

# Zechariah 06 – Israel: The Nation of Cleansed Priests

Zechariah – 3:1-5  
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## Heretical Views of The Satan

**Ruler of Hell - Not**



**He is Not Judged – Yet**



## His Name is Lucifer – Not Satan

- We must clarify several misunderstandings to clearly interpret the truth of this vision
  - Lucifer is the name of the angel who fell and now leads the rebellion against God (Isa. 14:12-15)
  - He was the highest of all angels until he sinned (Isa. 28:11-16)
  - Satan, his **title**, is what he **does**; thus, it is not his name but his *modus operandi* negating his verdict by accusing God (Re 12:7-9)

## Rejecting by Accepting Traditions

- This vision is the lynch pin between the previous three visions and the next set of visions Zechariah receives
- We need to reject the traditions of the "Church Age" and accept the customs of the "Mosaic Law Age"
- Unless we achieve this clarity of vision we will continue to misinterpret and err in our understanding of the Old Testament and eschatology {Revelations}

## Zechariah's Fourth Vision

- Vision begins with Joshua, High Priest, standing in a judicial setting
- Assumptions: As High Priest he has his vestments on
  - Wrong: Temple not built therefore he is not practicing
  - Priesthood cannot practice without the Sacrificial Altar
  - Joshua does not represent the Church (Old Testament)

## Judicial Setting

- Joshua {יְהוֹשֻׁעַ} stands before God (Father) {יהוה, יהוה}
  - He is rightly accused sin under the Law
- His Accuser {הַשֵּׁטָן} stands on his right charging him
  - Role of District Attorney - Violations of the Law
- His Advocate {Angel of the Lord, מַלְאֲכֵי יְהוָה} stands on his left justifying him {His name is יְהוֹשֻׁעַ also} (Son)

## Joshua Represents Israel

- Joshua is a metaphor for Israel who is to be a nation of priests for God in the world (Ex 19:54)
  - Israel taken captive due to idolatry, rejection of God
  - Jews back in Israel but no the Temple
  - They have again abrogated their responsibility to God
- The Law accuses them; Satan uses God's Law (Is 54:9)

## Joshua is Guilty - No Doubt

- Joshua clothed in unclean garments {covered in fecal material} denoting his guilt, he has no defense speak
  - He is guilty (Is 26:24, Is 3:12)
  - The Law is righteous, it is never negated (De 5:19, Ro 7:12, 14)
  - God never excuses sin (Ro 2:12, 1:21)
  - The facts are true; however, the context explains the facts

## Lucifer

- Lucifer highest of all sentient beings until man (Is 28:12-13)
- Man, though now lower than angels, will be over them (Is 8:16, 6:1-3)
- Therefore, rather than being next to God, over His throne for eternity; he will be serving man
- Lucifer's pride produced sin, he was judged, but he had objections (Is 14:12-17; Ez 28:15-17)

## Lucifer Accuses God of Sin

- Lucifer {like lost man} accuses God of unrighteousness (Re 1:14)
  - Lucifer (like lost man) claims God's judgment is unjust
  - God's sovereignty made him {and lost man} sin
  - Since every being God created is capable of sin, sin is God's fault, not his {or man's}
  - The Accuser accuses us before the Father (*accusing the Father of sin*) to show God is unrighteous (Re 12:9)

## Lucifer Proves His Case

- Lucifer, as Accuser, seeks to prove that God is the true source of sin thus eliminating all judgment, but...
  - Lucifer, *agent provocateur*, deceived woman to sin; man sinned to be with woman {intimately} (Ge 3:1-7)
  - Lucifer *proved* man a sinner
  - Lucifer *proved* Israel sinners {Golden Calf} (Ex 32:1-10)
  - We all sin (Ro 3:10-18, 23)

## This is why the Accuser Rebuked

- If Lucifer, the Accuser, has charged rightly then why does Christ ask the Father to rebuke Lucifer? (Re 12:10)
- If all have sinned then no one can be righteous with God: God has set an impossible task - Unrighteous
- Lucifer promotes universalism for this reason
- His motive: If God is unrighteous then He is unworthy to rule; Lucifer will take His heavenly throne

## Angel of the Lord – Parakletos

- Christ does not:
  - Negate the Law (Gn 2:21)
  - Deny the charges
  - Ask God for leniency
- Christ satisfied the penalty of the Law with His own death – sinless sacrifice satisfying the wrath of God (1Th 1:10-12)

## Clothed in Christ's Righteousness

- Christ acknowledges the guilt of Joshua but stands in his place taking Joshua's guilt (Zk 1:8-11)
- Zechariah, asks for the miter for Joshua, understanding it is God's righteousness the High Priest represents
- Joshua has new clothes placed on him denoting being clothed in God's righteousness, not his own lest he boast (Ep 2:8-10)

## Israel's Future as Priests

- Therefore, this is a vision of the New Covenant before the sacrifice of Christ: future view of Israel (Zk 31:31-34)
- These trials occurred every moment Lucifer had access to Heaven (Job 1:2)
- Lucifer does not have access to Heaven, since Christ's accession but his methods do not change (Isa 10:17-18; Jo 12:31; Re 12:7-10)

## Millennial Kingdom Future

- The phrase, "The Lord who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you," connects these first four visions to Israel's future as previously discussed
- When Christ makes Jerusalem His Throne then Israel will become a nation of priests in fulfillment of His promise back in Exodus when they were at Mount Horeb (Ex. 19:5-6)

## Land of Judah - Holy to Lord

- Every pot in the land of Judah will be able to be used for sacrificial meals during the annual Feast of Booths (Le. 16:20-21)
  - In Mosaic Law only the vessels in the Temple were holy
  - During Millennial Kingdom all Israel shall be considered a part of God's Temple and the Jews His priesthood
- People from all over the world will come asking Jews to lead them to Christ's Temple, to teach them His word (Ze. 8:21-23)

## Inspirational Vision

- These visions give the Jews the reasons God wants them to rebuild the Temple - to share in His grace
  - Though the present people will not directly share in these blessings in their current lifetimes
  - They will be a part of these events at their resurrection, at the inauguration of the Millennial Kingdom (Isa. 12:1-6; Rev. 20:4)



## Proper Hermeneutics

- We of this dispensation of "First Fruits" must practice proper hermeneutics, understanding that God does not negate His promises to anyone (Re 11:28-32)
- This vision shows that God does keep all His promises and will make the Jews His priests as He declared
- We must not covet their promises - Pridelful as Lucifer

## Our Place - First Fruits

- We of this dispensation are the First Fruits of the New Covenant promised to all who died in faith (Re 3:21-22)
- The Church is the *First Fruits of Bride of Christ*; all who live in God's faith will be included as His bride (Eph 5:25-27)
- The complete *Bride of Christ* will be the New Jerusalem open to the saved from *all* dispensations (Re 21:1-4, 22:27; 22:3-6)

## Phase One, Fourth Vision, Done

- Phase One - Christ prepares His people
  - That is why Joshua was clothed in Christ's righteousness
- Phase Two - Christ ushers in His Kingdom
  - The "Rock" with seven eyes is the Kingdom
- Phase Three - Looks ahead to another vision
  - The intertwining of the visions of their future with God