pluralistic world we can force the metric system, secular educational standards, health and traffic rules on all peoples, but cannot force on anyone Christian standards concerning sex, brotherhood, or the worship of God. #15

"Back To Basics in Church Growth" - By Donald McGavran and  
Win Arn

When from my eyes no tears will flow,  
But all those tender springs are dead;  
When any tale or mortal woe  
Still leaves unbowed a haughty head:  
Aloof in self-complacency,  
Then pity me, O weep for me!

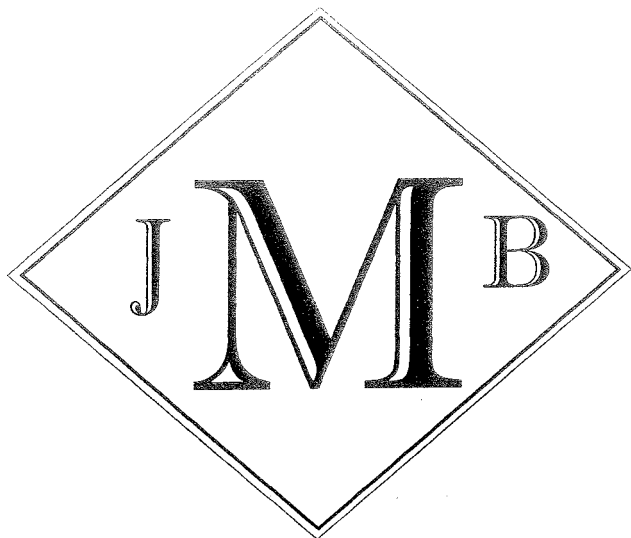
#16

When any cry of human wrong  
Shall fail to draw me from my path;  
Or evil fail to make me strong  
With impulse of a righteous wrath:  
Dead in my own sufficiency,  
Then pity me, O grieve for me?

Tertius van Dyke

An alcoholic in St. Louis came to Jesus Christ. I asked him why he came. He answered: "It was those two deacons. They came to see me every Sunday when I was getting over a drunk. They stood by the bed and talked to me each week about Jesus. I saw the tears in their eyes. Preacher, there ain't nobody cried over me since my Mother died."

#17



# Scorched Shepherds

Zech.10:2-4

- I. In a rather dismal view a prominent man asked me recently "in your wildest imagination, concoct the worst situation in which you could place a preacher." How would you have answered?
- A. Immoral situation?
  - B. Lies of major proportion?
  - C. Family desertion?
- II. All bad, but nothing could unwind a gospel preacher more than exposed error! His profound respect for the word of God leads him to abhor the thought of error.
- III. We are taught to despise every false way. Remember these quotations?
- Gal. 1:8-9 "But tho we, or an angel from  
from
- Isa. 55:8
- Matt. 15:13
- Matt. 7:15 "Beware of false prophets
- Matt. 7:21 "Not everyone that sayeth
- Matt. 15:7 "This have ye made
- Luke 6:39

## IV. Now try our text

Zech. 10:2-3 (Read)

- A. Idols have spoken vanity
  - 1. Blessings contrastingly come from the Lord; whereas idols are misleading
  - 2. Pagan occultism implied
  - 3. Teraphim small household, oracular divinity
  - 4. Possession of one implied family leadership - in case of a married daughter it assured her husband of rights to his father's property
  - 5. Rachael stole Laban's

Gen. 3:19

I Sam. 15:23

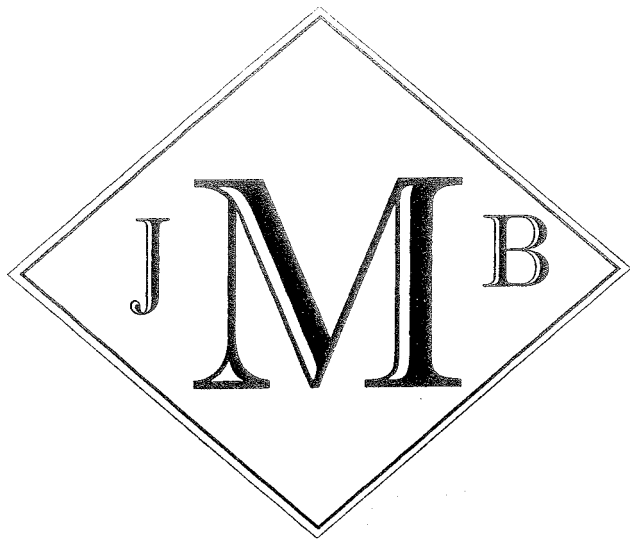
II Kings 23:24

- B. Diviners have seen a lie
  - 1. Wrong way to get information
  - 2. Look, "cut" a liver and decide from the looks of the matter

Ezek. 21:21,26

- C. Results
  - 1. Have told false dreams
  - 2. They comfort in vain

3. They went there as a flock
    - a) Note therefore - adverse of consequence
    - b) Gone away - set out, pull up stakes, pull up tent pegs and journey on
    - c) Deliberate departure from the Lord
  4. Troubled because there was no shepherd
    - a) Word trouble too mild
    - b) Means "bowed down", sorely afflicted, do violence, frustrate
    - c) Appointed shepherds were false - either heathen government or their own false priest.
- D. God's reaction scares and scorches
1. Mine anger was kindled against the shepherds
    - a) Burning sensation in throat from rage
    - b) They didn't do what they were supposed to do - do we?
  2. I punished the goats
    - a) Powerful are called the goats
    - b) God's anger is against all that's false





THE MESSIAH: THE CORNER, THE NAIL, THE  
BATTLE BOW, THE RULER Zech. 10:3-4

I. Everything I learn about Jesus causes me to love & respect Him more.

A. Not so with all men - Sister Webster wished A.R. Holton had never come to Grace Ave. as he was not what she pictured.

B. Others "grow on you" and become increasingly valuable.

C. Such is inevitably true of Jesus.

II. In metaphorical language I want you to see the prophecy of Him from Zech.

Zech. 10:3-4 "Mine anger was kindled against the shepherds."

III. About Him 4 things are said.

A. 1st notice it all is within the plan & purpose of God.

1. The Lord visits.

a.) He will assuredly do what He promises to do.

b.) They will become the horse of his majesty.

2. We rejoice in all the plans of God for our salvation.

3. This also shows security.

B. 4 Figures of Jesus. *2. for 2 fd. 2 stone, tried*

1. He is the corner. *precious corner, a sure fd.*

Isa. 28:16 "Thus saith the Lord God, Behold I lay in

Eph. 2:19-20 "Now therefore ye are no more strangers."

a.) What is a corner stone?

(1) Union of two walls--unites them.

(2) Safety of building depends on corner stone.

(3) Key of the foundation.

b.) Note God says "I lay" - not left to genius or device of man.

c.) This accounts for the continuance of the church - not the picture of a recovering pontiff in bed!

d.) Jesus claims to be that stone. *This is the Lord's do*  
Matt. 21:42 "Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read  
Acts 4:11 "This is the stone which was set at nought of  
1 Pet. 2:4-8 "To whom coming, as unto a living stone,  
Eph. 2:14-15 "For he is our peace, who hath made bo

*dis allowed indeed  
Chosen of God  
Precious*

2. He is the nail.

a.) Some translations have "peg."

b.) As a peg we use to:

- (1) Hang all the glory of God.
- (2) This peg will not fail.

Isa. 22:20-25 (Read)

(3) It will go on forever.

c.) Peg or nail show fixedness.

d.) We can also put our burdens on it - Shakers hung chairs.

e.) Do we know Christ both as our foundation & as our burden bear.

Isa. 53

f.) So whether we are fastening tent c peg or hanging utensils on wall of house picture is helpful.

3. He's the battle bow.

a.) He's the choicest archer.

b.) We may see the fullness at the 2nd coming.

2 Thess. 1:7-10 "And to you who are troubled rest wit

4. He's the Absolute Ruler.

*Amplified  
King ruler shall  
proceed from Him  
every oppressor.*

a.) Words KJV uses confuse -

b.) Rather, he's the most absolute ruler the world's ever seen.

- c.) He's glorious in holiness.
- d.) He's infinite in wisdom, power, benevolence, love.
- e.) He's the Absolute Ruler or Exactor.
- f.) He'll come out of Judah.
- g.) Law must be just and must be applied.

h.) RS "From him every ruler together" -  
margin Exactor

West End 5-24-81

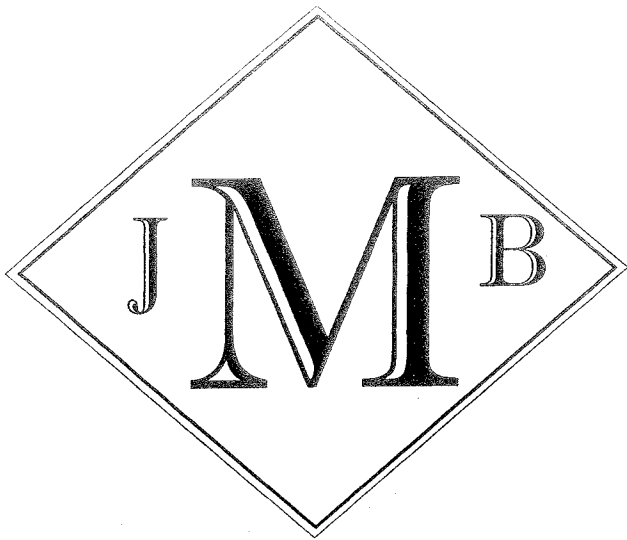
Locust Grove 7-14-81

Osten Church, Michie, TN 7-27-81

Hillwood Valley Church, Hurricane Mills 8-24-81

Wooddale Church, Decatur, Ga. 10-11-81

Leah Rose Residence 11-22-81



J M B

# WHEN GOD WHISTLES

Zech. 10:5-12

I. Why are you preaching from Zech. ?

A. Don't you think these prophecies have been fulfilled?

B. Don't you think God can bring to pass what He promises?

C. Don't you think the O.T. was written for a purpose to give added hope to the Christian?

II. You've ans. my reasons!!

A. Yes - fulfilled but of all language used today by those who expect temple #5, see M. Begin as a prophetic fulfillment, & talk of Israel back in her land the Book of Zech. is used.

B. It further shows what God can do if folk will obey Him.

C. Things written aforetime were for our learning & hope.

III. Study of Zech. 10.

A. God grants success (V. 5). Power + God

1. Mighty men.

a.) Strong ones who prevail.

b.) Victorious.

2. Tread enemies in mire.

a.) Total subjugation.

b.) Those trampled on as worthless as mire.

3. Reason - Lord is c them.

a.) Reason for their strength - God is c them.

b.) They have power because the Lord empowers them.

4. Riders of horses be confounded.

a.) Put to shame or confusion.

B. Joseph & Judah Repatriated (V. 6-7) Grace of God

1. They as one nation, come to their former home.

a.) Come to own land in peace & security.

b.) C/Restoration from Babylon regarded as 1 nation

c.) Joseph = Israel = 10 tribes of Ephraim.

d.) They'll share the victory.

2. Mercy - as tho not cast off -

a.) Will be as tho I'd not loathed them.

Jer. 31:34 "And they shall teach no more every man his neighbor

Ezek. 36:11 "And I will multiply upon you man and beast

b.) Safety & comfort theirs.

c.) Forget former woes.

d.) Were loathed as abhorant.

e.) God's mercy shall be as tho I'd never been cast off!

3. I am the Lord - & will hear them.

a.) He is everlasting.

b.) He is unchangable.

c.) He is covenant keeping.

d.) His whole being is pledged to hearing.

e.) Joy is intense in the Lord.

4. Ephraim. (v. 7) Joy of God

a.) Mighty.

b.) Heart as touched by wine.

(1) Hasten to battle as refreshed by wine.

(2) Spirit of God, like wine, makes glad via that which is unnatural.

c.) Children see it.

(1) Strength in union of forces.

d.) Heart rejoices.

(1) We have right to ever increasing confidence in God.

(2) Completely fulfilled when they come into the church!

C. At the Whistle of God (V. 8).

1. I will hiss for them.

*Call of God*

a.) Signal - "pipe" - shrill noise made c lips to gather swarm of insects.

b.) Like a whistle.

Isa. 7:18 "And it shall come to pass in that day, that

c.) Slightest summons brings a response.

d.) Gather as easily as one whistling to another.

(1) With Great Ease God does His work.

(2) When He calls they ans. & they shall live!

2. They'll increase.

a.) Marvelous growth.

b.) Grow like they did in Egyptian captivity.

3. I'll sow them. *v-9 Providence of God*

a.) Sowing does not mean scattering.

b.) Rather they will go on & increase while dispers

c.) They were sown so they could multiply - not just to scatter.

4. Bring out of Egypt & Assyria. *v-10 Purpose of God*

a.) Dry up Nile is to humiliate the nations that have distressed Israel. *God*

b.) Assyria famous for their pride.

c.) Enemies of God punished.

5. Bring to Gilead & Lebanon.

a.) Embraces larger confines of Palestine.

Gen. 15:18 "In the same day the Lord made a covenant

b.) 50X as big as Jews possessed.

c.) Voltair said it was a little God who gave a little land & called it good & large. (Exo. 3:8)  
It's 1/3 larger than Frances!

6. Pass thru sea c affliction.

a.) Lord will bring home the exile c signs like leaving Egypt.

b.) He'll repeat the miracle of the Exodus.

c.) No obstacle shall bother their return.

7. Strengthen in the Lord. *Signature of God*

a.) It will not fade away.

b.) Live in obedience to and in dependence on the Lord.

c.) Highest strength one can have.

d.) We need this moral strength today.

e.) We rest to work again - we need to be strengthened.

8. Walk up & down in his name.

a.) Manliness seen in:

(1) Self mastery - not passion.

(2) Divine invigoration.

(3) Devotion to right.

(4) Associate c noblest.

(5) Growing nobleness of character.

(6) Hope of immortality.

b.) True life.

(1) Holy consecration - name of Lord.

(2) Harmonious development - walk.

(3) Spiritual usefulness.

(4) Happy associations.



(5) Delightful prospects.

- c.) Human life has ups & downs - we all walk that road, it's not level.
- d.) Walk in name of the Lord - not greed, ambition pleasure.

Micah 4:5 "For all people will walk every one in the

e.) Christian walk is in the name of Christ.

f.) Walk shows ease, freedom, activity, perseverance.

g.) Name stands for revealed character which will be manifest in Messiah.

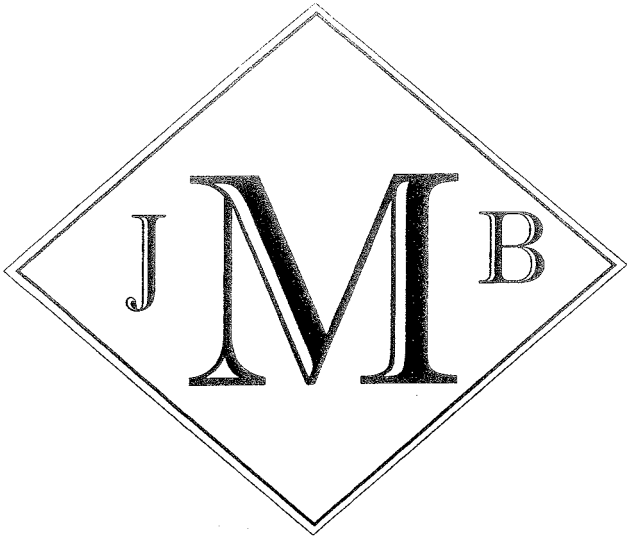
9. Saith the Lord.

a.) That's the divine Seal.

b.) It will be done!

c.) Infallible faithfulness.

*West End 5-31-81*



# The Voice of the Howling Shepherds

Zech.11:1-3

- I. I often wonder, would I have listened as I heard it for the first time--or would Zechariah's warning mean nothing to me?
  - A. He tells of a threatening judgment to come.
  - B. Do I not want it--only the positive, never the negative?
  
- II. Shall we study a difficult chapter seeking the practical application of this inspired work?
  - A. First, is it literal or figurative?
    1. Some Jewish authors say figurative as Lebanon always stood for Jerusalem and its temple.
    2. Others say it's literal in application to Lebanon's destruction with words like "doors" to have a figurative slant.
    3. Irrespective we can get a great lesson knowing that these earlier addressed received the intended message.

