

Zechariah 6:9-15

- This “word of the Lord” connects the middle two visions (fourth and fifth) which focused on establishing the High Priest Joshua (#4) and the position of the Persian appointed governor Zerubbabel.
- Now it is announced in this “word of the Lord” that the one called “the Branch” will united the 519 religious and civil leadership position in a single person
- In 4:9 Zerubbabel would complete the temple. But, here “the Branch” will build the temple (6:12)
- In 4:14 Zerubbabel and Joshua filled two separate offices. But, here “the Branch” will fill them both (6:13)
- This “word of the Lord” immediately follows the 8th vision which foretold the overthrow of the Gentile world powers. At that time “the Branch” will fulfill this “word of the Lord” told in 6:9-15.
- These verses foretell the crowning of the King-Priest Messiah.

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

559 [e]	413 [e]	3068 [e]	1697 [e]	1961 [e]
lê·mōr.	'ê·lay	Yah·weh	də·ḅar-	way·hî
וְ	לְאמֹר:	אֵלַי	יְהוָה	דְּבַר
	saying	to me	of Yahweh	the word
Prep-1 V-Qal-Inf	Prep 1cs	N-proper-ms	N-msc	Conj-w V-Qal-ConseclImperf-3ms

וַיָּבֵי 9
And came

1. This is a prophetic oracle from the Lord.

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.

859 [e]	935 [e]	3048 [e]	853 [e]	2900 [e]	853 [e]	2469 [e]	1473 [e]	853 [e]	3947 [e]
'at·tāh	ū·bā·tā	ye·da'·yāh;	ū·mē·'ēt	ṭō·w·ḅī·yāh	ū·mē·'ēt	mē·hel·day	hag·gō·w·lāh,	mē·'ēt	lā·qō·w·ah
אתָּה	וּבָאתָ	וַיָּדְעֵי	וּמֵאֵת	טוֹבִיָּה	וּמֵאֵת	מִחֶלְדַּי	הַגּוֹלְיָהּ	מֵאֵת	לְקוֹחַ
you	and go	Jedaiah	and	Tobiah	and	from Heldai	the captives	from	Receive [the gift]
Pro-2ms	Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-2ms	N-proper-ms	Conj-w, Prep-m DirObjM	N-proper-ms	Conj-w, Prep-m DirObjM	Prep-m N-proper-ms	Art N-fs	Prep-m DirObjM	V-Qal-InfAbs

894 [e]	935 [e]	834 [e]	6846 [e]	1121 [e]	2977 [e]	1004 [e]	935 [e]	1931 [e]	3117 [e]
mib·bā·ḅel.	bā·'ū	'ā·šer-	še·pan·yāh,	ḅen-	yō·šī·yāh	bēt	ū·bā·tā,	ha·hū,	bay·yō·wm
מִבְּבֶל:	בָּאוּ	אֲשֶׁר	צִפְנְיָהּ	בֶּן־	יֹשִׁיָּהּ	בֵּית	וּבָאתָ	הַהוּא	בַּיּוֹם
from Babylon	have come	who	of Zephaniah	son	of Josiah	the house	and enter	that	day
Prep-m N-proper-fs	V-Qal-Perf-3cp	Pro-r	N-proper-ms	N-msc	N-proper-ms	N-msc	Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-2ms	Art Pro-3ms	Prep-b, Art N-ms

1. Representatives arrive from Babylon with gifts for the temple. These gifts most likely are dedicated to the restoration of the Temple, the Land and the people by faithful Jews who had remained in Babylon.
2. These representatives take their gifts to Josiah, the son of Zephaniah, who is a steward of the Temple and its resources. His position is known as “hen” in 6:14. The word “hen” means “favor, grace”

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.

7218 [e] bē-rōš כְּרֹאשׁ on the head Prep-b N-msc	7760 [e] wə-šam-tā, וּשְׂמַתָּ and set [it] Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-2ms	5850 [e] 'ā-ṭā-rō-wṭ; עֲטָרוֹת an elaborate crown N-fp	6213 [e] wə-'ā-šî-tā וַעֲשִׂיתָ and make Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-2ms	2091 [e] wə-zā-hāḅ וְזָהָב and gold Conj-w N-ms	3701 [e] ke-seḅ- כֶּסֶף the silver N-ms	3947 [e] wə-lā-qaḥ-tā וְלָקַחְתָּ And take Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-2ms	11
---	---	--	--	---	---	--	----

plural

1419 [e] hag-gā-dō-wl. הַגְּדֹלָה high Art Adj-ms	3548 [e] hak-kō-hên הַכֹּהֵן the priest Art N-ms	3087 [e] yē-hō-w-šā-dāq יְהוֹזָדָק of Jehozadak N-proper-ms	1121 [e] ben- בֶּן- son N-msc	3091 [e] yē-hō-wō-šu-a' יְהוֹשֻׁעַ of Joshua N-proper-ms
---	--	---	---	--

1. This crown is not the priestly crown, but a royal crown for a king made of silver and gold.
 - a. *Nezer* meaning “crown” is used to refer to the high priest’s crown or turban
 - b. *Atarah* (used here) /at-aw-raw/ means “crown” or “wreath” and is used to refer to an ornate crown worn by royalty with many diadems or extensions (thus the plural in the Hebrew, but only one crown).
2. Psalm 110 :4 – “The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind: “You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.”

