

Zechariah 6:1-15

(no class next week. Parent/teacher conf.)

- 6:1-8 – The eighth of eight visions on the night of February 15, 519 BC
 - Focus on Israel’s international affairs
 - Similar to the first vision with the Angel of the Lord standing among the myrtle trees with the mounted angelic troops on red, reddish-brown (sorrel) and white horses sent to patrol the earth
 - Visions 1 and 8 – universal perspective and the omniscience of the Lord
 - This vision eight the horses are harnessed to chariots and come into the vision from between two bronze mountains to be sent to execute God’s judgment on the Gentile nations. Possibly to execute the judgment determined by the Lord from the information gathered by the patrolling angels in the first vision
 - It has been suggested vision #1 occurs at dusk as the sun was setting on the night of February 15, 519 and this vision #8 occurs right before sunrise. This would make sense since all eight visions occur in one night and in this sequence.
- 6:9-15 – A symbolic crown for Joshua the High Priest
 - This is a divine oracle given by the Lord to Zechariah.
 - Joshua the high priest in 519 BC represents “the Branch”, the future Messiah, who will himself build the Temple and be seated on the throne there as both Priest and King.

Zechariah 6:1 – **“Again I lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, four chariots came out from between two mountains. And the mountains were mountains of bronze.**

1. Bronze is an alloy of copper and tin which is the ancient for of brass (alloy of copper and zinc).
2. Bronze always appears to represent God’s divine judgment
 - a. The bronze altar and bronze basin in the outer court in front of the tabernacle
 - b. Jesus feet in Revelation 1:15 and 2:18 are like polished or burnished bronze. With these he will trample the nations (Isaiah 63:6)
 - i. 1:15 “His feet were like polished bronze refined in a furnace, and His voice was like the roar of many waters.”
 - ii. 2:18 “To the angel of the church in Thyatira write: These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze.”
 - c. On the porch of the steps of the temple were two bronze pillars called Jackin and Boaz 30 feet high and 8 feet in circumference in 1 Kings 7:21
3. Two mountains could be Mt. Moriah (the temple mount, sometimes called Mt. Zion) and the Mt. of Olives.
 - a. This would have the chariots leaving through the Kidron Valley which is likely where the Angle of the Lord was standing among the Myrtle trees in the first vision
4. No riders (angels) are mentioned, but here it is assumed that the horses and chariots had riders and were armed for military action
5. “Four” speaks of universal dominion and control.

6:2 – **“The first chariot had red horses, the second black horses,**

1. See the Lord’s chariots in Isaiah 66:15-16 – “See, the Lord is coming with fire, and his chariots are like a whirlwind; he will bring down his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. For with fire and with his sword the Lord will execute judgment on all people, and many will be those slain by the Lord.”

6:3 – **“the third white horses, and the fourth chariot dappled horses—all of them strong.**

1. The colors match the horses of the four rides of Revelation 6 when the first four seals are open. If the colors have any meaning they could be similar to this:
 - a. Red – war, bloodshed
 - b. Back – death
 - c. White – victory, triumph
 - d. Dapple (spots, rounded patches; Pale) - pestilence, plagues
2. Rabbis of the ancient world believed the colors represented world kingdoms: Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome
3. The meaning of the colors is undetermined, but since the colors are mentioned it seems there is some meaning.

6:4 – “Then I answered and said to the angel who talked with me, “What are these, my lord?”

6:5 – “And the angel answered and said to me, “These are going out to the four winds of heaven, after presenting themselves before the Lord of all the earth.

7307 [e]	702 [e]	428 [e]	413 [e]		559 [e]	4397 [e]	6030 [e]
ru·hō·wṭ	'ar·ba'	'êl·leh,	'ê·lāy;		way·yō·mer	ham·mal·'āk	way·ya·'an
רוּחוֹת	אַרְבַּע	אֵלֶּה	אֵלַי		וַיֹּאמֶר	הַמַּלְאָךְ	וַיַּעַן 5
spirits	four	these [are]	to me		and said	the angel	and answered
N-cpc	Number-fsc	Pro-cp	Prep 1cs	Conj-w V-Qal-ConseclImperf-3ms		Art N-ms	Conj-w V-Qal-ConseclImperf-3ms

	776 [e]	3605 [e]	113 [e]	5921 [e]		3320 [e]	3318 [e]	8064 [e]
	hā·'ā·reṣ.	kāl-	'ā·dō·wn	'al-	mê·hiṭ·yaṣ·šêḇ	yō·wṣ·'ō·wṭ		haš·šā·ma·yim,
	הָאָרֶץ:	כָּל־	אֲדוֹן	עַל־	מֵהַתִּצֵּב	יוֹצְאוֹת	וְ	הַשָּׁמַיִם
	the earth	of all	the Lord	before	from [their] station	who go out		of heaven
	Art N-fs	N-msc	N-msc	Prep	Prep-m V-Hitpael-Inf	V-Qal-Prtcpl-fp		Art N-mp