- B. Open thy doors, O Lebanon  
that fire may destroy thy  
cedars.
1. Zechariah means whom the  
Lord remembers and he sees  
the threat of judgment due  
to nations's apostacy.
  2. So destined for destruction  
you might as well open the  
doors.
  3. Verb implies unrestricted  
action of destruction.
  4. Are "doors" the mountain  
passes?
  5. Or did Cedars of Lebanon  
build temple and therefore  
he speaks of Jerusalem?
- C. Cedars of Lebanon
1. Symbol of Israel's glory
  2. As earlier said, an  
irrestible action
    - a) Could do nothing to  
resist the conqueror  
cutting and taking to  
his palace
    - b) If temple Josephus said  
took 20 men to close  
eastern gate
    - c) Paul thrown out of it

d) Jews thrown out for  
resisting gospel

e) Roman burned it

3. Cedars represent the  
noblest of the land

4. Judgment comes even to the  
mighty

D. Howl, fir trees

1. They represent common folk

2. Speaks via imagery of times  
a cut below leaders

Luke 23:31

I Peter 4:18

3. If the great ones fall how  
possibly could the little  
ones stand?

4. Solomon used fir for doors  
and floors

I Kings 5:15, 34

5. David made harps

II Samuel 6:5

6. Distinction prevailed  
among the Hebrew folk

7. Great variety-intellectual  
giants, intellectual  
dwarfs

8. The mighty are spoiled--  
death awaits us all!

E. Oak of Bashan - howl for the  
forest is come down

1. Literally it was the inaccessible forest
2. What is not burned, crumbles
3. All that's lifted up is come down

F. Voice of the Howling Shepherds

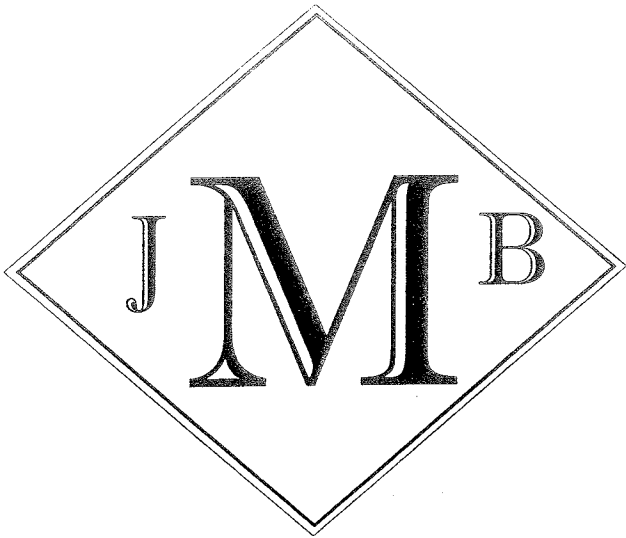
1. One chorus - all wail
2. These people had accepted worthless shepherds
3. Terrible to have bad men in high offices
4. Duty of all to promote high character

G. Roar of the Young Lions

1. Lions used to be in the oaks of Jordan - in inaccessible part
2. Sad to see the ambition the young lions have: hungry, ravenous, rapacious

III. What's the lesson for us?

- A. There is a judgment for all.
- B. My position, great or small, does not excuse me from it.
- C. Some things persisted in for so long chart a course that's irreversible.
- D. We are each needed to lead in the right!



# WHOM DO I HAVE TO BLAME BUT MYSELF?

Zech. 11:4-6

- I. It's so easy for me to hold you responsible for all my shortcomings.
  - A. Saint & sinner both ascribe their failure to someone other than self.
  - B. Zech. lets us see who is at fault - perhaps we can honestly face ourselves.
- II. Will you listen to something centuries old, then make this hour's application? Let's see what was happening in Zech. time.
- III. God's Action.
  - A. "Feed the flock of the slaughter"
    1. This is the role of the good shepherd.
    2. His mercy still there & his desire to help.
    3. He's warned that palace, prince, people are all to fall but still he's trying to help.
    4. The mercy of God's amazing.
    5. Yet he fairly speaks of the end - the slaughter.
      - a.) Government & false prophets slay them by leading them to those things that bring destruction.
      - b.) Physical hurt comes via invasion.
      - c.) Sin slaughters many things:
        - (1) Energy.
        - (2) Liberty.
        - (3) Advancement.
        - (4) Ideas.
  - B. The Enemy is Active.
    1. The Possessors slay them - they act like they own the flock.



2. They say they are "not guilty."

a.) We all have ways of excusing ourselves even from obvious truth.

Jer. 50:17-18 (Read).

b.) We close our eyes to the consequences of our actions.

3. They "sell" & thank God they are rich.

a.) Bare faced hypocrisy to thank God for ill gotten gain.

b.) Veneer our deeds with a religious coating & feel justified.

4. 3rd thing after slay, sell is to have no "pity."

a.) Those who ought to have done something pity them not - false shepherds had no feel for them.

b.) Shepherd is for the sheep, sheep are not for him

c.) Leaders that only of themselves & not the people

C. God Removed Himself - and that's the saddest moment.

1. "Ephraim is joined to his idols - leave him alone.

2. "I will laugh at your calamity, I will mock when your fear cometh."

3. People laid aside truth & took error; mercy & became wolves.

4. God won't deliver.

a.) True shepherd tried to rescue, failed, gave up.

b.) Land smitten.

(1) Beat.

(2) Hammer.

(3) Forge.

#### IV. What Caused All This?

A. Turned to error.

1. Cause - unbelief.
2. Didn't hear voice of true shepherd & were slain.
3. "Feed" repeatedly said - last chance  
if this fails, nothing remains.

Matt. 21:37 "But last of all he sent unto them his son

B. Turned Inward.

1. Neglect others.
2. Satisfied with self.
3. Power is a great test of character.
4. Leadership thinks only of itself & not the people.

C. Have we rejected Jesus?

Acts 3:13-14 "The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and

Jn. 19:15 "But they cried out, Away with him, away

1. Are we worse than Israel who rejected the Messiah?
2. If rejecting truth brot wrath of God then, will it not also now?
3. Does not God act thru Christ?

4. Can there not be a reconciliation via Christ?

1 Chron. 28:9 "And thou, Solomon, my son, know the

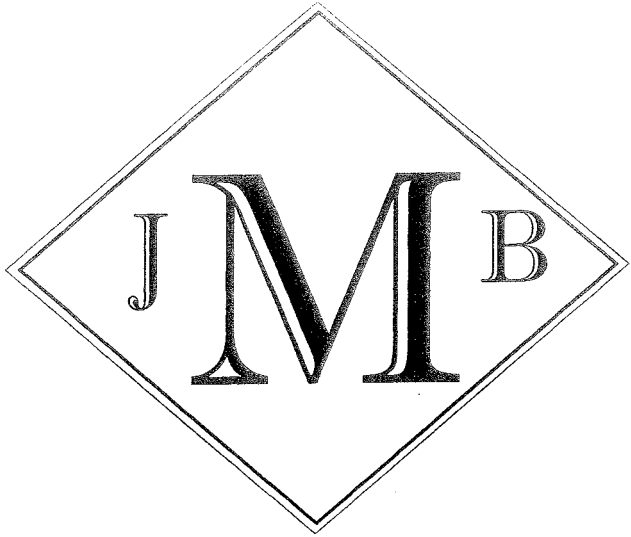
Matt 21:33-46

1. Specific reference to Jews "He spake of them"
2. God gives some great privilege
  2. Jews had word, presence, "fenced in" they were the vineyard Is 25:7
  3. We have Bible, liberty, minds - 4 Billion worse off than us.
3. Some make bad use of privilege
4. An awful reckoning awaits - nothing offends more than neglect of privilege

5. Wicked men have conscience - They know the  
spoke of them - we feel the sermons

6. Christ is God's 1st word to man.

7. " made these pronounce own doom  
West End 6-28-81.



# When the Shoe's On My Foot!

Zech. 11:7-10

- I. Often times we view the problems with spy glasses.
  - A. Glad it's far away.
  - B. Sympathy I feel, but glad you've got it.
  - C. But finally it's mine! Now what will I do with it? How will I cope with the problem?
  
- II. Such was the case for Zechariah.
  - A. First, God says what He wants.
  - b. Second, Zechariah moves to center stage and acts. This should be the *modus operandi* for us!
  
- III. God's Action
  - A. "Feed the flock of the slaughter."
    1. This is the role of the good shepherd.
    2. His mercy still there and His desire to help.
    3. He's warned that palace, prince, people, are all to fall, but still he's trying to help.
    4. The mercy of God's amazing.

5. Yet He fairly speaks of the end - the slaughter.
  - a) Government and false prophets slay them by leading them to those things that bring destruction.
  - b) Physical hurt comes via invasion.
  - c) Sin slaughters many things:
    - 1) Energy
    - 2) Liberty
    - 3) Advancement
    - 4) Ideas

B. The Enemy is Active

1. The possession slays them- they act like they own the flock.
2. They say they are "not guilty."
  - a) We all have ways of excusing ourselves even from obvious truth.

Jer. 50:17-18 READ

- b) We close our eyes to the consequences of our actions.
3. They "sell" and thank God they are rich.

## III. It's my time to move.

A. God feeds and He wants me to help too!

1. He had much to discourage.
  - a) Israel were God's folks
  - b) God used heathen to chastise
  - c) Insult came as they lifted hand against God's anointed, yet He called these "servants" of God.
  - d) Their further crime was they went too far! They forgot whom they served and they became too cruel in their actions.
  - e) Josephus said 110,000 Jews taken.
2. Yet Zechariah enters as personification of true shepherd.
  - a) He will do what God wants him to do.
  - b) By His word, God always commands.
  - c) He will do what he is able to do and if still they perish he's tried!
  - d) After he tries their perdition will be their own fault.

3. He feeds.
  - a) "Tend" - the shepherds full work.
  - b) He knew what he was supposed to do!
  - c) "I feed" repeatedly said
  - d) God uses a helper - it's hard to exhaust His mercy.
  - e) Obviously God wants things right for us.

B. With our desire we also need a game plan - Zechariah had one in "The Beauty of the Bands."

1. Symbolism
2. Shepherd had two staffs
  - a) One as weapon against wild animals
  - b) One to guide sheep

Ps. 23:4

3. Names:
  - a) Beauty
    - 1) Favor, Lovliness, Graciousness
    - 2) One used to mark sheep, dipping end into red liquid - Clark
    - 3) Stood for full favor or loving kindness



## b) Bands

- 1) Union, Binders, Unity
  - 2) Hook or crook used to catch sheep by horns or leg - Clark
  - 3) Two rods show beauty and union of people.
  - 4) When one broke there was another by which held together.
4. "I will feed" - God and shepherd still want to be useful.

## C. Change of Game Plan

1. They did not want to play!
2. "3 shepherds cut off in one month."
  - a) Worthless ones
  - b) Not identified - many suggestions as to identity.
    - 1) Legal priesthood, judges, & lawyers or interpreters of Scriptures.
    - 2) Prophet, Priest, King
    - 3) Not individuals but three orders
    - 4) Who knows?
    - 5) Buyers, sellers, pitiless shepherds(?)

- c) Cut off in one month
  - 1) Short time
  - 2) In one month they killed Jesus
- 3. Mutual loathing
  - a) God does and they do!
  - b) Loathed - nauseated
  - c) Loathed - impatient, straightened
- 4. I will not feed you
  - a) No sadder verse than (v-9)
  - b) Situation without remedy  
captivity without end

Hos. 5:14

Micah 5:7-8

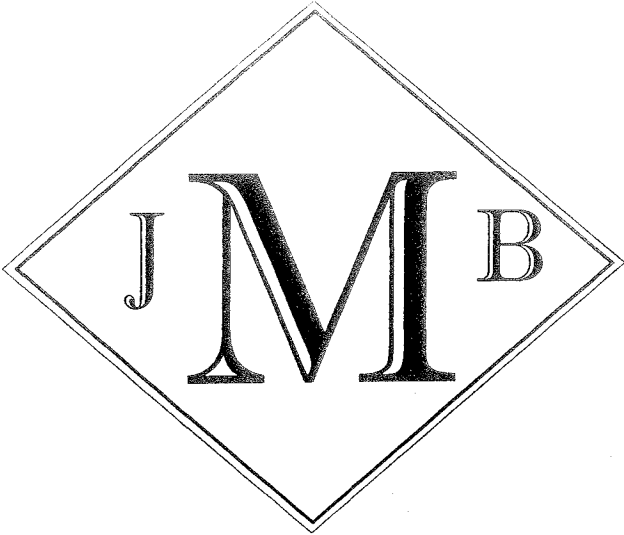
- c) No deliverance will come from kings they've chosen.

John 8:21

- d) God refuses to shepherd them
- e) Saw sheep die, but did not bind up wounds - rather let it die
- f) Sheep are abandoned
- g) Cannibalism comes
- h) God's patience is exhausted

- i) Consequence of their disobedience was the abandonment
- j) Abandonment leads to ruin
- k) Cessation of divine mercy - like Samson "wist not that the Lord was departed from him."

IV. For me - what more could God do?



## When Fellowship is Broken

Zech. 11:10-14

- I. There finally comes a day when man, of any age or dispensation, can exhaust the patience of God.
  - A. Zechariah so warns Judah
  - B. Zechariah uses imagery to prove it.

### II. Beauty broken -- covenant cancelled.

- A. God had two staffs- beauty and binder.
  - 1. Beauty cut asunder.
  - 2. Breaking it shows relations are at an end.
  - 3. Cut off bodily member, mutilate.
  - 4. Patience exhausted.
- B. Covenant ends.
  - 1. With beauty cut no longer preserving people - broke covenant with them.
  - 2. Won't stand with nations that favor Israel.

Matt. 24:2        "Not one stone upon another . . ."

- 3. God had protected via staff from nations without, but not anymore.

4. When Israel behaved, even their enemies were at peace- They too were blessed.
  5. Now God removes restraint from overrunning His people.
  6. This protection earlier offered He called a covenant
- C. Poor understood
1. Some saved out of the flock of slaughter
  2. They fixed eye on the Lord
  3. Bulk of nation took no heed, but humble paid respect to His word and recognized He'd fulfill it.

### III. He bargains with the folk.

- A. Give me my price or forbear.
1. Note the history
    - a) God took the Jews
    - b) Asked them to be His folk
    - c) They refused even though he consented to serve them day and night
    - d) His services had a price
    - e) He works as one hired
    - f) Allows them to freely return as is good in their eyes.

2. Facts to observe
  - a) God does not force man's free will.
  - b) He puts life and death before man and bids us take life.
  - c) When it's obvious they must be brought to a decision, He asks for His ways.
  - d) Not forced - else you make a cult.
  - e) Ways he wanted were faith, repentance, obedience.
3. Pay or forbear
  - a) Voluntary do or else speak with indignation
  - b) Forbear - cease, leave off, abandon
  - c) Not a mercenary - if no pay, don't bother - leave it undone
4. Paying always a question - how do we pay for gospel meetings?
  - a) Preachers do not exact, but amount is left to others.
  - b) Ministers do not force their claims.

1 Cor. 9:9-17 "We have not used this power."

c) Left in the hands of people

2 Cor. 12:14 "Seek not yours but you.

5. What value do we set on the services of God?

6. If God asked, "How do you feel about my services?" how would you answer?

B. Weighed 30 pieces of silver.

1. This their decision - insult price of slave

Exo. 21"32

Matt. 27:7

2. Instead of wages offered an insult.

3. Contemptuous - 30 pieces more insulting than no price at all.

4. They didn't appreciate seriousness of situation.

5. Jesus cost 30 to Judas - (hard to see how Matthew uses this passage).

6. Also accredited to Jeremiah  
19



## C. Cast to Potter

1. Irony in calling it a magnificent sum
2. Cast - fling with contempt of a thing unclean

Isa. 14:19

3. Potter lowest of laboring class.
4. His production marred by most trifling of accident - saw on Rhodes.
5. Was it idomatic expression like "throw to dogs?"