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.”

376 [e] 'îš אִישׁ the Man N-ms	2009 [e] hin-nêh- הִנְהִי behold Interjection	559 [e] lê-môr, לֵאמֹר saying Prep-l V-Qal-Inf	6635 [e] šə-ḅā-'ō-wṭ שְׁבָאוֹת of hosts N-cp	3068 [e] Yah-weh יְהוָה Yahweh N-proper-ms	559 [e] 'ā-mar אָמַר says V-Qal-Perf-3ms	3541 [e] kōh כֹּה thus Adv	559 [e] lê-môr, לֵאמֹר saying Prep-l V-Qal-Inf	413 [e] 'ê-lāw אֵלָיו to him Prep 3ms	559 [e] wə-'ā-mar-tā וְאָמַרְתָּ And speak Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-2ms	12
--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	---	--	----

3068 [e] Yah-weh. יְהוָה of Yahweh N-proper-ms	1964 [e] hê-kaḅ הִיכָל the temple N-msc	853 [e] 'et- את - DirObjM	1129 [e] ū-ḅā-nāh וּבְנָה and He shall build Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-3ms	6779 [e] yiṣ-māh, יִצְמַח He shall branch out V-Qal-Imperf-3ms	8478 [e] ū-mit-taḅ-tāw וּמִתְחַתִּיו and from His place Conj-w, Prep-m 3ms	8034 [e] šə-mōw שְׁמוֹ whose name [is] N-msc 3ms	6780 [e] še-maḅ שְׁמַח the BRANCH N-ms
--	---	---------------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--

1. “branch” is not the same Hebrew word for “branch” used in Isaiah 11:1

6509 [e] yiḅ-reh. יִפְרֶה shall grow V-Qal-Imperf-3ms	8328 [e] miš-šā-rā-šāw מִשְׁרָשׁוּי out of his roots Prep-m N-mpc 3ms	5342 [e] wə-nê-šer וְנֹצֵר and a Branch Conj-w N-ms	3448 [e] yi-šāy; יִשִּׁי of Jesse N-proper-ms	1503 [e] mig-gē-za' מִגְזֵעַ from the stem Prep-m N-msc	2415 [e] ḥō-ṭer חֹטֵר a Rod N-ms	Isaiah 11:1	3318 [e] wə-yā-šā וַיָּצֵא And there shall come forth Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-3ms	1
---	---	---	---	---	--	------------------------	---	---

- a. Two ways of identify this “branch”
 - i. Zerubbabel is the branch since he will complete the temple according to Zechariah 4:9. This means Zechariah is anticipating an anointing ceremony for King Zerubbabel over the independent nation of Judah.
 - ii. Future Messiah is the branch

2. The term for “branch” and other words with similar meanings in the ancient Near East were technical terms referring to the rightful heir of an established dynastic line
 - a. A Phoenician inscription found on Cyprus uses “branch” to refer to the ruler from the Ptolemaic line in Egypt.
 - b. In Mesopotamia similar use of the word is used over a long period of time.
 - i. A hymn to Lipit-Ishtar refers to the king as “shoot of royalty”
 - ii. A king is described as “*everlasting seed, offspring of Enmenduranki, King of Sippar*”
 - iii. Tiglath-Pileser III carries the title *pir'i* which is the same word found in the above “*everlasting seed, offspring*”
3. As a man Adam was to rule the earth as a king. Now, the Messiah will be the man to fulfill God’s plan for man and rule the earth as king for man.(Psalm 8)
4. The temple built by “the Branch” is a future temple since Zerubbabel will finish the 519 BC temple in 516 BC (and, Herod will extend and glorify it.)
- 5.

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.”

5921 [e]	4910 [e]	3427 [e]	1935 [e]	5375 [e]	1931 [e]	3068 [e]	1964 [e]	853 [e]	1129 [e]	1931 [e]
'al-	ū-mā-šal	wə-yā-šab	hō-wd,	yiś-šā	wə-hū-	Yah-weh	hé-kał	'et-	yib-neh	wə-hū
עַל-	וּמְשַׁל	וַיָּשֶׁב	הַגֹּד	יִשָּׂא	וְהוּא -	יְהוָה	הַיְכָל	אֶת-	יִבְנֶה	וְהוּא 13
on	and rule	and shall sit	the glory	shall bear	and He	of Yahweh	the temple	-	shall build	And Yes He
Prep	Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-3ms	Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-3ms	N-ms	V-Qal-Imperf-3ms	Conj-w Pro-3ms	N-proper-ms	N-msc	DirObjM	V-Qal-Imperf-3ms	Conj-w Pro-3ms

