

ZECHARIAH

The Apocalypse of the Old Testament

Chapter 2, Part 2

Zechariah 2

*The
Shekinah
Glory*

*City of
Jerusalem*

*The Four
Winds*

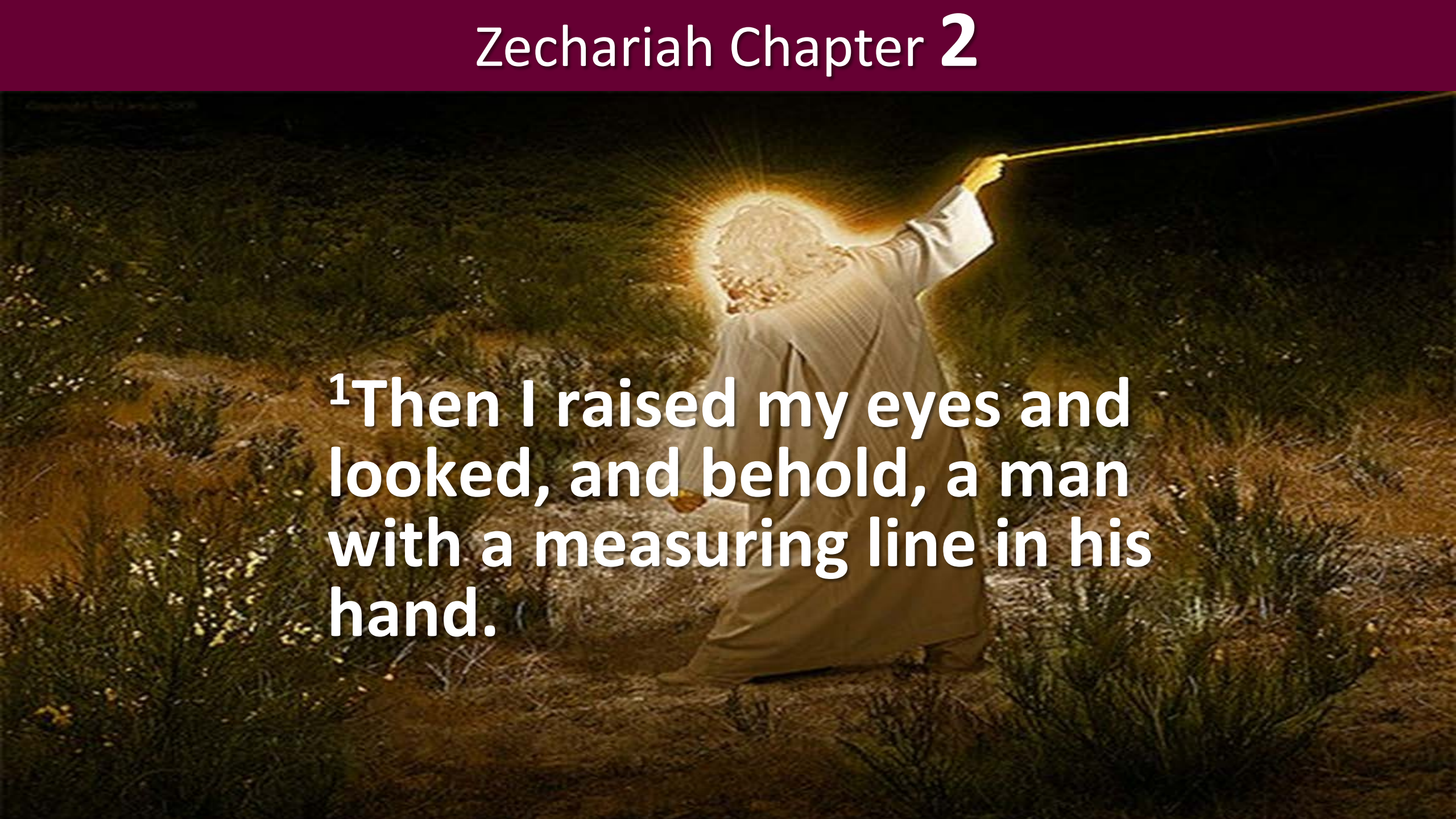
*The Apple
of God's
Eye*



*The Man
with a
Measuring
Line*

*Zechariah
and an
Angel*

Zechariah Chapter 2

A man in a white robe is shown from behind, holding a long, thin measuring line that stretches across the dark, rocky landscape. The man's head is glowing with a bright, golden light, and his robe is also illuminated. The background is a dark, rugged terrain with some sparse vegetation.