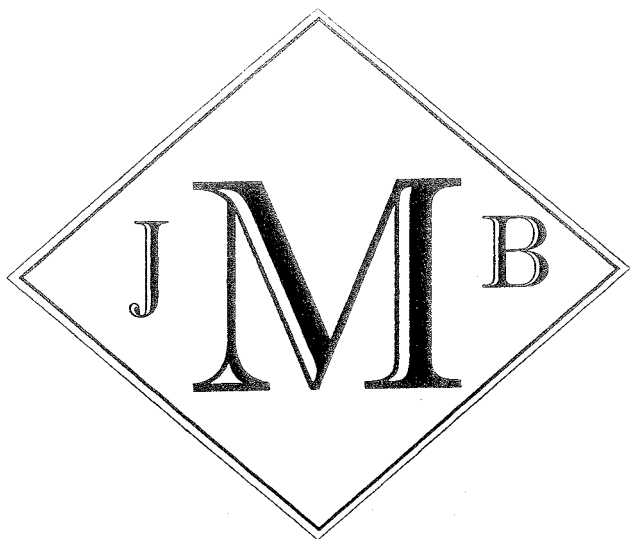
## IV. Fellowship Broken

## A. Band broken

1. Retained second staff for awhile - symbol of reluctance to give up on folks.
2. Folly & sin bring end to all

## B. Break the brotherhood.

1. Brotherhood dissolved.
2. Jews lost priest, altar, temple, mercy-seat.
3. 95% today in Israel atheist.
4. Shepherd & flock severed.
5. Broke "unity."



## WOE TO THE IDOL SHEPHERD

Zech. 11:15-17

- I. We oftentime can see what we don't want by contrasting with what is, that's repulsive.
  - A. You don't want to act like that child, do you?
  - B. You don't want your lungs looking like that, do you.
  - C. I remember we put bacon in a jar of coke - week later it was full of holes - you don't want a stomach like that, do you.
- II. God had the Prophet Adorn self as Idol, Worthless, Foolish shepherd - it would be a living demonstration of what He did not want! The impersonates him.

Zech. 11:15-17 Read.

A. The Foolish Shepherd Identified.

1. Equipment or instrument.

a.) Not told what they were.

b.) False one does come via the permissive will of God - "I raise up".

c.) God was going to allow the people to be chastised by an instrument whom he would permit to work his will.

d.) Tho hard qt. as to origin of evil it does not come w/o the knowledge of God.

e.) God's pictured as doing what he permits - harden Pharoah's heart.

2. He will not care for the lost.

a.) Utterly indifferent to needs of flock.

b.) We'll see sheep in various areas of distress, various stages.

- c.) Doesn't raise a finger to get lost sheep to safety
- d.) Careless & indifferent.
- e.) He abandons the sheep.

3. Will not seek the young.

- a.) Easy for young to get scattered.
- b.) Need attentive watching.
- c.) Counsel in: sex, drugs, encounters, Oriental religions.
- d.) Dignity (worthy, honorable) courage (take a stand) love.
- e.) Mine-is-better-than-yours syndrome.

4. Will not heal the injured.

- a.) Betrayed by some - stripped of dignity for another's purpose.
- b.) Need touch as chaplain in mental ward said he ministered by touch - Jesus - Love c skin on.

John 1:14 "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt a

c.) Note:

- 1.) Rub me wrong way.
- 2.) Sorrow touched me.
- 3.) Sick at stomach.
- 4.) Kind heart.
- 5.) Pain in neck.
- 6.) Get off my back.
- 7.) Under my skin.
- 8.) See thru you.

5. Will not feed the healthy.

- a.) Won't help the robust.
- b.) Positively criminal.
- c.) To stand = sound, healthy.

d.) Helps neither sick nor well.

e.) Such need strengthening:

1.) Prayer.

2.) **Trouble**: Chr. life not a way out but a way thru

3.) Values.

4.) Forgiveness.

B. Viciousness of Foolish Shepherd seen.

1. Eat the meat of the choice sheep.

a.) Not only indifferent to needs of flock but devours what's there.

b.) Greed goads him.

2. Tears off their hoofs.

a.) Swallows last morsel of flesh.

b.) Violently does it.

c.) Mutilates flock so they can't stray - always dainty morsel at hand.

C. Woe to the Foolish Worthless One.

1. Sword strikes arm.

a.) Doom comes.

b.) Withers - dries up, shrivel, atrophy.

c.) Arm that should have defended is withered as by catalepsy.

d.) Judgement always comes.

e.) Arm symbol of power - dries up.

2. Sword strikes rt. eye.

a.) His career will be short.

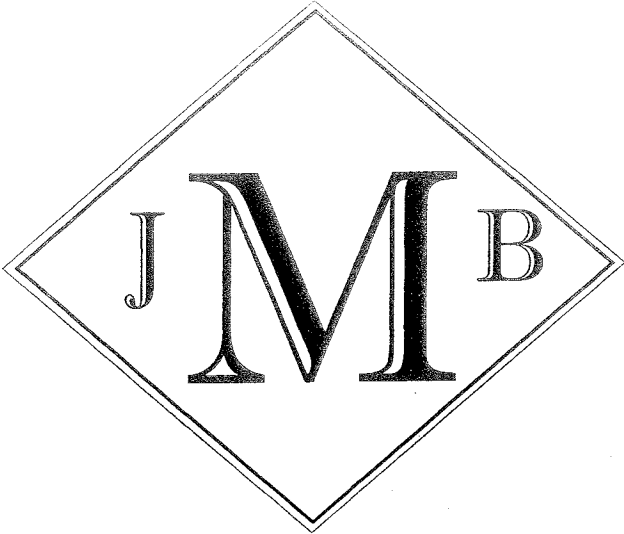
b.) Lose vision.

c.) Eye that should see is blinded.

d.) Eye - symbol of knowledge, vigilance, foresight utterly darkened.

- 3. May his arm wither & his rt. eye be blinded.
  - a.) He'll boast of might & intelligence thus arm & eye destroyed.
  - b.) Punishment to the valueless.
  - c.) Isn't it strange sheep will follow such a shepherd
  - d.) Chief characteristics:
    - 1.) Shameful negligence.
    - 2.) Shameful selfishness - instead of feeding flock, feeds self.
    - 3.) Unblushing cruelty.
  - e.) See enormity of crime when bad men reach high office.
  - f.) Under profession of blessing they are greatest curse to race.
  - g.) Keil, "That which is perishing he will not observe; that which is scattered he will not seek; & that which is broken he will not heal; that which is standing will not be cared for.

*West End 8-16-81*



### 3 FACTORS ABOUT MY GOD

Zech. 12:1

#### I. Describe God.

- A. What makes the Med. Sea blue?
- B. Why's the sky high?
- C. Child's questions.
- D. Only in a most limited way can I grasp the glory of God.

#### II. But I do know Three Things Zech. said about Him.

A. He stretcheth forth the Heavens.

Isa. 42:5 "He created the heavens & stretched them out"

1. Several things to see:

a.) God did it.

(1) Heavens are not eternal.

(2) He created them by His power.

(3) Not several creators, but one being did it.

b.) He's still doing it.

Heb. 1:1-3 "God who at sundry times and in divers manners"

(1) His creative power is ever working.

(2) Not like the God of the deist who started it all then forgot it.

Jn. 5:17 "But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh"

(3) He daily creates. *hitherto & I work*

c.) He created matter.

(1) Seen.

(2) Felt.

(3) Heard.

(4) Tasted.

*Simple Bible: My father  
always works & I must  
work too*

d.) He stretched it out.

(See clippings)



2. If God can do all this, He can fulfill every promise.

B. Layeth the Fd. of the Earth.

1. He supports all.

2. He alone has life to give.

3. Not only Creator, but Preserver.

Ps. 104:2-5 "Who coverest thyself with light as with a

4. Man must remember this. *for since the s. fell asleep*

2 Pet. 3:4 "Where is the promise... things continue

Amos 4:13 "For, lo, he that formeth the mountains, and

5:8 "Seek him that maketh the seven stars and

C. Forms the Spirit of Man Within Him.

1. Spirit not same substance as body.

2. Worlds of Matter & mind are in His control.

III. What's the Significance of This?

A. What God creatively did removes all doubt He can now do what He plans.

1. Attributes cited so all may believe what He's promised He's able to perform.

B. Heaven, Earth, Sovereign Affairs of man He deals with. *Celestial, Terrestial, Spiritual / Above, Above w/in*

Isa. 42:5 "Thus saith God the Lord, he that created th

44:24 "Thus saith the Lord, thy redeemer, and he

1. Lord eminent & active in heaven & earthly realm.

2. 3 participles refute deistic error that God created the universe & left it to itself.

3. Not fortuitous but the work of His creative genius

C. He continuously guides.

1. God is over all.

- a.) Heaven - above.
- b.) Earth - beneath.
- c.) Soul - within.

2. He preserves what He's created.

D. God is able - trust & obey.

1. This 1 person has in mind men to bless!

2. Bible tells his plans.

3. No event is accidental - grand purpose of life -  
do his will.

E. "There is nothing too hard for God." *Jer 32:17*

*Nashville Christian Towers 8-20-81*

*West End 8-30-81*

The mind boggles at the vastness of the universe. Listen to these facts:

The nearest star is four-and-a-half light years away, which means that it takes light, traveling at 186,000 miles a second, this time to cross the distance to earth. This means that Apollo 8, traveling at the pace it achieved on its journey to the moon, would take one hundred sixty years to reach the nearest star and return to earth. The Milky Way system has ten billion stars. It would take one hundred thousand years at the speed of light to travel from one end to the other, and it would take twenty thousand years to journey across the Milky Way. The Milky Way is but one of millions of similar systems. The nearest of these is called Andromeda and is so far away that light has taken two million years to reach us. Hence the great telescopes of earth are groping, not only into outer space, but into the depths of time.

If the sky had only our Milky Way  
solar system - containing w/ its  
million "solar systems" - like ours & the  
9 planets & larger suns (bigger than ours)  
There would be enough earths to provide 1  
earth for every person who has ever  
lived - 1 an earth piece - with plenty left over  
whinkhated!

*Zenith*  
THE IMMENSE MILKY WAY GALAXY

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED in star-gazing, take a look at the Milky Way some night. On a clear, starry night, you get a view of the Great Galaxy from the planet Earth. It looks like ragged scarves of pale, pale light arching over the sky. But this view does not give us a fair picture of the real thing.

Our Milky Way Galaxy is an enormous cartwheel of about a hundred *billion* stars—one of which is our sun. We are far from the crowded center and our view looks out across the big, flat wheel.

Obviously a galaxy of 100 to 200 billion widely separated stars must be enormous, and you need something bigger than miles to measure it. You can use the light year, which equals about six million-million earth miles! Astronomers estimate that the diameter, or the length of a line drawn straight through the middle, of the "Big Wheel" is about 100,000 light years.

We cannot travel at the speed of light, which is 186,282 miles per second, but even if we could, it would take us "forever" to cross the Milky Way Galaxy from one side to the other!

## OUR AMAZING UNIVERSE

Lon Woodrum had a fascinating article recently in Christianity Today titled, "Beyond the Quasars." It was an article to build faith. Since I am not scientific, such articles enthrall and renew. In our universe outposts there are quasars, pulsars, supernovas, galactic clusters, neutron stars, and black holes. Some scientists think we are at "the edge of the universe."

But the "terms" for celestial bodies! A quasar is capable of producing more energy than a BILLION SUNS! A pulsar (residue of a burned out star) weighs a BILLION TONS per one cubic inch! STAGGERING!

A quasar is so distant that what we see burned 10 million light-years ago! "Light-years" are bounced around on our tongues without realization as to immensity. Say "earth" . . . upon saying it light has traveled around our planet several times! One light-year is six trillion miles! Now multiply that by billions! The size, energy, and beauty of our world is mind-staggering.

Yes, it is big, but not nearly as big as the GOD who made it! Out there -- there is more than SOMETHING -- there is SOMEONE! This world cannot be an unexplained accident! Why should we doubt the ability of a God who makes quasars! God is on our side; He is in control; He knows . . . and best of all . . . He will keep His word.

# Mothers Know Everything

"Mommy, what does a cloud taste like?"

"Are turtles hooked on the inside or do they just lie around loose?"

My late afternoon walk through the neighborhood with my ever-inquisitive four-year-old son had triggered a barrage of questions. Having grown accustomed to Andy's imaginative comments, I answered each inquiry as simply as I could, smiling as I realized once again that, in his mind, mothers know everything.

"Why did God even make bugs if we just step on them?"

His constant questions wore on me, as did our lengthy exercise session, yet I felt grateful that our walk had at least effected a change in subject matter.

After spending the morning with Andy, waiting in the obstetrician's office, I felt incapable of facing even one more of his concepts concerning babies and their origins. His chatter continued as we reached home and prepared dinner.

"Does God eat cake?"

"Isn't it a good thing that raisins can't walk?"

As bedtime approached I braced myself for more inquiries.

"Why do they call them pajamas?"

"Do ants sleep?"

And, of course, "Can I have a drink of water?"

After tucking him in bed, I had started down the hallway when I heard the familiar call once again.

"Mommy?"

"Yes, Andy," I sighed, wondering when he would reach that golden age when mothers no longer possessed all knowledge.

"Is Jesus coming back soon?" he queried.

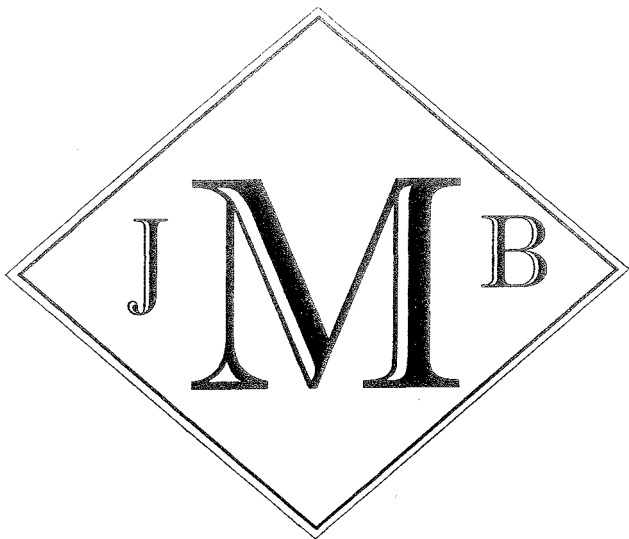
"I think so."

"When?"

"I don't know, honey," I stated. "He wants to surprise us."

"Oh, I hope He comes after our baby gets here, because I want to play with him for a while first. Good night, Mommy."

"Good night, Andy," I replied, chuckling quietly. But the more I considered his remark, the more concerned I became. What if Christ returned while I was still pregnant? What would happen? Did the Bible say anything about God's procedure in that particular instance? The very thought of wearing a white maternity robe for eternity disquieted me and I raced toward the kitchen and grabbed the phone. Mother would still be up. She would know.





## Of What Speaks the Prophet?

Zech. 12:1-2

- I. The interpretation of prophecy is difficult.
  - A. Not only are the words some-time hard to grasp, but -
  - B. The time frame in which they are placed is difficult to calendar.
    1. Matthew 24 - end of world or Titus time?
    2. Zechariah - Jerusalem destruction or the end of church age
    3. I'll admit prejudice-born of past, pre and a millenium discussion.
    4. Surely all of us want the truth--wherever it is.
    5. Let's see if we can put Zechariah in right time frame.
  
- II. It's "the burden of the word of the Lord, for Israel." 3 questions
  - A. What's the burden?
  - B. Define Word of the Lord.
  - C. Is there a future ordained of God for fleshly Israel?

### III. What is the burden?

#### A. Defined

1. Adam Clark "a new prophecy" but that does not say when it will be fulfilled, nor does it automatically put it in a time frame
  2. It's a distinct prophecy - different from all others - distinctive - Pusey.
  3. Word for burden is "massa" and it has to do with prophesies containing threats & announcing judgments - Baron
  4. Massa is a divine message freighted with woe and judgment. - Unger
  5. Massa is a prophecy of grief Luck. (He further qualifies by saying often grief comes before blessing).
- C. Thus we see there was coming something of a nature Israel might not want to hear - it tells of punishment.

