

Sermon Text: Zechariah 4:1-14 The Spirit Builds His Temple

The Spirit of God builds His Temple-dwelling by advancing His people over every obstacle.

1) A vision of the Spirit's work (4:1-1-3, 11-14).

- a) "a lampstand all of gold . . . and seven lamps on it"—the people/temple of God fueled by the Spirit to give light to the whole earth
- b) "two olive trees"—servants of the Lord to administer the Spirit to the people of God
 - i) "two anointed ones"—lit. "two sons of oil"
 - ii) "stand by the Lord"—ready to serve
- c) "the Lord of the whole earth"—universal dominion and renewal
- d) Through appointed means, the Spirit empowers His people to bring the light of salvation.

2) The Spirit builds His Temple-dwelling by advancing His people over every obstacle.

- a) Maturing Fulfillment:
 - i) Immediate Fulfillment (Type)—Zerubbabel, the governor, and Joshua, the priest, lead the Jews to build the Second Temple.
 - ii) Christ Fulfillment (Faith)—Jesus is THE Priest-King who rebuilds the Temple by His resurrection (John 2:19-22).
 - iii) Church Fulfillment (Love)—Jesus has made us a kingdom of priests to proclaim salvation through judgment—New Creation (Revelation 1:6; 5:10).
 - iv) Final Fulfillment (Hope)—The whole creation will be a Cosmic-Temple where God dwells with His people (Rev. 21-22).
- b) Human Insufficiency—"not by might, nor by power" (v. 6)
- c) Divine Sufficiency—"but by My Spirit" (v. 6)
 - i) "says the LORD of Hosts"—omnipotence
 - ii) "seven eyes of the LORD, which range through the whole earth" (v. 10)—omniscience and omnipresence
 - iii) "Grace! Grace to it!"—omnibenevolence
- d) Human Instrumentality—"the day of small things" (v. 10)
 - i) Zerubbabel and Joshua (v. 7, 3:1-10)
 - ii) Christ (3:8 "My Servant the Branch")
 - iii) The Church (Revelation 1-3; 11:3-13)
- e) Divine Assurance—
 - i) "his hands also shall complete it" (vv.7-9)
 - ii) "whoever has despised the day of small things shall rejoice" (v. 10)

3) Application:

- a) Serve God's purpose in our generation by the power of the Spirit.
- b) Beware of trying to serve God by worldly wisdom and human strength.

Doxology: I love You, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies. (Psalm 18:1-3)