¹Then I raised my eyes and looked, and behold, a man with a measuring line in his hand.

Zechariah Chapter 2

² So I said, “Where are you going?” And he said to me, “To measure Jerusalem, to see what is its width and what is its length.” ³ And there was the angel who talked with me, going out; and another angel was coming out to meet him, ⁴ who said to him, “Run, speak to this young man, saying: ‘Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls, because of the multitude of men and livestock in it.’”

Zechariah Chapter 2

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⁵ For I,' says the Lord, 'will be a wall of fire all around her, and I will be the glory in her midst.'"

Zechariah Chapter 2

From last time...

- The “man with the measuring line” parallels the same kind of vision in Ezekiel 40.
- Most likely the “Angel of the Lord”
- Measuring of Jerusalem for great expansion and growth (Ezekiel 40 for a new [millennial?] temple)
- No fear of unwallled city, God will protect.
- “Ring of Fire” a promise of security



Zechariah Chapter 2

- Pillar of fire in the wilderness
- Presence in the fiery furnace
- Elijah's chariots, transport to heaven
- Blazing countenance of the Risen Messiah (*Revelation 1*)
- But this fire may also indicate **coming sanctification and refinement**, as we read in Zechariah 13. Two thirds of God's people will die in the ***"time of Jacob's Trouble"*** (tribulation)



Zechariah Chapter 2

*“And it shall come to pass in all the land,”
Says the LORD, “That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die,
But one-third shall be left in it:*

***I will bring the one-third through the fire,
Will refine them as silver is refined,***

And test them as gold is tested.

They will call on My name,

And I will answer them.

I will say, ‘This is My people’;

And each one will say, ‘The LORD is my God.’”

(Zechariah 13:8-9)

Zechariah Chapter 2

- ***“I will be the glory in her midst.”*** This should remind us that God’s glory, His Shekinah, departed from the Temple before it was destroyed. *(During conquest of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon).*
- Ezekiel had a clear vision of the departure of God’s glory from the Temple (Ezekiel 9:30, **It did not return until** His glory walked the earth in the flesh of the Messiah.

Zechariah Chapter 2

- Ezekiel was given vision of the day of the Shekinah's glory returning, and he described it like this:
"Afterward he brought me to the gate, the gate that faces toward the east. ² And behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east. His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His glory. ...⁴ And the glory of the LORD came into the temple by way of the gate which faces toward the east. ⁵ The Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the temple." (Ezekiel 43:1-5)
- In that day the name of the city will be **"YHVH Shammah"** (*"The Lord is there"*) (Ezekiel 48:35).

Zechariah Chapter 2

COMMENTARY: *This certainly is not true in our day. Their [Israel's] help comes from other nations. But God says that in the future He will be a wall of fire around them. This means that God will be their protection. And, my friend, when God protects them, that will be miraculous. Not only will He be their protection, but He Himself will be in their midst. In other words, the shekinah glory will then be back in the temple—it did not return to the little temple which the remnant built in the days of Zechariah. But to the harassed little remnant God is promising His protection, ... Daniel, Ezekiel, Zechariah, and Revelation are the four apocalyptic books in the Bible. They all look to the future when the Kingdom is to be established here upon earth. (McGee)*

Zechariah Chapter 2

- In the day that Elohim speaks of in these visions, **He alone will protect Israel.**
- The remainder of Chapter 2 is in poetry in two stanzas, vv. 6-9 and 10-13. Each begins with a command followed by “for...”
- Zechariah now speaks (*as God directs him*), first, to the exiles in Babylon; and then, the people of Zion whose return will act as a symbol of God’s work in the final Day of the Lord.

Zechariah Chapter 2

⁶ “Up, up! Flee from the land of the north,” says the LORD; “for I have spread you abroad like the four winds of heaven,” says the LORD. ⁷Up, Zion! Escape, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon.”

Zechariah Chapter 2

- This verse begins “oy, oy!” in Hebrew. “Hoi” means, woe, alas, etc. In other words, there’s trouble! (*This word does not mean “up!”*)
- The land of the north is Babylon. This is a command from Elohim to get out of Babylon, directed to those still there.
- Can be taken in a literal sense, as well as in a spiritual sense. **Babylon represents the world in rebellion to God.** Those who remained in Babylon (and most did) are being told to get out. They don’t belong there any longer.