### IV. Word of the Lord

#### A. This defined

1. God has an authorized message
2. It meets the needs of man

3. It reveals the mind of God
4. It's accurate and authoritative

B. There abides that respect today - if God has spoken that is full and final.

V. When was or is this message intended for Israel?

A. First, is it literal or figurative Israel - a race of people so to speak or the church of Christ? (Pusey says the latter)

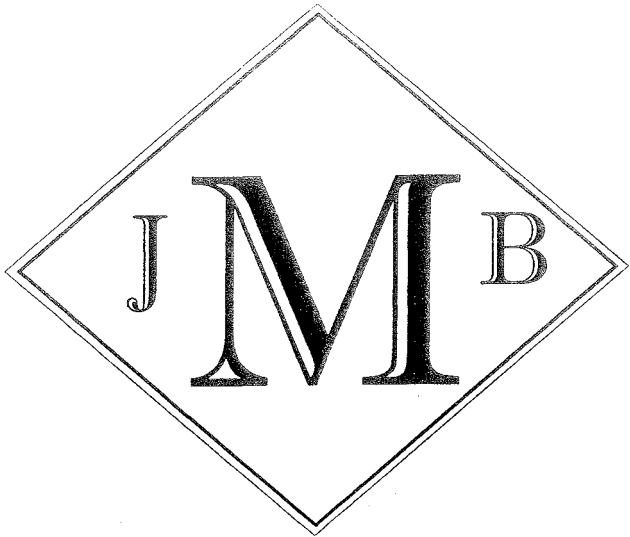
1. Do I have a spiritual tie that links me with the geography of Jerusalem?
2. Is there something of Judah geographically with its Jews and Arabs that today affects the West End church?
3. Is there anything that could politically occur there that would make my salvation my work, my worship of any spiritual variation?

B. Why ask this?

1. Is this prophecy one already fulfilled, or does it come at the end of the world?

2. Was it fulfilled in Neb. time?
  3. Was it a political divination of the affair of the Kingdom of Judah in which ardent hopes were expressed by the unknown prophet - he being sadly disappointed respecting the final struggle and results of it as the Jewish Kingdom dealt with a Babylonia power.
  4. Was it the Roman seige?
  5. Was it Jerusalem's final seige?
  6. Was it a summation of Israel's conflict with heathen powers as Pulpit Commentary says it is?
  7. Jack Lewis "It is not possible to identify historial events that lie back of this section."
  8. Is this something of daily fulfilled and will be in the church til Christ comes?
- C. The Jews are here.
1. There have been world-wide efforts to crush them.
  2. Some Jewish believers have always been with Jesus.

3. This may or may not be intensified toward the end.
4. But nothing will change the entrance, nature of and worship and work of the church until Jesus gives it back to the ancient of days.



# Jerusalem is the "Reel" Thing!

Zech. 12:1-4

- I. I read with both fear & comfort:
  - A. Apple of His eye
  - B. Hollow of His hand
  - C. Lord knoweth them that are His
  - D. Better have a millstone than a mistake
  
- II. This protective nature of God over His children has ever been true
  - A. Blood does run thicker than water
  - B. Fire does give way to frying pan
  - C. All this seen in a Jerusalem chapter
  
- III. Jerusalem a copy of trembling.
  - A. Explain
    - 1. Margin says slumber or poison--put you to sleep for good!
    - 2. Jerusalem a large basin from which all nations drink and it makes them reel.
    - 3. Could say Jerusalem is the Reel Thing!
    - 4. It's big enough for all nations to drink.

5. She's a goblet of wine that causes extreme intoxication
    - a) Met their match
    - b) Smite their ownelves
    - c) Like men who attack a big cup of wine - find themselves unable to take it - eyes bigger than their stomach.
  6. Jerome - "Anyone who crosses Jerusalem's threshold in hostile guise will totter and fall."
  7. Judah not opposed to Jerusalem - just distinguished from it. They never fought each other.
- B. Obvious they'd gotten hold of more than they could handle - it was the tar baby story deluxe.

IV. Second similie was Jerusalem as a burdensome stone.

A. Explain

1. It's a stone can be moved.

Dan. 2:45

Isa. 28:16

Luke 20:17

Matt. 21:44



2. Clark says it may be one thrown on the breast of another to kill him.
3. Unger says a stone as in a weight lifting contest

#### B. Application

1. Men have often risen against God.
  - a) Diocletian erected a monument saying Christianity was blotted out. It survived- he perished
  - b) Voltaire's press printed Bibles.
2. Fight against God's anointed and you get the cuts.
  - a) Cut - lacerated, bear scars
  - b) Ruptured
  - c) All who are left have rents in them

#### V. Third figure - Mad Rider of Astonished Horse

##### A. Horse smitten with astonishment

1. Blind horse and mad rider - can you imagine any team less effective?
2. Gets blind staggers

3. Intense visitation will come from God on those who attack Jerusalem.
  4. Calvary destroyed - surely horses and calvary not last battle!
- B. Rider with madness
1. Wild and helpless
  2. Panic

#### VI. What lessons drawn?

- A. The highest in human estimation acknowledges that their strength is in those who are of no account in this world.
- B. Extremity of Israel a great occasion for God to show His power. He's the supreme defender.
  1. He uses plagues.
  2. Bewilderment, madness, blindness (Deut. 28:28).
- C. Sometimes it looks like all the world is against you even as they were Jerusalem.
- D. One who seeks to injure others winds up being hurt himself.
  1. Crush others-crush ourselves
  2. One out of ten teenagers pregnant
  3. 80% boys, 70% girls engage in sex by 16 years of age.

E. History recites those who hurt  
self.

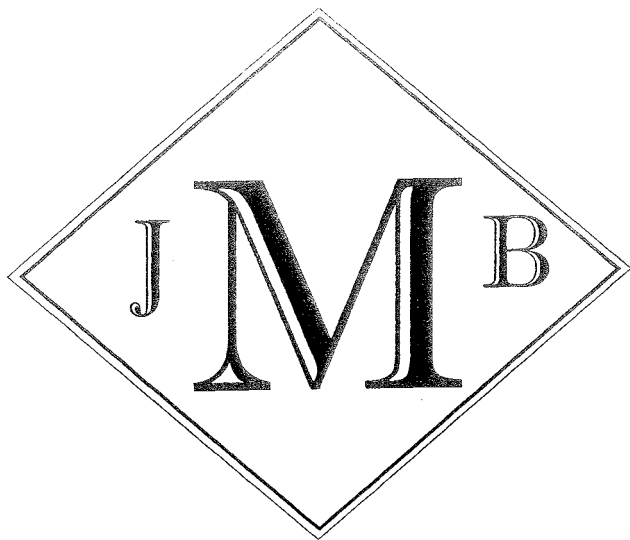
Ps. 7:16

1. Joseph's brothers
2. Haman
3. Jews and Jesus

Prov. 26:27

F. Lord punishes those who punish  
His

1. It's no local struggle.
2. It's against no minor foe.



# EVERYBODY'S IMPORTANT

Zech. 12:6-9

1. One great essential is for each to see he's vital.

A. We each contribute.

1 Cor. 12:12 "For as the body is one, and hath many n

14 "For the body is not one member but man

B. Further, it's essential to know that from the most unlikely of sources great strength can come.

1. Tell story of C. W. Bradley & short wave.

2. There are many unknown heroes.

C. Zech. is a great illustration of this.

II. We Ever need the Big Folks.

A. We've got to have the "Governors."

V. 6 "In that day will I make the governors of Judah

1. One translation may have governor or "chieftan.

2. Ruler over 1000.

3. Centurian over 100.

4. Have confidence in leaders.

B. They must be effective.

1. 2 similes used: fire pot (to carry hot coals) and torch.

2. Picture is that they will ignite - as wood ready for the burning.

3. Hearth = a pan - victory is going to be complete.

4. Torch to set things aglow.

5. Lessons twofold:

a.) God is able to use men to overcome all foes.

b.) Men must move into slot he's prepared - torch has to be moved, else it flickers.

#1 (Ambition)

#2 (R. R.)

c.) God not complacent about enemies of his people  
 C. Jerusalem to be re-established.

1. Devours right & left.
2. Shall be in her own place.
3. God's interested in victory - not just effort & excusing failure but victory. It does matter who wins!

D. God will do it His way.

1. Save the tents of Judah 1st.
    - a.) Defenseless portion.
    - b.) Unfortified towns 1st secured.
    - c.) Jerusalem 2nd.
    - d.) This lets the hand of the Lord be clearly seen & man cannot claim the credit.
    - e.) Poor 1st heard gospel to show secular influence has no hand in it.
    - f.) Gospel not sent to great men because he is such.
    - g.) "They do not magnify themselves against Judah"
- V. 7.

E. Feeble as David.

1. David powerful.
  - a.) Kingdom comes thru him.
  - b.) After God's own heart.
  - c.) Renown via names today.
  - d.) Great genius of all time.
  - e.) Inspired great loyalty.
  - f.) Mack Lynn report #3.
2. Feeble become Davids.
  - a.) Weakest will be as stout as David who killed the lion & was on God's all star team.

- b.) All faithful endued c strength - 10 ft. tall!
- c.) When weak put themselves at disposal of God they will be infused c strength for the battle.
- d.) Ones so weak couldn't even stand will be strong like David.
- e.) We stumble - so did he - but God can make us mighty.
- f.) Feeblish saint strong as David against Goliath.

3. Reason - God! "In that day shall the Lord defend the inhabitants."

- a.) Defend defined.
  - (1) Make a shield.
  - (2) Cover, surround.
  - (3) Hover protectively.
- b.) God honored.
  - (1) In God we form a host.

Ps. 60:11: "Give us help from trouble; for vain is the help of man - thru God we shall do valiantly.

- (2) Man must make his boast in God.
- (3) By God's help alone the victory's won.

### III. What are Most Important Lessons Learned?

- A. God's not going to allow what He wants to be destroyed. He accomplishes what He seeks, even destruction.
- B. Man has, teamed c God, limitless potential.
  - 1. Do we recognize the latent powers w/in us?
  - 2. Preachers will light fires on wood already "laid"
  - 3. Japs grow dwarf trees. They purposefully hinder growth by transplanting into pots that do not

have enough soil to nourish branches. If any buds appear, they are nipped off. Starvation & spoilation lead to dwarf trees.

4. True greatness is personal of character, socially useful, rises in glory of divine strength, can be a common possession, leads to eternity.

(Thielicke #4)

5. W. J. Bryan & watermelon #5.

C. I must be:

1. Patient before God. (Basic needs #6).
2. Humble.
3. Forebear toward others.
4. Serve, in God given strength.

D. I am the "Body of Christ."

1. Magnify self & you get

Magnolia, Ark. Church Teachers meeting 9-17-81

West End 9-20-81

Church St., Lewisburg, Sun, School 9-27-81



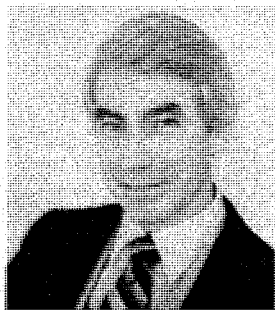
## AMBITION

#1

X To say of a young man or woman that he or she is ambitious is no longer, as it once was, a clear compliment. Rather the reverse. A person called ambitious is likely to arouse anxiety, for in our day anyone so called is thought to be threatening, possibly a trifle neurotic. — JOSEPH EPSTEIN, *Ambition: The Secret Passion* (Dutton).

#2  
X A railroad agent in Africa had been "bawled out" for doing things without orders from headquarters. One day his boss received the following startling telegram:

"Tiger on platform eating conductor. Wire instructions."



#3

Dr. Mac Lynn  
Harding Graduate School of Religion

cent of our country's people are related to the church.

Nearly 23% of the Churches of Christ advocate unique doctrinal positions which put them outside the main stream. Barriers are so firmly fixed that little fellowship exists between the majority of congregations and those holding minority beliefs. So with a movement which counts 12,700 churches and one and a quarter million members in the U.S., the main stream numbers about one million people in less than 10,000 congregations.

### What do these figures mean?

First, students of the Restoration Movement must be struck with the distance between the ideal and the real. The need for a Restoration Movement is not a subject for debate. But the degree of

failure experienced over nearly two centuries of concerted effort issues a strong call for evaluation and reaffirmation of the Movement's central tenets. An obvious lack has been in being able to find unity. Every division along theological lines and each local church split testify to the failure of the persons involved to demonstrate an ideal Restoration Movement.

Second, the numerical count gives further evidence that the ideal of the Restoration Movement has yet to be realized. Each congregation and each member thereof should be pressed into outreach activity. Congregations need to be aroused to active pursuit of restoration. This can be accomplished only through aggressive action among friends and neighbors. A grass roots movement is imperative.

In 1980 America's population reached 226,504,825. Of this number, approximately 16,600,000 men, women, and children attended Churches of Christ regularly. Active membership stands at 1,240,000. Only seven-tenths of one per-

#4

Helmut Thielicke summarized it by saying: "the emphasis here is not on some quality of mine that outlasts death, but on the quality of my Lord not to desert me."

(Resurrection)

What Is to Come?, James E. Carter, Page 26

#15

I was passing through Columbus, Ohio some years ago and stopped to eat in a restaurant in the depot. Soon my attention was called to a slice of watermelon, and I ordered it and ate it. I was so pleased with the melon that I asked the waiter to dry some of the seeds that I might take them home and plant them in my garden. That night a thought came to my mind--I would use that watermelon as an illustration. So, the next morning when I reached Chicago, I had enough seeds weighed to find out that it would take about five thousand watermelon seeds to weigh a pound, and I estimated that the watermelon had weighed about forty pounds. Then I applied my mathematics to the watermelon. A few weeks before, someone, I know not who, had planted this little seed in the ground. Under the influence of sunshine and showers that little watermelon seed had taken off its coat and gone to work; it had gathered from somewhere two hundred thousand times its own weight, and forced that enormous weight through a tiny stem and built a watermelon.

On the outside it had put a covering of green; within that a rind of white and within that a core of red, and then it had scattered through the red, little seeds, each one capable of doing the same work over again. What architect drew the plan? Where did that little watermelon seed get its tremendous might? Where did it find its flavoring extract and its coloring matter? How did it build a watermelon?

Until you can explain a watermelon, do not be too sure that you can set limits to the power of the Almighty, or tell just what He would do, or how He would do it. The most learned man in the world cannot explain a watermelon. But the most ignorant man can eat a watermelon and enjoy it. God has given us the things that we need, and He has given us the knowledge necessary to use those things, and the truth that He has revealed to us is infinitely more important for our welfare than it would be to understand the mysteries that He has seen fit to conceal from us.

So with Christianity; if you ask me if I can understand everything in the Bible, I answer: No, I understand some things that I did not understand ten years ago, and if I live ten years longer, I hope some things will be clear that are now obscure. But there is something more important than understanding everything in the Bible--it is this: if we will only try to live up to the things that we DO understand we will not have time to worry about the things that we DO NOT understand.

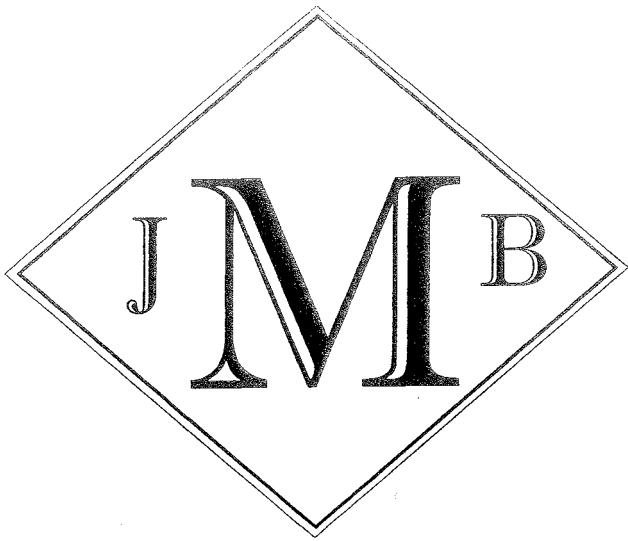
W. J. Bryan

WAYMARKS

AUGUST 2, 1981

The three basic needs of the  
average American are food,  
clothing, and tax shelter.  
FRANK WALSH.

