

The Two Witnesses Of Revelation

“In that day,” says the Lord of hosts, “I will take you, O Zerubbabel, My servant, and will make you My signet ring; for I have chosen you,” says the Lord of hosts (Haggai 2:23).

‘Then the angel showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Lord ... Now Joshua was clothed in filthy garments and was standing before the Lord. The Lord spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, “Take away the filthy garments from him.” And He said to Joshua, “Behold, I have caused your iniquity to pass from you, and I will clothe you with rich apparel” (Zechariah 3:1 to 4).

“I see and behold a lampstand all of gold with its bowl for oil on the top of it, and its seven lamps on it, and seven pipes to each of the seven lamps which are upon the top of it. And there are two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl and the other upon the left of it” (Zechariah 4:2 & 3).

‘Then I said to the angel who talked with me, “What are these two olive trees on the right side of the lampstand and on the left of it?” And a second time I said to him, “What are these two olive branches which are beside the two golden tubes by which the golden (pure) oil is emptied out?” Then said the angel, “These are the two sons of oil (Joshua the high priest and Zerubbabel the prince of Judah), the two anointed ones who stand before the Lord of the whole earth as His anointed ones” (Zechariah 4:11 to 14).

‘This is the Word of the Lord to Zerubbabel saying, “Not by might, nor by power but by My Spirit (of Whom the oil is a symbol)” says the Lord’ (Zechariah 4:6).

“And I will grant the power of prophecy to My two witnesses for 1,260 days (3½ years), dressed in sackcloth. These witnesses are the two olive trees and the two lampstands which stand before the Lord of the earth” (Revelation 11:3 & 4).

Let’s look at that again. These two witnesses in Revelation are the two olive trees and the two lampstands which stand before the Lord of the earth. Who did Zechariah say were the two olive trees; the two lampstands; the two anointed ones (sons of oil) who stand before the Lord of the earth? These two were; Joshua and Zerubbabel. That’s right. The two witnesses in the Book of Revelation are Joshua the high priest and Zerubbabel the prince of Judah. The scriptures cannot be any clearer than that.

A brief look at these two men gives us a picture of why they were chosen. Zerubbabel was the prince of Judah – Jesus our King came from the tribe of Judah (Hebrews 7:14). The Joshua in Zechariah is the high priest – not the Joshua who followed Moses. Joshua’s name in Hebrew is pronounced Yeshua and is the exact same name as Jesus, which is the Greek form of the name, and Jesus is also pronounced, Yeshua. Yeshua means Jah is Salvation, or God our Salvation (Psalm 18:2; 89:26). Jesus is our Saviour – He gave us salvation. ‘For the grace of God has appeared for the eternal salvation for all mankind ... awaiting and looking for the blessed hope, the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour, Jesus the Messiah (Yeshua HaMashiach, the Anointed One)’ (Titus 2:11 & 13).

Zerubbabel and Joshua led the exiled Jews from Babylon and together they began rebuilding the temple during 520 and 516 BC. Jesus came and began to build His temple – the host of believers who have been filled with the Holy Spirit. If we read the whole of the text, Revelation 11:3 to 12, we see that the two witnesses are the two prophets who were given great power, tormented the population of the world, were killed, lay in the streets of

Jerusalem for three days and were then taken to heaven. Joshua the high priest and Zerubbabel the prince of Judah are described as olive trees that produce golden (pure) oil, symbolising the purity of the Holy Spirit, and also lampstands that show the Light.

Many hundreds of people have been confused over who the two witnesses are, but if we tie the scriptures from Zechariah in with Revelation, we can see exactly who the two witnesses are. The combination of the office of high priest and the office or ruler/prince of Judah points to the Messianic Priest/King ministry of Jesus. 'It is He Who shall build the true temple of the Lord and He shall bear the glory of the Father and shall sit and rule upon His throne. And He shall be a Priest upon His throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between the two offices – of Priest and King' (Zechariah 6:13). Jesus built the true temple of the Lord – the born-again, Holy Spirit filled, dedicated Christians are the true temple of the Lord – the true temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 3:16 and 6:19). He is our King and when we are born-again, we enter into His Kingdom of heaven.

To fully understand the whole picture of these two chosen witnesses, we need to closely study the books of Haggai and Zechariah in a Hebrew to English (or your language) translation. It helps if we can understand the nuances of the Hebrew language and their unique culture.

Amen and God bless you.

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