

Zechariah 3

1. Vision #4: Heaven's courtroom? Joshua-(Haggai 1:1) an old man by this time, as High Priest represents the people. The name means Yahweh saves, the same name as Jesus. Satan (1Chronicles 21:1) the definite article implies a role not a name, though some disagree. For accuser at right hand - see Psalm 109:6

2. The LORD rejects the prosecutor's accusations. The double rebuke shows the LORD's set intention against the accuser. We can see that Joshua is a stand in for the chosen people of Jerusalem/Judah. Joshua's grandfather was killed by the Babylonians, so sparing the son and grandson was like a brand plucked from the fire. Plucked from the fire may also mean brought out of exile for the restoration

John Wesley was rescued from a fire as a boy and so often referred to himself with the phrase in this verse. (2Peter 2:11;Jude 9; Amos 4:11)

3. All our righteousness is filthy rags. (Isaiah 64:6) Filthy - Literally soiled with excrement. The people were that defiled, but God rejected the Accuser. (Hosea 11:9)

4 Leviticus 22:6-7 was the legal solution. Clothed in righteousness! (Colossians 3:10; 1Corinthians 6:11) Verse 9 shows this applies to the whole land. (Matthew 22:11-13)

5 The renewing of our minds. (Romans 12:1-2) Remember Angel of the LORD usually refers to Jesus who made the cleansing possible.

6-7 Two charges: walk in my ways Psalm 101:6 or personal integrity, and keep my requirements or faithfully fulfill the priestly duties. The promise is sole rule over the Temple but even more, access to the heavenly court. Of course this looks forward to Jesus. Hebrews 4:14-16

8 Yeshua and his associates (fellow priests) were symbolic of Jesus and the disciples (the branch of David – all the Davidic kings culminating in Christ - Jeremiah 23:5 tsamach - a sprout See Isaiah 53:2) and the disciples who would lead all who were willing out of the captivity of sin. Isaiah songs also refer to Jesus as the Servant.

9 Good Friday! For the seven facets see Rev 5:6 For the stone see Ps 118:22. The engraving is the nail marks in the hands and feet of our Savior and the spear in His side. It says, "I have purchased you in love." Yeshua of Nazareth alone removed sin from the land in a single day.

This may have had some meaning to the people in the days of Zechariah if they returned to the Lord as they were invited to in chapter 1.

10 Under your vine and fig tree was language of ultimate joy and satisfaction. (Micah 4:4) Following the interpretation of verse 9, I see it as fellowship with the Lord and His people in the Holy Spirit. (John 15:11) Just as Nathanael was seen by Jesus in his time of prayer under his fig tree, so we share with one another the revelations and testimonies of Jesus in our life. (John 1:48)