8  
#6



J

M

B

# What the World Needs Now is Feeling

Zech.12:9-14

I. Needs arise--and if I sought to find one great need of today it would be feeling.

A. Say it any way you want -- heart, concern, attune, empathy.

B. Too long we pass as ships in the night--knowing nothing of the other's cargo and caring less.

1. Brotherhood should be real
2. Tell of Gary Mansfield's dismissal at Columbia.

II. How may we have more of it?

A. What would make me more attentive to a brother's needs?

1. More knowledge?
2. More examples?
3. More needs?

B. No--first, I must be brought to the emptiness of self before I can fill it with anything else.

C. No account does it better than the last of Zechariah 12.

READ TEXT

### III. Feeling people and how they came to be.

- A. They were first covered with the spirit of grace and supplications.
  - 1. Deliverance granted.
  - 2. Prayer and mercy go together
  - 3. Gratitude needs to expressed
- B. Look on me--mourn for Him
  - 1. To look means to:
    - a) Trust
    - b) Implies longing
    - c) Revere
  - 2. Look on me - mourn for Him  
Same person, unity, thus divine.
- C. See the pierced one.
  - 1. Means to thrust through.
  - 2. It is to be conscious of what was done.
- D. Mourn for Him
  - 1. As an only son
  - 2. Bitterness for the first born
  - 3. Like the mourning at Hadad-Rimmon--megiddon
    - a) Evidently a battle BC 609
    - b) Located 17 miles from Caesarea
    - c) Perhaps Josiah--the last hope of a fading day

- d) Told in II Kings 23 and II Chronicles 35
- e) Reforms II Kings 23
- f) Death - II Chronicles 35:20-27

Lam. 4:20

- 1) After all this - in spite of his fidelity to God.
- 2) Pharoah the lame
- 3) Charchemish-fortress of mish--encounter between Necho and Babylonians.
- 4) What have I to do with these?
- 5) Egyptians consulted their gods before battles.
- 6) Disguise perhaps strenghten, persist, continue on course.

E. Four families mourn:

Two Royal, Two Sacred

1. David

- a) Royal family
- b) However high, no one is exempt from mourning
- c) Jerusalem - capital designates whole country
- d) Women apart - as divert apart.



Ex. 15:20

Judges 11:34

I Samuel 18:6

II Samuel 6:5

- e) Each individual will experience grief so keenly he seeks to hide himself from others.

2. Nathan

- a) Solomon's brother  
(II Samuel 5:14)
- b) From him Mary came.

Luke 3:31

- c) We need retirement and seclusion for deep religion

3. Levi

4. Shimei -priestly families

- a) Sorrow universal
- b) Sorrow individual

5. Remain

- a) Examples for goodwill now be followed by all the rest of the people.
- b) Top affects bottom
- c) Grief runs deep

IV. Lesson for Us

- A. How do I feel when I look on Jesus?

John 19:37

Acts 20:28

Rev. 1:7

1. Did I put Him there?
2. Does it lead me to love, admiration, gratitude, fear, pretense, hope, compassion?
3. Like them, do I not feel compunction until the deed was done?
4. Do I crucify and reject?

John 1:11

I Cor. 2:8

- B. Do I lovingly remember the death of Christ-like Josiah?
- C. Is cross centre of all Christian devotion?
- D. Look:
  1. See hatred--sin has for purity--slew holy one
  2. Ingratitude of love
  3. Abhorrence of God--would slay Him if he could
  4. Sin is decidal in intent and tendency
  5. See guilt.
- E. Mourn:
  1. For not having earlier known His preciousness

2. Slighting such a love so long
  3. Fear lest he should not be ours.
  4. Tremble at the wrath of God.
- F. Does our love make us dread grieving Him?
- G. Are we horrified at the thought of our rejecting Him?

I see the crowd in Pilate's hall, I mark their wrathful mien;  
Their shouts of "Crucify!" appal, with blasphemy between,  
And of that shouting multitude I feel that I am one;  
And in that din of voices rude, I recognize my own.

I see the scourges tear his back, I see the piercing crown,  
And of that crowd who smite and mock I feel that I am one;  
Around yon cross, the throng I see, mocking the Sufferer's groan,  
Yet still my voice it seems to be,--as if I mocked alone.

'Twas I that shed the sacred blood, I nailed him to the tree,  
I crucified the Christ of God, I joined the mockery;  
Yet not the less that blood avails to cleanse away my sin,  
And not the less that cross prevails to give me peace within.

"My Sermon-Notes" - By C. H. Spurgeon - Page 359

<sup>7</sup> The LORD will give victory to the tents of Judah first, so that the glory of the House of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem may not be too great for Judah. <sup>8</sup> In that day, the LORD will shield the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and the feeblest of them shall be in that day like David, and the House of David like a divine being—like an angel of the LORD—at their head.

<sup>9</sup> In that day I will <sup>d</sup>all but annihilate<sup>d</sup> all the nations that came up against Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup> But I will fill the House of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem with a spirit of pity and compassion; and they shall lament<sup>e</sup> to Me about those who are slain, wailing over them as over a favorite son and showing bitter grief as over a firstborn. <sup>11</sup> In that day, the wailing in Jerusalem shall be as great as the wailing at Hadad-rimmon in the plain of Megiddon.<sup>f</sup> <sup>12</sup> The land shall wail, each family by itself: the family of the House of David by themselves, and their womenfolk by themselves; the family of the House of Nathan by themselves, and their womenfolk by themselves; <sup>13</sup> the family of the House of Levi by themselves, and their womenfolk by themselves; the family of the Shimeites by themselves, and their womenfolk by themselves;

<sup>a-a</sup> Emendation yields "open the eyes of Judah while I strike all."

<sup>b-b</sup> Emendation yields "We will save the dwellers of Jerusalem with the help of."

<sup>c</sup> Emendation yields "safety."

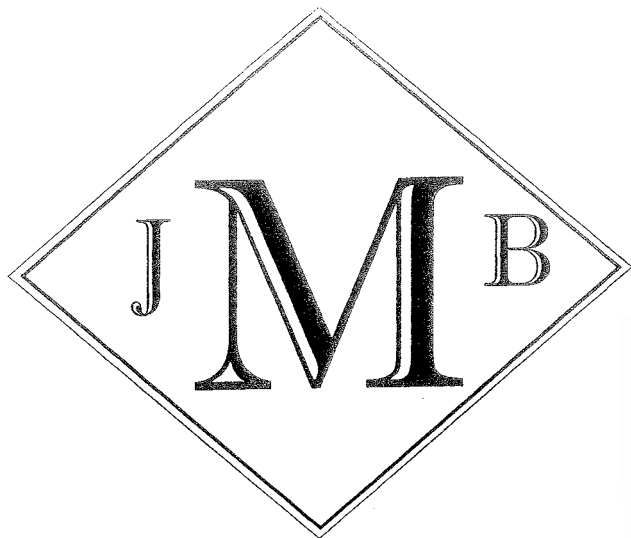
<sup>d-d</sup> For the idiom cf. Gen. 43.30; it is also attested in postbiblical Hebrew.

<sup>e</sup> Meaning of Heb. uncertain.

<sup>f</sup> Usually "Megiddo."

*Note New York's Torah changes*

*Do leave out Christ's reference*



# The Opened Fountain

Zech.13:1

- I. Of all the fountains, which thrill you the most?
  - A. Three coins in a fountain
  - B. Lady of Like at Geneva
  - C. Water fountain when so thirsty could perish--yet never could take a pill at one!
  
- II. But as all fountains have not the same purpose. Let's look at Zechariah.
  - A. "In that day"
    1. A time when great mourning was to take place
    2. Repentance the order of the day
    3. Phrase used 13 times in last three chapters
  - B. The Opened Fountain
    1. Originally "to bore," or "dig." It first meant a well, then moved to a spring
    2. Opened
      - a) Ever flowing - not a wet weather branch, nor a ditch as in our yard and Bob Baker's.

- b) Open, not shut
- c) Plentitudious supply
- d) Freeness for all
- e) Boundless-perpetuity
- f) Open and so remain  
everlastingly effi-  
cacious is force of  
Hebrew words
- g) Remains permanently  
open - so surely it's  
come!
- h) Purpose - not for  
refreshment but for  
cleansing

3. For David and inhabitation  
of Jerusalem

- a) All walks needed it
- b) Individually applied
- c) More than outward -  
not I love a parade  
but my heart is in the  
matter.

C. For Sin and Uncleanliness

- 1. Sin - to miss the mark; to  
miss the way thus lost.
  - a) Defiles whatever it  
touches
  - b) Universal

I Kings 8:46

Ps. 14:2-3

Rom. 3:23



- c) Removal is world's greatest necessity.
- 2. Uncleanliness
  - a) Dirty
  - b) Flee it

### III. Application

A. Our cleansing needs be as universal as our sin.

B. Jesus is that fountain

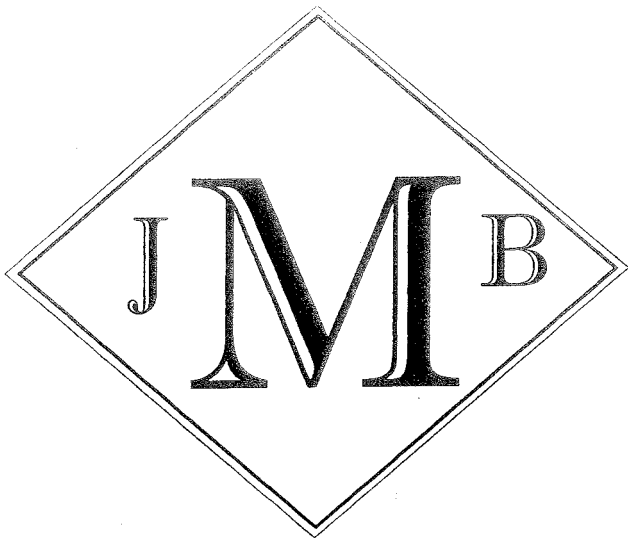
- 1. He gave blood and water

John 19:37

- 2. He died for the worst of men

- 3. He died to remove guilt and purify soul

C. It's our eyes that now need to be opened.



J

M

B

# That's the Way to Handle Error!

Zech. 13:2-6

- I. Purity comes at a price. Always the threat of contamination stalks man.
  - A. Pure water and food.
  - B. New air purifiers for rooms.
  - C. Congress proposing legislation to restrict Judicial powers-- and the furor it produces.
  
- II. So with doctrine.
  - A. Sound doctrine.
  - B. Whole counsel of God.
  - C. Twist Scriptures.
  
- III. One of the most graphic dealings with the encroachment of error I know is found in our text.
  - A. And it shall come to pass.
    1. We've just been told of the opened fountain.
    2. With it being opened, so must eyes.
    3. If law is worth enacting, it is worth enforcing.
    4. Only by God's fountain can sin end--not by fountain of men's tears.
    5. We must come by way He provides.

6. There is no limit to the supply God has available for us.
- B. In that day sayeth the Lord of Hosts
1. Sin is ironic--the temple stood in a nest of idols.
  2. Where word of God best heard there were also many false prophets.
  3. We need to be warned about abundance & counterfeiting.
  4. In that day, God wanted a cessation of false teaching.
- C. Cut off the names of the idols out of the land.
1. Idols to be abolished and their names perish.
  2. Sin's an offense to God; pollution must also be to us.
    - a) Give to something the love that's due God.
    - b) Idol: caring, fashioning, also grief. Thus the moulded.
- D. Names no more remembered.
1. Names not to be mentioned by Jews.
  2. Mephibaal became Mephibosheth, Boseth-contempible thing.

3. To name evil is a temptation to evil--sweatshirts are carriers of suggestive titles.
4. Wrong words are parents of wrong acts.
5. Curiosity is one of the strongest incentives to act.
6. Public mention of crime procedures an imitation of them.
7. Such the constant way of God--read Joshua 23:6-8.
8. Keep evil before men and you gave chance for heart's hardening. Prophets were unclean.

Romans 10:3 "For they being ignorant of God's ..

E. Cause them to pass out of land.

1. Two great sins
  - a) Idolatry
  - b) False prophets
2. It opposed spirit of holiness.

Romans 1:4

1 John 4:6

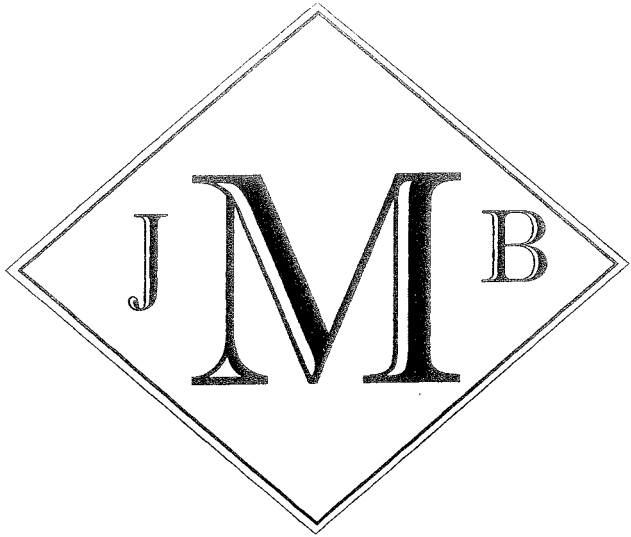
3. God always checks on His folks.

Isaiah 48:10 "I have chosen thee  
with the furnace of  
affliction ..

Psalm 56:11

Acts 14:22 "Confirming the souls of  
the disciples. .

4. Fiercer the onslaught the  
more glorious the triumph.
5. God wants complete  
extermination of evil and  
evil teachings.



# Putting Pressure on the Prophet

Zech. 13:3-6

I. There are events that call for extreme action.

A. Prison isolation

B. Surgery

C. No food or drink

II. Similarly there are spiritual exercises that are strenuous. When error comes, God knows how to deal with it. Our text carries the story (Zech. 13:3-6).

A. Parents Place Pressure

1. Father and mother say thou shalt not live

Deut. 13:6-10      Read

Deut. 18:10      Read

a) No coddling ehre

b) No excuses made

c) No "he may be right"

d) Parental responsibilities do not overshadow loyalty to God

Matt. 10:37

e) Gospel yet has some heart



- f) Obviously error in anyone is to be despised.
  - g) Zeal for God over masters parental affection.
- B. Prophet examines himself (v.4)
- 1. Realizes lies taught
    - a) He will be ashamed and admit his prophecies are no more sensible than our dreams are to us
    - b) He'll be ashamed of garb
    - c) He'll be ashamed to be a prophet rather than a bond slave
    - d) Hated because he spoke lies
  - 2. Lies
    - a) Took refuge in a lie
    - b) Lie, for many, most convenient way to extricate themselves from a disagreeable situation
    - c) Tell second lie to protect the first
    - d) It's easy to tell a lie, it's hard to tell just one - Thomas Fuller
    - e) Success may have covered fraud, but cannot turn fraud into honesty.

The disgrace of the fraud lies in its commission, not in its discovery.

3. Hairy garment
  - a) Prophets wore mantle of hair
  - b) It distinguished them

2 Kings 1:8

- c) Not condemning the dress but the purpose of it - to cover up the wolf!

#### C. Prophet Admits His Failure

1. Not a prophet but a husbandman
  - a) He confesses
  - b) Gives up pretext and became a laborer in the land
  - c) I'm only a tiller of the ground
  - d) No room to have been a false prophet since from youth he'd had an unletter occupation
  - e) I'm unletter so no prophet
  - f) From youth on no time for anybody but the farm.

(It takes time to do God's work as a prophet)

- g) Both occupations - keeper of cattle and husbandman is inconsistent with being a prophet.

D. Question of Wounds (v.6)

1. "What are these wounds in thine hands?"
  - a) Highly debatable
  - b) Received marks in honor of his idol, but will excuse self by saying he got it in his own family - Clark
  - c) Not on hands, but between hand thus on breast or on his back - P.C.
  - d) Self mutilation common - P.C.
  - e) Word could be lover instead of friend thus could be self-inflicted as he loved idols - Baron
  - f) Stabbed by external foes of idolatry plus internal stabbing of own conscience - Unger

g) Suspicious scars from  
self-inflicted  
idolatrous rites -  
speakers

2. He says in house of a  
friend

a) Does it refer to Christ?