Zechariah Chapter 2

- But it can also be taken symbolically, for those who have left physical Babylon, but are still there spiritually, *in rebellion (still not following God)*.
- This same command was given in Jeremiah 50:8, ***“Move from the midst of Babylon,”*** and 51:6, ***“Flee from the midst of Babylon.”*** We also find this in Revelation 18:4 right before the destruction of Babylon: ***“...come out of her my people!” (18:4)***
- “Get out of Babylon” is a consistent theme in scripture; it is a ***call to all believers at any time.***

Zechariah Chapter 2

- **Get out of the world!** We don't belong there, and neither did Israel at this time. And it will have further meaning at the end of time.
- Traditionally, and in scripture, the **nations to the “north” have been enemies to Israel** and have caused the greatest harm to her.
- When this was written, a **current “regathering”** of the people from captivity (*and wherever else they had been scattered*) was underway. It was a remnant only, but still a regathering.

Zechariah Chapter 2

- Israel was again scattered, even to a greater extent, in 70 AD after Titus and the Roman Army sieged Jerusalem, destroyed the Temple, and took most of the survivors into slavery, scattering them throughout the Roman empire. (*“The Diaspora”*)
- Yet another regathering of the people of Israel is **now in our time underway**. But as they say, “*we ain’t seen nothin’ yet!*” There will be an even greater regathering of Jews to the land of Israel in the end times.

Zechariah Chapter 2

- And when God calls His people back to their homeland, they cannot and will not resist Him, at least those who are truly following Him. It doesn't matter where He was scattered them.
- Returning to the homeland is called “**Aliyah**” in Hebrew. There have been a number of these “ascents” (*literal meaning*) in modern days. In fact, they have been numbered!
- Since Zionism became popular in the late 1800s, to the time immediately following statehood in 1948, there have been five “numbered Aliyahs.”

Zechariah Chapter 2

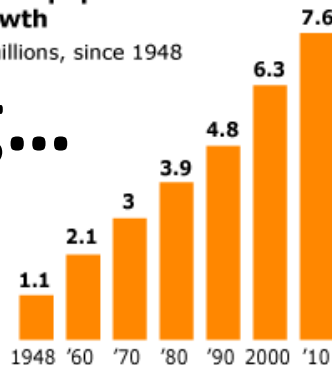
Aliyah Aleph: LEGAL immigration

Aliyah Bet: ILLEGAL immigration (especially during British Mandate before WWII and later)

Since then, so many “Aliyahs” they stopped numbering!
And more are coming...

First Aliyah: 1884 – 1904
Second Aliyah: 1904 – 1914
Third Aliyah: 1919 – 1923
Fourth Aliyah: 1924 – 1928
Fifth Aliyah: 1929 – 1939

Israeli population growth
In millions, since 1948



Zechariah Chapter 2

- The command to get out of the “land of the north” is always true for believers and followers. Perhaps more so at the end of time. It’s time for all of us to recognize **we have only one home** – in the Messiah.

HIDDEN IN

Zechariah Chapter 2

- Note the reference to the “**four winds of heaven.**” Recall how many times **4** is used in this book.
- In this regathering, the Kingdom of Judah was sent to the land of the north only. And it’s time to get out at that point (*any point!*)
- Remember this is the God who inhabits eternity speaking about things that have not yet happened on man’s timeline. **But they have on His!** He will indeed “spread Israel abroad” like the four winds of heaven. They will be all over the earth, and He will call them home from all 4 corners in the end.

Zechariah Chapter 2

- Elohim is pleading for His people to leave **both physical and spiritual Babylon**.
- This is an imperative. Many believe it references a specific end time event, such as the destruction of the actual city of Babylon. This is the warning to flee Babylon before they are destroyed with her, the Harlot of Revelation 17 and 18.
- ***“Daughter of Bablyon”*** was the ancient Semitic way of referencing the peoples of the region of Babylon and Mesopotamia. It could also reference any of the many pagan religions that were offshoots of Babylon.