1. “Four winds” (or, “four spirits”) could be:
 - a. Four directions
 - b. Four angelic powers that bring about God’s decrees(Ps. 148:8; Jr. 49:36; Dan. 7:2; Rev. 7:1)
2. “The Lord of all the Earth”
 - a. Obviously refers to God and could be a reference for anytime (but, Satan is the God of this “age”)
 - b. Notably this is the Lord’s title for his millennial reign of his kingdom on earth as I Micah 4:13 – “Rise and thresh, Daughter Zion, for I will give you horns of iron; I will give you hooves of bronze, and you will break to pieces many nations. You will devote their ill-gotten gains to the Lord, their wealth to the Lord of all the earth.”

6:6 – “The chariot with the black horses goes toward the north country, the white ones go after them, and the dappled ones go toward the south country.”

310 [e]	413 [e]	3318 [e]	3836 [e]	6828 [e]	776 [e]	413 [e]	3318 [e]	7838 [e]	5483 [e]	834 [e]		
'a-ḥā-ré-hem;	'el-	yā-ṣə-ʾū	wə-hal-le-bā-nīm,	ṣā-ṗō-wn,	'e-reṣ	'el-	yō-ṣə-ʾīm	haš-ṣə-ḥō-rīm,	has-sū-sīm	bāh	'ā-ṣer-	
אֲחֵרֵיהֶם	אֶל-	יָצְאוּ	וְהַלְבָּנִים	צָפוֹן	—	אֶרֶץ	אֶל-	יֹצְאִים	הַשְּׁחֹרִים	הַסּוּסִים	בָּהּ	אִשֶׁר-
after them	to	are going	and the white	north	the country	to	is going	the black	the horses	with	The one	6
Prep 3mp	Prep	V-Qal-Perf-3cp	Conj-w, Art Adj-mp	N-fs	N-fsc	Prep	V-Qal-Prtcpl-mp	Art Adj-mp	Art N-mp	Prep 3fs	Pro-r	

8486 [e]	776 [e]	413 [e]	3318 [e]	1261 [e]
hat-tê-mān.	'e-reṣ	'el-	yā-ṣə-ʾū	wə-hab-be-rud-dīm,
הַתֵּימָן:	אֶרֶץ	אֶל-	יָצְאוּ	וְהַבְּרָדִים
the south	country	toward	are going	and the spotted
Art N-fs	N-fsc	Prep	V-Qal-Perf-3cp	Conj-w, Art Adj-mp

1. “North Country” is Babylon – the black horses with war chariots of death went towards Babylon
2. The white horses and chariots (victory, triumph) follow into the north
3. “South Country” is Egypt – the dappled horses with chariots of pestilence and plague to Egypt
4. East and West may not be mentioned since the main roads from Israel lead north and south (west is the sea, east is the desert)

6:7 – **“When the strong horses came out, they were impatient to go and patrol the earth. And he said, “Go, patrol the earth.” So they patrolled the earth.**

1. The horses were “strong” so they were able, invincible and capable of fulfilling the intent for which they were sent.
2. Controlling history
3. Establishing the Millennial Kingdom

6:8 – **“Then he cried to me, “Behold, those who go toward the north country have set my Spirit at rest in the north country.”**

1. In the first vision God was angry with the nations, particularly the nations in the north
2. Here in the eighth vision God’s wrath has been poured out on the north country giving the Lord’s Spirit rest

6:9 – **“And the word of the Lord came to me:**

6:10 – **“Take from the exiles Heldai, Tobijah, and Jedaiah, who have arrived from Babylon, and go the same day to the house of Josiah, the son of Zephaniah.**

6:11 – **“Take from them silver and gold, and make a crown, and set it on the head of Joshua, the son of Jehozadak, the high priest.**

6:12 – **“And say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts, “Behold, the man whose name is the Branch: for he shall branch out from his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord.**

6:13 – **“It is he who shall build the temple of the Lord and shall bear royal honor, and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.”**

6:14 – **“And the crown shall be in the temple of the Lord as a reminder to Helem, Tobijah, Jedaiah, and Hen the son of Zephaniah.**

6:15 – **“And those who are far off shall come and help to build the temple of the Lord. And you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you. And this shall come to pass, if you will diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God.”**