Ps. 22:16

b) Many say no

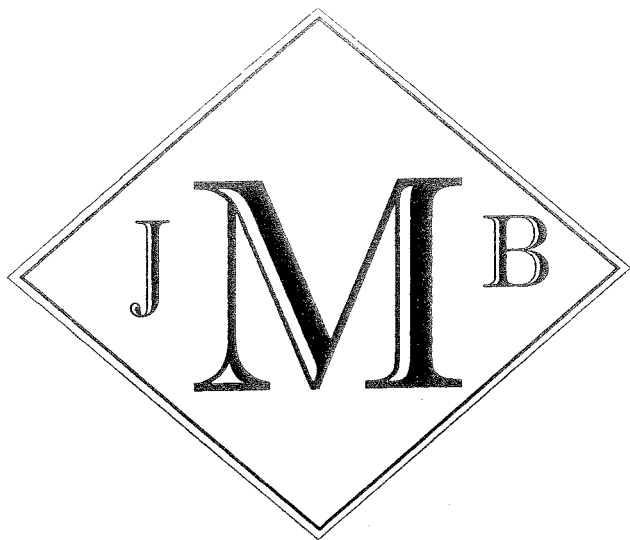
Mark 3:21

John 7:5

John 1:11

c) Is it a confession when  
he says his friends  
punish him for his  
false pretensions?

III. Whatever, it is still an  
inescapable truth - God dislikes  
error or competition.



Smite the Shepherd and the Sheep  
Shall Be Scattered

Zech. 13:7-9

- I. The principle is ever the same:  
Smite the shepherd and the sheep  
will be scattered.
  - A. It is the supreme representation of leadership--I care not where it happens, the end result is the same.
  - B. The principle illustration.
    1. It was true with God's prophets.
    2. It was true with Jesus - Peter "I go a-fishing"
    3. It's true with elders today let them be not attentive or let them fall and sheep have a hard time
    4. It's true in families - heads of houses are smitten by death, sin, apathy, and little sheep are scattered.
  - C. Leadership cannot be confronted with more sobering words: irrespective of the smitting.

II. Let's look at the Zechariah setting.

- A. Awake O sword against my shepherds and against the man that is my fellow.
1. Shepherd will take another's place
    - a) Man who alone was without sin, who was nearest to God yet in human form was dealt with as though he was a transgressor - as if he'd done things worthy of death.
    - b) Key word - shepherd - the substitution of person and of sufferings- one for many, the shepherd for the sheep.
  2. Man that is my fellow
    - a) Much debate over who this is
    - b) One united to another by the possession of common nature, rights, privileges - P.C.

John 10:30 "I and the Father are one

c) Lit "man of my union"

d) On equality with God

B. Smite shepherd - scatter sheep

Isa. 53:10-11 "Yet it pleased the Lord to

Matt. 26:31 "Then saith Jesus unto them

1. Jews scattered
2. Shepherd rejected- direct correlation

C. Turn hand on little ones

1. If Jesus persecuted, we will also be

John 15:20 "Remember the word that I said unto you

2. Hebrew word for little one used only here--those who make themselves small, humble
3. Lowly followers
4. Persecuted followers of Jesus

D. Extent of Suffering

1. Two parts die
  - a) 2/3 Jews died in Roman wars
  - b) Hubbard - Blood not a solvent but a payment of penalty-because of idolatry must give up life
  - c) Two parts lit the mouth i.e. portion of two
2. One part left
  - a) Some make a play on "in the lane" as the future



- b) They keep talking about Israel turning to God - will there be any other means than the gospel? Will anything else be preached?
- c) Perserves the sheep by slaying the perserver!

John 18:8-9 "Of ye seek me, let these

- d) The afflictions which are penal and destruction to the many are remedial and merciful to the few.
3. Through the fire and the result
- a) Purified as metals in fire
  - b) Not consumed by fire but refined.

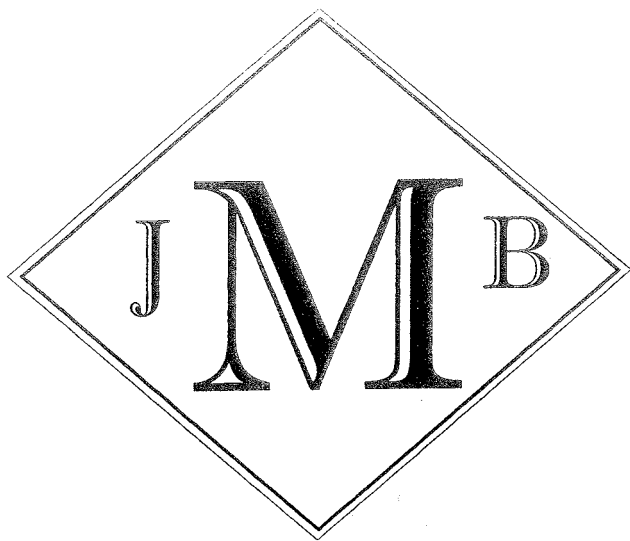
E. The end result

- 1. They shall call - I will hear.

Ps. 50:15 "Call upon me in the day

- 2. Human malice acting freely could do no more than that his hand and his counsel had forordained to come to come to pass (??) - Pusey

3. It is my people - The Lord  
is my God.



# THE LORD WILL FIGHT FOR YOU

Zech. 14:1-3

1. Of the time of this passage there is great debate - perhaps never settle it in your mind to the complete satisfaction. Many will feel cheated by the presentation of alternate views. But it's not hopelessly obscure - we can learn a most important principle or two!
  - A. We'll debate: is it literal Jerusalem; will Olivet be split in two; has the prophecy already been fulfilled; is he metaphorically talking of the current tribulation of the Kingdom of God?
  - B. The Behold.
    1. Unger, "It's wholly prophetic."
    2. DeWette, "The chapter defies all historical explanation."
    3. Leupold, "Our verses do not therefore apply to any one situation. They do not describe a siege, capture, & captivity which actually occurred. By means of a figure they describe a situation which obtains continually thru the N.T. times. God's people shall continually be antagonized & suffer bitter adversity at the hands of their foe & shall in consequence be brought low, but shall always be an imperishable remnant & that not so extremely small."
    4. Clark, "War in which Jerusalem destroyed - Roman army composed of all nations."
    5. Unger, "This concerns the future hope of Israel and not the Christian Church."

6. The whole thing must be taken to adumbrate the Kingdom of God in its trials, development, & triumph. *P.C.* *(Shedden)*

7. Shall we take our pick as to time, place, person?

C. Day.

1. Is it a distinctive day belonging especially to God & an event?

2. Is it just before 2nd coming of Christ?

3. Is it whole N. T. Kingdom era?

4. Jerome, "We live the truth of the time of fulfillment to the Judgement of our Lord."

II. So much for obscurity & question - now to some principles.

A. The Dividing of the Spoil.

1. It presents a hopeless siege when only later divine intervention will save the day.

2. Spoil is what others take as victory & fruit of war

3. Victory so completely they leisurely disperse it in the city itself.

4. This shows the great straits of God's house.

5. Soil divided w/o any fear of enemy interrupting the division.

6. "City" either Jer. or the church.

B. Why does God allow evil men victory?

1. They are able to penetrate the greatest enormity of their fellowman - they rob & robbers grow in no.!

2. They are a tool of God for punishment.

3. They will be punished for their deeds.

4. They acted freely & of their own will.

a.) What they did was bad.

b.) What they did they wanted to.

C. Horrors of War: Rob, Rifled, Raped.

D. Jerusalem or Metaphor?

1. Not so much that the enemy <sup>is</sup> stronger but rather that God orchestrated the event.

Acts 2:23 "Him, being delivered by the determinate c

2. Jews under suzerainty of a foreign power till AD 70 then scattered.

Nu. 23:9 "For from the top of the rocks I see him, and

3. Jerusalem today not all Jewish - Arabs call it El Kuds.

E. 1/2 to Captivity.

1. 1/2 captives of war.

2. Don't press - later 2/3 perish - merely a rhetorical expression.

F. The Lord Goes Forth to Fight.

1. Our dire extremity becomes God's opportunity.

2. Lord personally intervenes in the affairs of men.

3. "Go forth" - technical term of a King going forth at head to do battle.

4. It's the Lord's special interposition.

Josh. 10:14 "And there was no day like that before it

5. God declares His presence.

6. The Lord will fight for you - Moses watchword.

Exo. 14:14 "The Lord shall fight for you & ye shall hold your peace."  
*Moses at Red Sea*

Deut. 1:30 "The Lord your God which goeth before you, he shall fight for you."  
*Moses Farewell*

Deut. 20:4 Same *Moses*

Josh. 23:10 "I man of you shall chase 1000 for  
*farewell address* The Lord your Lord he it is that f. as  
 he hath promised.

Neh. 4:20 "Our God shall fite for us." *Schaeffer*

2 Chron. 20:15 "For the battle is not yours but God's."

7. Men try to transfer this glory to themselves.

8. "Pharaoh's Army got drowned - O Mary don't  
 weep. *(Mourner)*

9. At time of greatest need God provides His help.

10. He allows trials to benefit us.

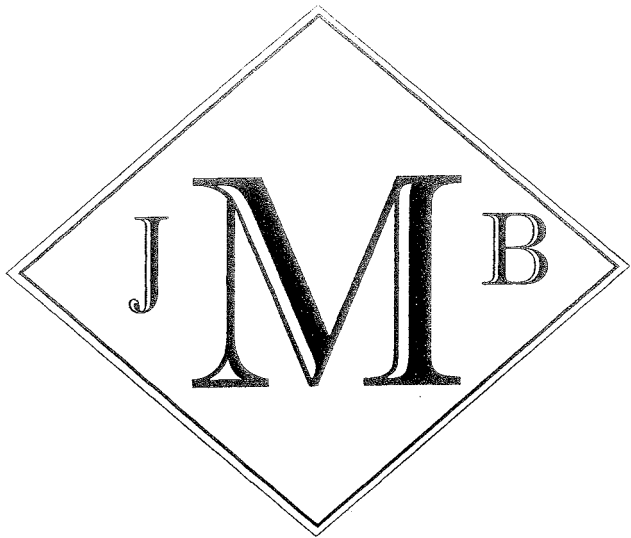
11. It's the general course of God taking care of His  
 people.

12. The Lord reigneth *1 Chron 16:31*

" sitteth upon the flood. *Ps 29:10*

13. Don't give up!

*Sheet End 12-27-81*





# WHEN THE MOUNTAIN SPLIT IN TWO

Zech. 14:4-5

- I. In this world I have enough heartache.
  - A. Age.
  - B. Disease.
  - C. Disappointment.
  - D. Obstacles.
- II. I love it when against all that opposes we find mts. moved, valleys created, & escape routes mapped out. It's on this note of optimism I want to speak to you.
- III. May I tell you of the day a Mountain is Cleaved In Two.
  - A. Israel - as all do - faced enormous trouble.
    1. They are besieged.
    2. They are overrun to the extent the spoil is divided in the very town.
    3. They are robbed, rifled, raped - 1/2 the city falls.
  - B. But the Lord goes forth to battle - and what a change that makes.
    1. His feet stand that day upon the Mt. of Olives.
    2. The Mt. is cut in two.
    3. There is a valley in place of a Mt. - 1/2 moved to North & 1/2 to South.
    4. Man is given thru the Mt. which is now a valley a way of escape!
  - C. Is this literal or figurative.
    1. Has it happened?
    2. Is it happening? OR
    3. Will it occur?

4. Irrespective of how you interpret it - it's triumph for God's folk.

#### IV. His Ft. Upon the Mt.

A. 1st I want you to see Olivet.

1. Only time Mt. Olivet is mentioned by name in O.T.
2. It is referred to 2 Sam. 15:30 "And David went up by the ascent of mo
3. Its geography.
  - a.) About 1 mile long.
  - b.) Limestone.
  - c.) Rises 187' above Zion.
  - d.) Rises 295' above Moriah.
  - e.) Dominates eastern skyline of Jerusalem.
  - f.) About 600' hi - keeps Jerusalem from seeing Judean wilderness & Jordan ghor.
  - g.) 443' above Gethsemane.
4. It was Mt. of Ascension.

Acts 1:11 "Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why

#### B. Ft. on the Mt.

1. Literal - will Jesus ever touch this earth again?
2. It's still there - unsevered - so must be later time is the reasoning of some.
3. Rather feel it's poetic imagery - showing God knows His people need help, He comes to rescue & assures the effectual means of escape.
  - a.) It shows Heaven is in full possession of the place
  - b.) It shows a drastic need is presented & God's there to meet it.
  - c.) His feet will remove obstacle to the natural

way of escape from the city.

d.) God truly comes to aid of His people.

4. He stands.

a.) Shows He firmly rests - He is in contact with the problem.

b.) Lord has not deserted us to sin & sorrow.

c.) Not idea that one time Jesus will come back to the one spot on earth from whence He departed 2000 yrs. ago.

d.) Not that Jerusalem, (mentioned 22X in 3 chapters, nations 13X is to be the capital of the world & Olivet moved so that one can see it from all directions.

C. Cleaving of the Mt.

1. Split latitudinally or breadth-wise - thru middle east & west by exceeding great valley.

2. Olivet dissolves into a huge valley.

3. God opens a way of escape - cleaves a Mt. - We often "move a mt."

Ezek. 11:23 "And the glory of the Lord went up from

D. And There Shall Be a Great Valley.

1. Where once was a Mt. now a great valley.

2. The barrier is now a way of escape.

3. Easily accomplished - at instance his ft. fall on it - nothing too hard for God.

4. Truly, He provides a way.

5. Flee to Azal.

a.) Spot unknown.

b.) Asylum from real danger.

6. Like the earthquake.

a.) Amos 1:1 possibly.

b.) We remember calamities & date events from them

V. What Does All This Say To Me?

A. Mt. - God observes men in their calamities & dangers. His eye is on the sparrow.

1. Job, "He knows the way I take."

2. Your opposition may be formidable like a Mt. - he can make it a valley.

3. You will overcome.

B. God is strong.

1. Ft. show his humility.

2. Split Mt. shows his divinity.

3. Nature does his bidding.

C. Salvation from the East - comes like the Sun.

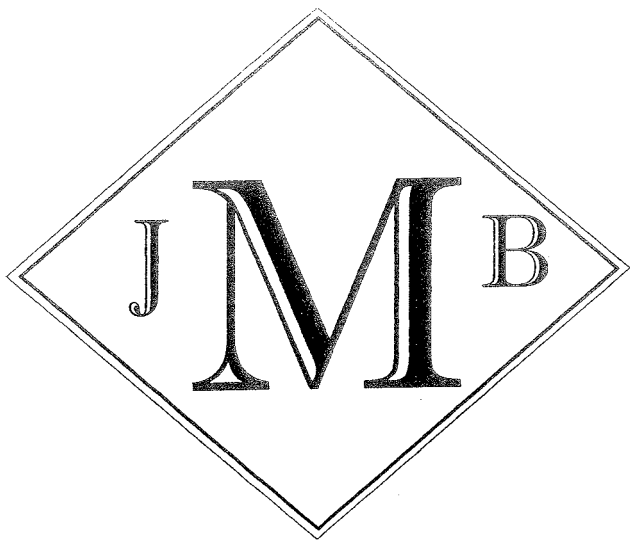
*W. W. Ord 1-3-82*

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*Training for Service Series, Huntville, Ala.*

*Memorial Parkway Church 3-16-82*

*Tulsa Area Teacher Training Series 4-7-82*



# AT EVENING TIME IT SHALL BE LIGHT

Zech. 14:6-7

- I. Do you ever wonder who will win?
  - A. Evolution vs. Creation.
  - B. Communism & Germany - a pacifist nation - doesn't want to lose 16 billion dollars in trade.
  - C. Crush in Poland.
  - D. Is church growing?
- II. As long as I live - and the longer I live the more - will be the troubles I see abounding - why not give up? Can't - because "at evening time there will be light."
  - A. At the very opposite of what it's supposed to be, I'll find relief at victory.
  - B. At evening time is supposed to be darkness - no, it will be light.
    1. Are you weary?
    2. Are you burdened?
    3. Are you depressed - hold on!
- II. Zech. Account.
  - A. And it shall come to pass in that day.