Zechariah Chapter 2

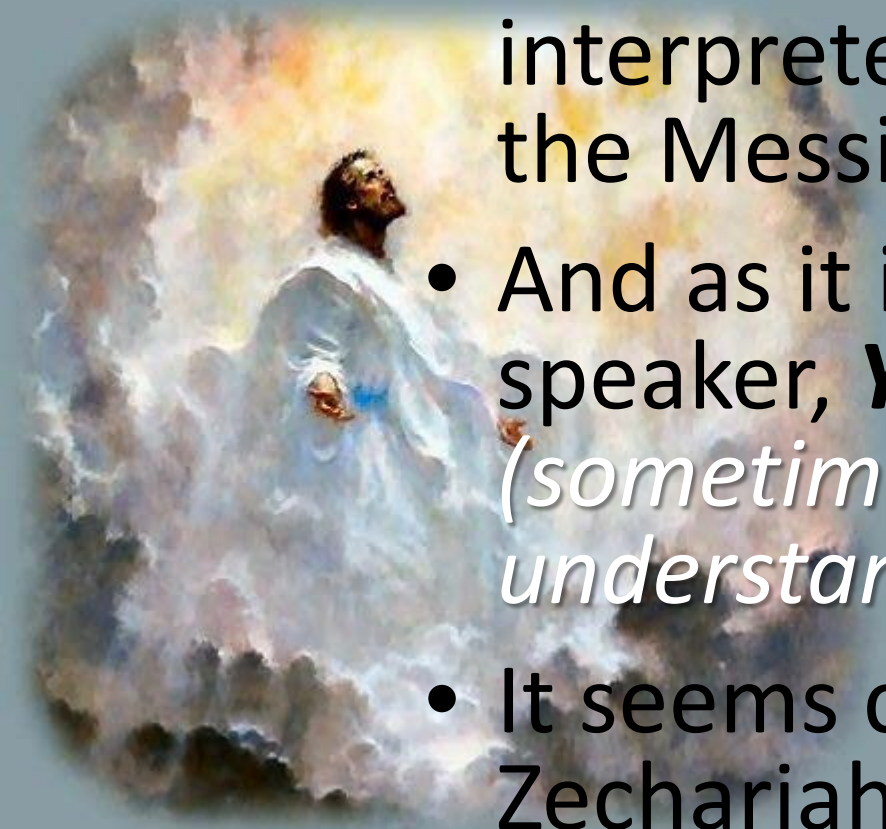
8 “For thus says the Lord of hosts: “He sent Me after glory, to the nations which plunder you; for he who touches you touches the apple of His eye..”

Zechariah Chapter 2

- Again, the title **YHVH Tsavaot** – YHVH of the Hosts of Heaven, the voice of authority is speaking!
- The phrase “***He has sent Me after glory...***” has raised all sorts of conflicting ideas. No one seems to really know what this means.
- First, there is division about who is speaking here. Who is saying “**He has sent Me?**” Some argue Zechariah is speaking, some say YHVH (*which is obviously the case*) and some say it is the Messiah (*who is also Elohim, or Adonai Tzavaot!*)

Zechariah Chapter 2

- In the King James Version, it is clear that the interpreters believed this was a reference to the Messiah Yeshua (*as they capped this word*).
- And as it is related back to the identity of the speaker, ***Yeshua is also Adonai Tzavaot*** (*sometimes more than our little brains can understand!*)
- It seems clear from context that this is not Zechariah, nor any normal man. Whoever this is has God's nature, power and plan.
- And of course, **we know WHO that is!**



Zechariah Chapter 2

- The other part of this phrase that is difficult is “***after glory.***” Here are the “guesses” out there (*keep in mind it is most likely the Messiah being sent*):
 - ✓ Messiah will be sent after He’s glorified, after resurrection
 - ✓ “He” will be sent with God’s glory (“*after*” really means “*with*”)
 - ✓ He will be sent in order to obtain glory for God
 - ✓ He will be sent on a glorious mission
 - ✓ Zechariah will go (*to the nations*) for God’s honor and glory

Zechariah Chapter 2

- **Here's what we know:**

- o Only Elohim can render judgment on the nations and “plunder” them.
- o We have no record or clear directive anywhere that Zechariah would go to the nations
- o **God does everything “for His glory”** and everything He does is “glorious”
- o We know this happens most likely *after the Tribulation*, when the Messiah appears in His risen glory

Either way we interpret it, it is always all about God's glory!