Isa. 13:9-10 "Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, and

    1. There is a judgement that faces all.
    2. We are sobered to think of our need to account.
  - B. Lite not Clear nor Dark.
    1. Mixture of justice & mercy in it all.
    2. Failure in clarity.
    3. Upheaval & confusion.
    4. Absence of light brings coldness & death.
    5. We all have times of distress & calamity. Dark & lite in all life.

6. Day brings escape to some & fear to others.
7. We see the instability of earthly things.
8. Do you see security or anxiety in the coming judgement?

### C. One Day Known to the Lord.

1. Our times are in His hands.
2. Time only He perfectly understands - teams peak too soon.
3. Lord knows the day of consummation of all things
4. Unique - one day of its Kind.

### D. At evening time it shall be Light.

1. Splendid one: luminaries.
  2. Peculiar to see darkness in the day & light at night - but God's in control!
  3. Unexpectedly comes - when shadows lengthen & it looks like the end - light goes forth.
  4. Clear = precious.  
Dark = Thickness.
  5. Light at evening brings a new order.
- ### III. Significance of this encouragement.

A. Passage opens c no light & closes c there shall be light - so is life.

Isa. 30:26 "Moreover the light of the moon shall be a

B. God is the Master of earthly forces - His strength impresses us.

C. It humbles us to see our inability & contrastingly His great power. Two periods:

- 1.) Unmitigated distress.
- 2.) Uninterrupted prosperity.

- 3.) At evening, ready to sink into darkness night,  
yet there will be light.
- D. Gospel goes forth in wide diffusion of light.
- E. Finally full light revealed in the face of Jesus.

*West End 1-10-82*

*Pine Tree Church, Longview, Texas 2-8-82*

*Training for Service Series, Huntsville, Ala.*

*Memorial Parkway Church 3-16-82*

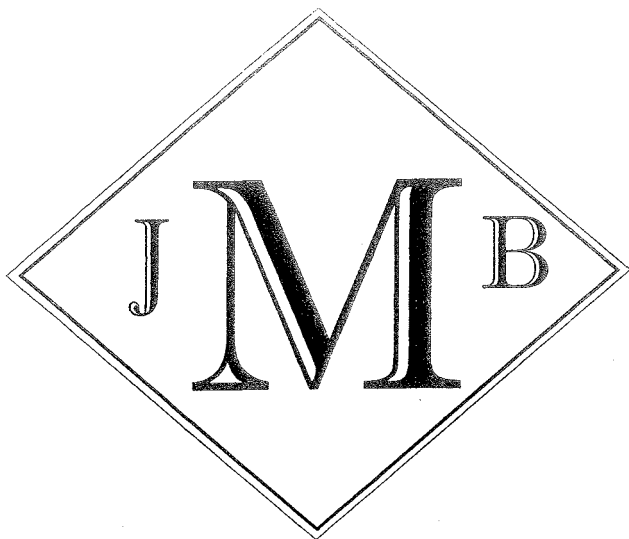
*Jules Area Teacher Training Series 4-7-82*



**ALONE**

X When we know that another depends on us we are spared the despair of living for ourselves alone.—Rabbi MERVIN B TOMSKY

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# GOD'S VIEW OF EVANGELISM

Zech. 14:8-11

I. Are you ever puzzled in your analysis of one:  
"What does he really want?"

- A. When God says "all the world", was He a little carried away?
- B. Could it be Jesus didn't mean "every creature."
- C. Is God pleased with no growth?

II. Perhaps if we examined even prophetic statements prior to Church's establishment, we could catch a glimpse of God's catholic view. Zech. is a case in point.

A. And it shall be in that day.

- 1. God has something in mind.
- 2. There is a big day of blessing also trouble & chastisement.

B. Living waters shall go out from Jerusalem.

- 1. Living waters.
  - a.) Water, the most precious element in nature.
  - b.) Living - fresh, pure, perennial - the figure of blessing God grants the church.
- (1) Bespeaks spiritual blessings.
- (2) Living vs. cisterns.

Jer. 2:13 "For my people have com. 2 evils

Jer. 17:13 "Forsaken the Lord, the ft. of living

- (3) It gushes forth, alive.
- 2. From Jerusalem.
  - a.) To water entire region, but starts at Jerusalem.
  - b.) Its point of origin.
  - c.) Salvation is of the Jews Jn. 4:22

d.) Of whom, as concerning the flesh, Christ came  
Rom. 9:5.

C. His blessings are universal & perennial & purposeful

1. Universal.

a.) Former sea - Dead.

b.) Hinder - Med. Sea.

c.) Orientals faced east in calculating directions,  
thus Dead Sea before him & Med. behind him.

d.) Was refreshed by gospel - intended for all regions

e.) Gospel diffused.

f.) Gospel extensive - for all earth.

2. It's perennial - in summer & in winter it shall be.

a.) Where God is not known, the waters of truth  
incessantly flow to it.

b.) Streams abundantly & perennially.

c.) Flows perpetually.

d.) Seasons have no effect on the flow.

e.) It's amply supply to meet the needs of all who  
will drink.

f.) It flows continuously.

g.) It's full & available.

3. The Lord King over all the earth - It's Purposeful.

a.) 3 factors: Catholic, perennial, purposeful.

b.) The Lord is King of our lives.

c.) He is rightfully acknowledged as Lord.

1 Tim. 6:15 King of K. & Lord of Lords

D. He desires one great religion - 1 Lord - 1 Name.

1. Lord be unique - one of a Kind.

2. Solitary.

3. Only one incomparable.

4. Not new - ever been this & wants all to know it.

5. Monotheism world-wide.

6. Jesus name the only one known.

Acts 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for

7. He's Exclusive.

E. He expects glory - V. 10.

1. Geba & Rimmon, plus other geographical spots.

a.) Geba - 6 miles NE Jerusalem.

2 Kings 23:8 "And he brought all the **priests** out of th

b.) Rimmon - 33 miles SW of Jer. - means Pomegra

c.) Cities mark N & S extremity of Judah.

d.) Can't identify tower, etc.

2. Plain.

a.) Is God cosmetically to remake Palestine as  
Baron says?

b.) Is this Mt. range to sink into a plane & Jerusal  
literally lifted higher?

c.) Jerusalem elevated & whole region round about  
flattened into a plain.

d.) Mammoth earthquake to swallow hills & make  
a plain?

3. Lifted up.

a.) Jerusalem readily seen.

b.) It (gospel) stays same - all else changes to  
exalt the truth.

c.) Influence ever enlarged.

d.) Like city set on hill is the church.

Isa. 2:2 Mt. of the Lord's house, established  
exalted above hill - All Nations.

## Micah 4:1 "Ibid"

- e.) Splendor of Jerusalem to be seen afar.
- f.) Church grows - no grounds to expect  
topographical changes.
- g.) Jerusalem elevated.

## 4. Dwell.

- a.) In peace.
- b.) Go forth not in captivity or flight.

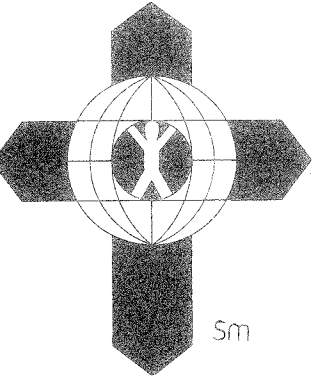
## 5. No more destruction.

- a.) Sin won't flourish.
- b.) Sin punished.
- c.) All obstruction removed.
- d.) Jerusalem raised above factions.  
Jerusalem raised above corruption.  
Jerusalem raised above assault.

## 6. Safely inhabited.

- a.) Perfectly secure.
- b.) Secure.

*Sheet End 1-17-82*



# Center for Medical Mission Training

Division of Health Talents, Inc.  
5199 Caldwell Mill Rd.  
Birmingham, Alabama 35244

December 22, 1981

Dear Friend,

Mission efforts in developing countries carry risks that are sometimes difficult for Americans to comprehend. The following report is submitted to you regarding the withdrawal of the American staff from the Center for Medical Mission Training in Las Cruces, Guatemala.

Prior to September 1 the sleepy little town of Las Cruces seemed far removed from the violence present in other parts of Guatemala. On that date, however, guerrilla forces attacked and bombed the military base there. Several military personnel were killed and the entire community was shaken. The staff at the CMMT was distressed and met to discuss the situation. The event appeared isolated, so the decision was made to hold on course, develop contingency plans in case of an emergency, and wait.

For a while, all was quiet. Then, during October, there were several reported killings in Palestina and Los Chorros, both of which have new growing churches and are served by mobile clinics.

Around 1:00 on November 11 a regularly scheduled bus carrying the Shermans, Crisps, Mary Beth McCown, and her boys was traveling from Santa Elena to Las Cruces and was stopped by masked men carrying machine guns. All passengers were ordered to keep their heads down while the gunmen searched the bus. They abducted a middle-aged woman, forcing her to leave her small child. No one else was harmed or robbed. During the next two days there were more shootings, and a lady living near the Clarks' home was abducted in the night. On Friday, November 13, it was learned that Don Rosario, a community leader in Josefinos and one of our church members, was abducted along with another man. The other man was later found dead, but at this time the fate of Don Rosario is unknown.

On November 14 the staff met to discuss the critical situation in Las Cruces. Due to the above incidents, the fact that virtually all the other church of Christ missionaries were leaving Guatemala, the change in guerrilla tactics to terrorism, and the fact that the community leaders felt we were in real danger, the decision was made to leave. Within three hours, the entire team pulled out.

It is important to remember, however, that we did not intend to remain in Guatemala permanently. Our original goal was to set up a clinic, evangelize in the area, and train local Guatemalans to take over the evangelism and clinic work eventually. We just didn't expect to have to turn it over so soon!

Despite this, the evangelists feel that two of the three congregations established in the past 18 months of operation (with 25 baptized believers) can survive. Don Rosaro, who was mentioned earlier, was one of the leaders in the third congregation so their future is more uncertain.

When Dr. Clark and other went back to the clinic on Monday, after the Saturday pullout, to inform the clinic workers of their decision to leave, the Guatemalan staff asked if they could try to run the clinic themselves. Both Dr. Clark and Ellie Evans felt that even with their limited training they would be able to provide a higher level of service than available anywhere else in the area so they agreed.

In summary, the clinic was turned over to the Guatemalan staff and clinic operations will be reviewed on approximately 60 day intervals by someone from Guatemala City or by Dr. Clark if the situation seems safe enough to go back in. We will continue to underwrite the cost of the clinic operation and hope to begin operating normally again after the president election in Guatemala in the spring of 1982--if all settles down by then.

In the meantime, we are looking for an alternate site in case it is impossible to go back to Guatemala. If you know of a work that would benefit from our type of medical evangelism, please let us know.

Our challenge now is greater than ever--to be encouraged and to press forward toward the goal to which God is still calling us. We need your continued support in the development of the training program and as we consider alternate sites for the Center. Our sincere hope is that we will be able to return to our work in Las Cruces, but we stand ready to go wherever the Lord may lead us. Our prayer is that you will stand with us in this challenge to our faith.

Please join us in a prayer of thanks for the safe withdrawal of the CMMT staff, for the safety of the new Christians in Las Cruces and the surrounding communities during this time of turmoil in their homeland, and for the selection of a new site should one prove necessary.

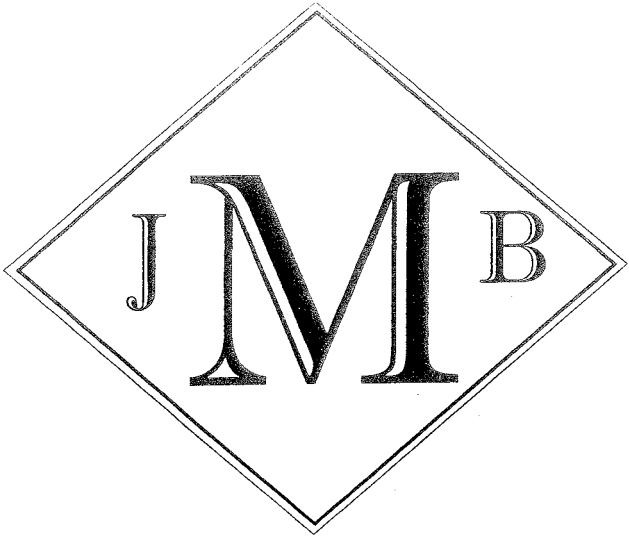
We offer you our deep gratitude and sincere appreciation for the support you have provided throughout the development of this work.

In His Service



Charles E. Bates





## When God Settles a Score

Zech. 14:12-15

- I. Nothing worse than rebellion against God impentitently continued.
  - A. Do we see Him jealous?
  - B. Do we feel His hot breath of judgment?
  - C. This passage shows it's there.
  
- II. After God rescues His own He has something in store for His enemies. (Read Zech. 14:12-15)
  - A. God has many weapons.
    1. Plagues--physical disease.
    2. Mutual animosity--brought on by great terror and resultant destruction.
      - a) Sin punishes sin.
      - b) Rebellion has mutiny.
    3. Temporal losses
  - B. Fearful to be arrayed against God.
  - C. Specifically see these things.
  
- III. Plagues--physical diseases.
  - A. God sends them.
    1. It's God's doing.
    2. He restores His own and destroys His enemies.

## B. Plagues

1. Contagious afflictions.
2. Horrible disease.
3. With all the body they opposed God, now all parts punished.
4. Fatal blow
5. Unparallel in extent
6. Strikes masses and individuals.

## C. Flesh consumed while they stand on feet.

1. Reaches every individual.
2. Flesh decays while they live.
3. Like shocking leprosy that spreads rapidly.
4. Erect skeleton with putrifying flesh piled at its feet.
5. Living corpses.

Rev. 3:1

## D. Eyes consume away in holes.

1. They wanted to see Zion fall.

Micah 4:11

## E. Tongues rot in mouth.

1. It had blasphemed.
2. It had sought out God's folks to annihilate.

3. Living skeletons, socket eyes and withered tongues.

#### IV. Tumult

- A. Lord among them to stir it up.
- B. Hands on neighbors
  1. Seige each other
  2. General panic
  3. Confused
  4. Wild panic
  5. Lay, hold on each other and strike simultaneously.
  6. Fight to death in close quarters.
  7. Everyone is everyone's foes
  8. Seek to master another powerfully.

#### V. Unite God's folk and take spoil

- A. Judah and Jerusalem together in unity.
- B. Enriched by what it overthrows.

2 Kings 7:2-8

Joshua 6:17-21

7:24-25

1. Repaid all taken away.

Psalm 9:19

Ecc. 8:11

- C. Plagues on cattle as well as men.

1. Sin hurts.

Romans 8:22

2. We touch our families

D. Judgment came:

1. Within

2. Among

3. Upon

4. Around

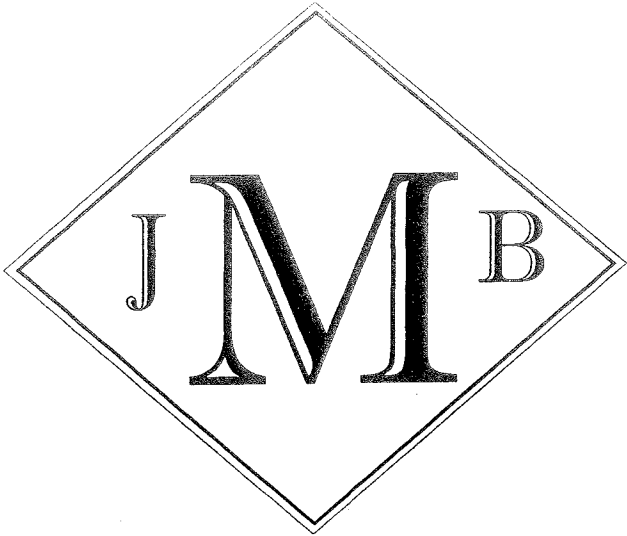
E. God does punish evil.

These words remind us of Byron's description of the destruction of Sennacherib's host.

"And there lay the steed with his nostril all wide,  
But through it there rolled not the breath of his pride;  
And the foam of his gasping lay white on the turf,  
And cold as the spray of the rock-beating surf."