Zechariah Chapter 2

- ***“The apple of His eye”*** is an unusual word here. It is possible Zechariah is making a pun of sorts:

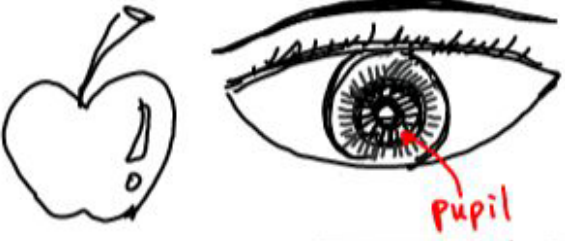
COMMENTARY: *Although the usual word for “apple” of the eye is ‘iyshown, meaning pupil (of the eye), Zechariah uses the word babah, a word that occurs only once in the Hebrew Bible. Babah appears to be a cognate of “Babylon,” which in the Akkadian logographic writing is associated with “gate” in the presence of deity. It could well be then, that Zechariah’s “gate of the eye” is an ironic pun on the pride of Babylon, which called herself the gateway to God. (Kaiser)*

Zechariah Chapter 2

COMMENTARY: *“Apple of his eye” is an unusual expression, although it occurs elsewhere in Scripture. In this instance it is the Hebrew babah, meaning “the pupil” or “the gate” (through which light enters). It is an expression which indicates that which is most precious, most easily injured, and most demanding of protection. This is what Israel is to the Lord God. (McGee)*

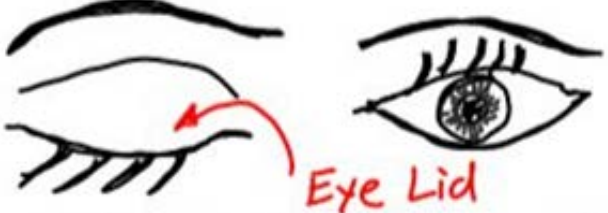
Zechariah Chapter 2

1 The word 'Apple of my eye' is actually 'pupil of my eye' in Hebrew.



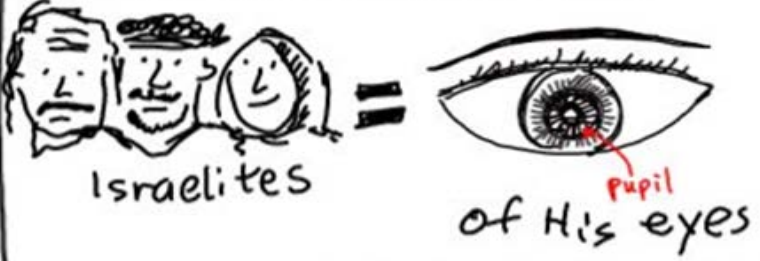
The diagram shows a simple line drawing of an apple on the left and a detailed drawing of a human eye on the right. A red arrow points from the word 'pupil' to the central part of the eye's iris.

2 Did you know that the word 'Keeper' in Hebrew can also mean eyelid?



The diagram shows two drawings of an eye. The left drawing shows the eye with the eyelid closed. A red arrow points from the words 'Eye Lid' to the lower eyelid.

3 Did you know God call the Israelites the 'pupil of His eyes'? [Deut 32:10 ; Zech 2:8]



The diagram shows three small faces representing Israelites on the left, followed by an equals sign, and then a large eye on the right. A red arrow points from the word 'pupil' to the central part of the eye's iris. The text 'of His eyes' is written below the eye.

4 Did you know our Lord God is our keeper? [Psalm 121:5]

You and me = God's our



The diagram shows three small faces representing 'You and me' on the left, followed by an equals sign, and then a detailed drawing of a human eye on the right. A red arrow points from the words 'Eye Lid' to the lower eyelid.

5 Any time you try and touch the pupil, it will be protected by the eyelid!



The diagram shows two drawings of an eye. The left drawing shows the eye with the pupil exposed. A hand is shown touching the pupil. The right drawing shows the eye with the eyelid closed, protecting the pupil. The text 'it will be protected' is written below the right eye.

Zechariah Chapter 2

- The pupil of the eye is the most sensitive part of the body, **needing the most protection**, and here the God of the Universe, Protector of Israel, issues a **stern warning** to anyone who would try to harm Israel in any way.
- This warning was given then, and was *meant for all peoples and all times between that moment and the end of time* when Israel is restored and untouchable.
- Many today are flirting with their own destruction (*nationally, individually, corporately*) when they threaten or harm Israel in any way, even those who would call themselves “Christians.”