"The Pulpit Commentary" - Edited by H.D.M. Spence and  
Joseph S. Exell  
Volume 14

Page 171 (The Book of Zechariah)



# The Importance of Worship

Zech. 14:16-19

- I. Aren't we all asked to evaluate matters?
    - A. "It's not important."
    - B. "Skip that question."
    - C. "It's central and imperative to the whole operation."
  
  - II. They asked Jesus about the greatest commandment.
    - A. He told them.
    - B. "I thought it was Sabbath" -- Sabbath was made for man.
  
  - III. Is worship important--does it matter whether I engage in it and does the manner of my doing it matter?
- Zech. 14:16-19 READ
- IV. Examine the text.
    - A. The Righteous Remnant
      - 1. Jerusalem has been assaulted.
      - 2. The enemy has fallen
      - 3. Evidently of the enemy there has been a conversion and they now worship God.



- a) Pusey - "Where once they sought to exterminate the worshipper, now they join with him in worship.
  - b) Usually you will convert some.
  - c) Honest folks are willing to change for the better.
- B. God authorizes and expects regularly prescribed worship.
- 1. Worship
    - a) To kiss the hand toward
    - b) Recognition of superior power
    - c) Edifying and refining.
    - d) It is to be properly done
    - e) Unifying--worship one God
    - f) Mutually necessary--duty of all.
  - 2. Regularly--year to year
    - a) Consistent
    - b) After prescribed time.
- C. Keep the Feast of Tabernacles
- 1. Evidently a symbol. So we study first what they did in order to apply it to ourselves.

2. Three commanded Feasts:  
Passover, Pentecost,  
Tabernacles
  - a) Passover commemorates deliverance
  - b) Pentecost commemorates Sinai and law
  - c) Tabernacles commemorates wilderness wandering and protection
3. Tabernacle the happiest as at harvest season.
4. Described in Lev. 23, Exodus 23:16, 34:22, and Deut. 16:13
5. Feast of ingathering.
6. Two prong affair
7. Had the joy of the house of water
8. Each morning of feast a joyous procession, accompanied by music, headed by a priest bearing a golden pitcher that held over 2 pints
9. Went from temple to pool Siloam to bring back water
10. At same time with their arrival later to mesh another procession started in Kedren Valley with willow branches.

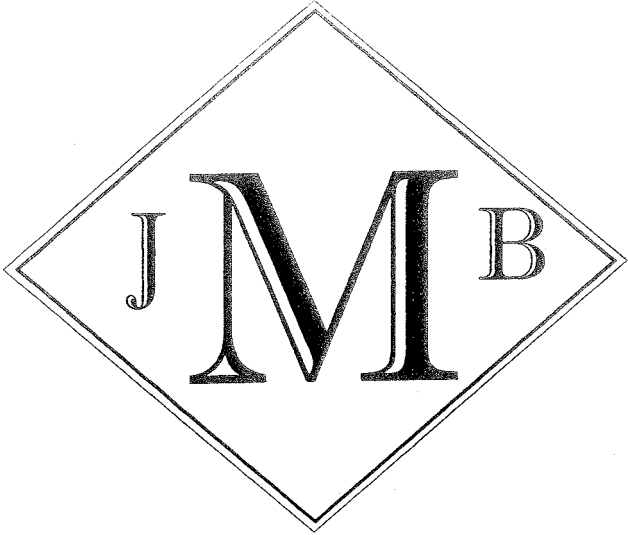
11. Taken to altar and bound it making a leafy canopy.
12. At same time priest came with water to put sacrifice on altar.
13. Met with three fold blast of priests' trumpets.
14. Amid shouts of joy poured water and wine on altar tubes.
15. Seventh day reached its climax.
16. Sea of folk assembled with palm branches tall as a man
17. Silent then choir sang prescribed praise (Psalm 113-118).
18. People would respond after each line with Hallelujah.
19. Priest led crowd in march around altar seven times Psalm 118:25-29.
20. They were looking for Messiah in this great occasion of happiness.
21. Also at end of first day gathered in court of women
22. Four high golden lamps each with 4 golden bowls and against each rested 4 ladders.

23. Four youths from or of priests descent ascended ladders and poured oil into bowls filling them.
  24. Worn breeches of priest served as wicks.
  25. Lit up all Jerusalem.
  26. Great dance with torches in hand by leaders.
  27. Symbol of God giving light and protection.
  28. Tabernacle three fold: memorial to past, present thanksgiving, foreshadow of future good.
  29. We dwell in tabernacles trying to pass permanent realm of God.
- D. Fate of non-worshippers-no rain.
1. Those who do not bless God will not be blessed by Him.
  2. Neglect of worship exposes to calamities.
  3. Rain with heed.
    - a) You withhold worship; God withholds rain
    - b) Fields are deserts without rain.
    - c) God deals harshly with all who ignore Him.

- d) Must be with the Lord
- e) No one else can  
worship for you.

Luke 11:23

- 4. Egypt has Nile-needs no rain. But a nation that considers itself above this will also be punished.
- 5. Egypt typified as enemy of God.
- 6. Go up to Jerusalem a stern, inescapable duty, but also a glorious privilege.



# BELLED BRIDLES AND PICTURESQUE POTS

Zech. 14:20-21

- I. God moves toward betterment & this paragraph shows it.
  - A. God has a day - it's His timetable.
  - B. God has plans as Larry Heath's sign, "God's not thru c me yet."

1. We all desire a well ordered city.
2. We toy c Utopia.
3. Will holiness get it - materialism surely won't.
4. We'll see 3 spheres:
  - a.) Work - Horses. - *Harness*
  - b.) Worship - Pots & Bowls. - *Holy Place*
  - c.) Home - Vessels. - *Home*

## II. Belled Bridles.

- A. On horses special insignia.
  1. Bells were little small metallic plates, hung on bridle, hit like cymbals.
  2. Usually had owner's name on them.
  3. Bells show commerce to be consecrated to the Lord.
    - a.) Honest in our dealings.
    - b.) Fair in our treatments.
- B. Horses.
  1. Word order shows on the most common of horses is holiness found.
  2. Horse's harness to say same as Aaron's garments. On plate of pure gold on turban. Exo. 28:36-38
    - a.) Lamina on forehead.
    - b.) Under Moses only on frontlet of High Priest - now everywhere is Holiness.

c.) Entire nation thus involved.

3. We are not bringing God down but are bringing man up.

1 Cor. 10:31 "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or

C. Holiness.

1. W/o & W/i holiness is the product of God's preaching.

2. Even animals & instruments are to have this motif, logo.

3. Engrave holiness in most minute detail.

4. It's to be placed on the highest & holiest of all places.

5. Holiness the order in common life, domestic life, religious life.

6. To be the salient feature in all life.

7. Put holiness on all we possess - to the highest degree.

8. It is demanded.

2 Cor. 3:18 "But we all, with open face beholding as

1 Jn. 3:3 "And every man that hath this hope in him

9. Let the manufacturer put his conscience in his product.

10. All that men use commercially & for profit is consecrated to the Lord.

III. Picturesque Pots.

A. Pots become Bowls.

1. Meanest vessel in house shall be like bowls before altar.

2. This is the area of worship - even the pot is touched.



3. In our study we are going from the hiway of commerce to the worship of the Temple.
4. Holy vessel from word "to toss, throw," as tossing a liquid having caught the blood of the victim - no vessel more sacred than this.

#### B. The Transition.

1. Formerly bowls got special care, pots none.
2. More from the common & unclean to nothing common & unclean.
3. Worship not an idle show or sensorous delight. Do we bow our heads & not our hearts?
4. Every vessel to be as sacred as the one that catches the victim's blood & sprinkles it on the altar.

#### IV. Hiway - Temple - Home.

##### A. The Home enters the picture.

1. Each home had cooking pots.
2. Care we have of common pots shows character.
3. Home the basic of it all - Orville Dunlap, elder, said our major emphasis is to strengthen homes!
4. Our private & domestic life to be holy & hallowed.

##### B. Significance of this.

1. Nothing is sacred, *everything is!*  
Isa. 11:4-5 "But with righteousness shall he judge the
2. Everything is advanced in holiness.  
Rev. 21:27 "And there shall in no wise enter into it  
22:15 "For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and
3. Pot distinction abolished - thus complete freedom - it's all God's money.

4. In all comforts & conveniences of life God is to be acknowledged.
5. Every service will be a religious service - all to the glory of God.

Ezek. 42:12 "And according to the doors of the cham

6. Make the holy holier still.

#### V. No more Canaanites.

##### A. Canaanite.

1. Most ancient name of land.
2. Means trader or merchant.

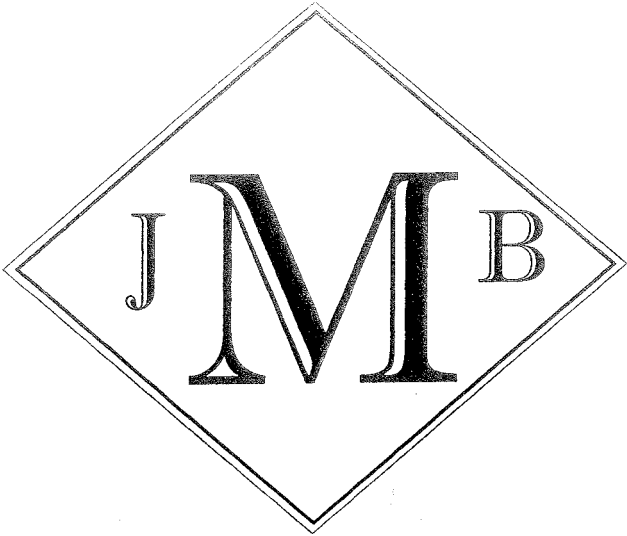
##### B. No more!

1. The irreclaimably profane forever shut out.
2. Get rid of all who dishonor the holy profession.
3. We allow no sin to willingly abide in our hearts.
4. Nothing alien to God allowed.

##### C. It's a house to be proud of.

1. Be not ashamed of your religion - let it shine before God.
2. Is Canaanite in our temple or is Holy Spirit?
3. What type of end is prepared for us?

*Best End. 2-14-82*



# For a Better Tomorrow

Zech.14:20-21

I. The world's ever looked for its Utopia.

- A. Rugby in Tennessee
- B. Shakertown in Kentucky
- C. Utopia and Shangrila

II. All failed - flesh and materialism cry against it

- A. Yet I know how to have that well ordered city
- B. I know how because God's told us.

Zech. 14:20-21 "In that day shall ..

III. God's Utopia Embraces:

A. Holiness in the Harness

1. Bells

- a) Little metallic plates
- b) Hung on bridles
- c) Hit together like cymbals

d) Usually had owner's name on it

2. Now write Holiness

3. Horses

All that men use commercially and for profit is consecrated to the Lord.

## 4. Significance

- a) Commerce consecrated to the Lord-honest in all our dealings
- b) Word order shows on the most common of horses holiness is found
- c) The entire nation embraces holiness - not like the restraint where conscience was your guide in fixing price-went back to printed menu
- d) Horse wore same thing Aaron did in wording

## 5. Holiness

- a) Holiness on plate of pure gold on Aaron's turban

Exo. 28:36

Exo. 28:38

- b) Lamina on forehead
- c) Placed on highest and holiest of all positions

## 6. Application

- a) Engrave holiness on most minute and common of details
- b) We do not bring God down, but we lift up men

I Cor. 10:31

- c) Let manufacture put his conscience in his product. Recent research says we buy less but buy more quality.
  - d) Under Moses only on the frontlet of the High Priest - now everywhere is holiness
- B. Holiness in the Holy Place
1. Pots in the house of the Lord be like bowls before the altar
  2. This has to do with worship
  3. Pots vs. Bowls
    - a) We move from the highway to the temple
    - b) Bowls got special care because of special work
      - 1) Holy vessel from word "to toss, throw, as tossing a liquid having caught the blood of the sacrificial victim
      - 2) Most important part of sacrifice- the blood

- c) Pots of ordinary use in temple got little care. They had an inferior role.

#### 4. Significance

- a) Worship not idle show or sensorous delight
- b) Do we bow our heads and not our hearts? Only give lip service?
- d) Every vessel as sacred as one that catches blood and all kept meticulously

### C. Holiness in the Home

#### 1. The Jerusalem Pot

- a) Move from Holy Place to home
- b) Home the basis for it all
- c) Care of the common reflects our character-- does the back of our heels shine too?
- d) Law of the house

Ezek. 43:12

#### 2. Significance

- a) Private and domestic life hallowed
- b) Nothing secular

Isa. 11:4-5

- c) Everything is in an advanced stage of holiness

Rev. 21:27

Rev. 22:15

- d) Pot distinction abolished and complete freedom comes
  - e) Make the holy, holier still
3. Questions:
- a) Is holiness stamped on all we possess?
    - 1) Domestic
    - 2) Religious
    - 3) Common and commerce
  - b) Is holiness our trademark?
  - c) Is this the product for which we are best known?

#### IV. God Rejects the Rejector

- A. No more Canaanite
  - 1. Means trader
  - 2. Or Merchant
- B. Stood for that which was alien to God
- C. The irreclaimably profane forever shut out



- D. Are we of those for whom this end comes?
- E. Is the Canaanite in our temple or is the Holy Spirit?

The rapid progress that true science now makes occasions my regretting that I was born too soon. It is impossible to imagine the height to which may be carried, in a thousand years, the power of man over matter. We may perhaps learn to deprive large masses of their gravity, and give them absolute levity, for the sake of easy transportation. Agriculture may diminish its labor and double its produce; all diseases may by sure means be prevented or cured, not excepting that of old age, and our lives lengthened at pleasure even beyond the antediluvian standard. Oh, that moral science were in as fair a way of improvement, that men should cease to be wolves to one another, and that human beings would at length learn what they now improperly call humanity.

— BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

# 82-year-old grandmother fined for pot sale

Associated Press

SEVIERVILLE — Minnie Hall, 82, told a judge she was sorry she sold marijuana, and said her 98-year-old mother warned her she could get in trouble for it.

After Mrs. Hall made her guilty plea Monday, Circuit Judge Ken Porter fined her \$250 and suspended an 11-month and 29-day jail sentence.

Mrs. Hall told Porter her mother had been mad at her since Sevier County sheriff's deputies arrested her at home Oct. 5. The arrest came after a county grand jury indicted Mrs. Hall, her grandson Randy Turpin, 20, and five other people on drug charges.

The judge told Mrs. Hall to go home, tell her mother she wouldn't have to go to jail, and say

she was sorry for what she did. Mrs. Hall said she would do just that.

Turpin, who pleaded guilty to one count of selling LSD and two counts of selling marijuana, was sentenced to 1-3 years in prison on each count, with the terms running consecutively. The judge denied a request for probation.

## TV — Businessmen

An organization called the Media Institute has just finished a survey which shows that businessmen are crooks, conmen and clowns — according to television.

Two out of three businessmen on television — from situation comedy to 60 Minutes — are portrayed as foolish, greedy, or evil. In the content of the most popular TV entertainment programs, it was discovered that:

Over half of all company chief executives on television commit illegal acts, ranging from fraud to murder;

Forty-five percent of all business activities on television are portrayed as illegal;

Only three percent of television businessmen are shown as engaging in socially or economically productive behavior.

Hard work is usually ridiculed on television as “workaholism” which inevitably leads to strained personal relations, separation, divorce, and worse.  
— ROBT J BUCKLEY, chr/pres,  
Allegheny International.

It takes little study or reflection to see that our world is in trouble. There is little evidence of a reverence for life itself, and the idea of holiness is almost passe. Never has war been more denounced yet fought more destructively, with such disregard for life, and with the prospect of a war yet so terrible that in a matter of minutes it could destroy the whole world. We have so despised the material world that we have gone far in poisoning, polluting, and depleting it. We now are beginning at least to acknowledge what we have done. Racism has been denounced in theory, yet it continues in practice, an impossibility where human life as such is revered. Marriage has always been threatened by betrayal and divorce, but now there seems to be less willingness even to try to save it. We act as though it were a lost cause. Our animality in its sensual, and especially sexual, expression has been exploited by commercial advertising, the cinema from R to triple X,

by books and magazines. Words which once were considered so vulgar that they appeared only on the walls of public rest rooms are now flaunted as the indispensable language for the cinema, stage, and much of the printed word.

"The Holy Spirit Today" - By Frank Stagg - Page 88