Zechariah Chapter 2



“Behold,
the
Keeper of
Israel
neither
slumbers
nor
sleeps.”

Psalms 121:4

Zechariah Chapter 2

⁹ For surely I will shake My hand against them, and they shall become spoil for their servants. Then you will know that the LORD of hosts [YHVH Tzavaot] has sent Me.



Zechariah Chapter 2

- The **shaking of the hand** is a threatening gesture, full of anger. Here Elohim threatens the nations who mistreat Israel. He will **destroy Israel's enemies**.
- Their “servants” are those who are in oppression under them, and it will be those who plunder their enemies.
- Some think this statement describes both a near fulfillment in the **destruction of the four powers** seen in the vision of the horns and carpenters (*Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome*), as well as a far fulfillment during the Tribulation and the Battle of Armageddon, which Zechariah describes later...

Zechariah Chapter 2

Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, And your spoil will be divided in your midst. For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; The city shall be taken, The houses rifled, and the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, As He fights in the day of battle. ⁴ And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. (14:1-3)

- This signals the end of the battle as the Messiah returns to earth to put an end to Israel's enemies.

Zechariah Chapter 2

- ***“Then you will know”*** is a phrase repeated often in scripture. So they will know... **God acts to convince humanity of His existence**, His Sovereignty and His plans. He does things “so they (we!) will know” **He is!**
- *By this **you shall know** that I am YHVH (Ex 7:17)*
- *That the Egyptians may know that I am YHVH.” (Ex 14:4)*
- *Then they will know that I am YHVH their God, (Ex 29:46)*
- *“By this you will know that YHVH has sent me” (Num 16:28)*
- *That **they may know** that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. (Joshua 3:7)*
- *Then **you will know** that I am YHVH (Isaiah 49:23)*

Zechariah Chapter 2

- ***All flesh shall know That I, YHVH, am your Savior, And your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.***” (Isaiah 49:26)
- *I will cause them to know My hand and My might; And **they shall know** that My name is YHVH.* (Jeremiah 16:21)
- *and **they shall know** that I, YHVH, have spoken it* (Eze 5:13)
- ***They will know that I am YHVH.*** (Eze 6:10)
- *Then **they shall know** that I am YHVH.* (Ezekiel 6:14)
- *Then **they shall know** that I am YHVH* (Ezekiel 7:27)
- *Then **they shall know** that I am YHVH.* (Ezekiel 12:16)
- *Then **you shall know** that I am YHVH God.* (Ezekiel 13:9)

Zechariah Chapter 2

- *Then **you shall know** that I am YHVH (Ezekiel 13:21)*
- *Then **you shall know** that I am YHVH (Ezekiel 15:7)*
- *that **you may know** that I am YHVH your God.' (Eze 20:20)*
- *Then **you will know** that I am YHVH (Ezekiel 20:38)*
- *And **they shall know** that I am YHVH. (Ezekiel 24:27)*
- *And **they shall know** that I am YHVH. (Ezekiel 25:11)*
- *And **they shall know** that I am YHVH (Ezekiel 25:17)*
- *So **they will know** that I am YHVH." (Ezekiel 26:6)*
- *And **they shall know** that I am YHVH (Ezekiel 28:22)*
- *Then **they shall know** that I am YHVH. (Ezekiel 28:23)*

Zechariah Chapter 2

- ***AND THIS LIST GOES ON AND ON AND ON...***
- **So exactly WHAT does YHVH want people to know?**
THAT HE IS!
- He acts specifically for that purpose. He authenticates Himself. He proves His existence over and over and over.
- This phrase is used **4 times just in this chapter.**
- **Has He proven Himself to you?** Can you point to a time in your life where you could say “God did this, I would know He is YHVH?”

Zechariah Chapter 2

- All of these instances of this phrase are given to either individuals or whole nations so they will KNOW HE IS.
- And just like the promises to Israel here in Zechariah these are **words of comfort and encouragement** because God is who He says He is, and does what He says He will do. HE IS.
- They are words for each of us as well. He never changes. He is always faithful to His people no matter what age or nation.

Zechariah Chapter 2

- What difference did He expect those statements to make in the lives of those He addressed with these many “*so they will know*” statements?
- What difference should it have made to Israel at the time of this message through Zechariah?
- Do you KNOW He is?
- As a believer, what difference SHOULD it make in our lives right now?
- How would you finish this today? **“I AM...”**