8147 [e]	996 [e]	1961 [e]	7965 [e]	6098 [e]	3678 [e]	5921 [e]	3548 [e]	1961 [e]	3678 [e]	
še-nê-hem.	bên	tih-yeh	šā-lō-wm,	wa-'ā-šał	kis-'ōw,	'al-	kō-hên	wə-hā-yāh	kis-'ōw;	
.	שְׁנֵיהֶם:	בֵּין	תְּהִיָּה	שְׁלוֹם	וְעֲצַת	כִּסְאוֹ	עַל-	כֹּהֵן	וְהִיָּה -	כִּסְאוֹ
	the two of them	between	shall be	of peace	and the counsel	His throne	on	a priest	so He shall be	His throne
	Number-mdc 3mp	Prep	V-Qal-Imperf-3fs	N-ms	Conj-w N-fsc	N-msc 3ms	Prep	N-ms	Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-3ms	N-msc 3ms

1. Notice the emphatic opening in the Hebrew text again emphasizing “the Branch” when the very first word of 6:13 is “And, Yes He!”
 - a. Build the temple
 - b. Bear royal honor (glory)
 - c. Shall sit and rule on His throne
 - d. Shall be a priest on his throne
 - e. Counsel of peace (uniting both priest and king)

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.

2581 [e] ū·lə·hên	3048 [e] wə·lî·da'·yāh,	2900 [e] ū·lə·tō·w·bî·yāh	2494 [e] lə·hê·lem	1961 [e] tih·yeh	5850 [e] wə·hā·'ā·tā·rōt,
וְלֶחֶן	וְלִידְעִיָּה	וְלִטוֹבִיָּה	לְהֵלֵם	תְּהִיָּה	וְהַעֲטֹרֶת
and Hen	and Jedaiah	and Tobiah	for Helem	shall be	And the elaborate crown
Conj-w, Prep-I N-proper-ms	Conj-w, Prep-I N-proper-ms	Conj-w, Prep-I N-proper-ms	Prep-I N-proper-ms	V-Qal-Imperf-3fs	Conj-w, Art N-fp

3068 [e] Yah·weh.	1964 [e] bə·hê·kal	2146 [e] lə·zik·kā·rō·wn	6846 [e] šə·pan·yāh;	1121 [e] ben-
יְהוָה:	בְּהֵיכַל	לְזִכְרוֹן	צְפַנְיָה	בֶּן-
of Yahweh	in the temple	for a memorial	of Zephaniah	son
N-proper-ms	Prep-b N-msc	Prep-I N-ms	N-proper-ms	N-msc

- There would be a 519 BC crowning ceremony where the High Priest Joshua would be crowned with this royal kingly crown. The crown would then be placed in the temple as a prophetic reminder that “the Branch” was still to come and was still a future event.
- “Hen” may not be a personal name because there is good evidence that this is a title for a temple steward.
 - The crown is being entrusted to several individuals who are the “hen” which would include “the son of Zephaniah” who is identified in verse 10 as “Josiah son of Zephaniah”
 - The full phrase would then be “the temple steward Josiah son of Zephaniah”
- After the ceremony Helem, Tobijah, Jedaiah (the delegation from Babylon) were to set this prophetic symbolic royal crown in the temple.

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.”**

413 [e] 'ā·lê·kəm;	7971 [e] šə·lā·ḥa·nî	6635 [e] šə·bā'·ō·wṭ	3068 [e] Yah·weh	3588 [e] kî-	3045 [e] wî·da'·tem	3068 [e] Yah·weh,	1964 [e] bə·hê·kal	1129 [e] ū·bā·nū	935 [e] yā·bō'·ū,	7350 [e] ū·rə·hō·w·qīm
אֵלֵיכֶם	שְׁלַחְנִי	צְבָאוֹת	יְהוָה	כִּי	וִידַעְתֶּם	יְהוָה	בְּהֵיכַל	וּבְנֹו	יָבֹאוּ	וְרַחֲקִים
to you	has sent Me	of hosts	Yahweh	that	then you shall know	of Yahweh	the temple	and build	shall come	And Even those from afar
Prep 2mp	V-Qal-Perf-3ms 1cs	N-cp	N-proper-ms	Conj	Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-2mp	N-proper-ms	Prep-b N-msc	Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-3cp	V-Qal-Imperf-3mp	Conj-w Adj-mp

s	430 [e] 'ē·lō·hê·kəm.	3068 [e] Yah·weh	6963 [e] bə·qō·wl	8085 [e] tiš·mə'·ūn,	8085 [e] šā·mō·w·a'	518 [e] 'im-	1961 [e] wə·hā·yāh
ס	יְהוָה	יְהוָה	בְּקוֹל	תִּשְׁמָעוּן	שָׂמוּעַ	אִם	וְהִיא
-	your God	of Yahweh	the voice	you obey	diligently	if	and [this] shall come to pass
Punc	N-mpc 2mp	N-proper-ms	Prep-b N-msc	V-Qal-Imperf-2mp Pn	V-Qal-InfAbs	Conj	Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-3ms

- Gentiles will help “the Branch” build his temple by contributing wealth
 - Isaiah 2:2-4/Isaiah 56:6-7
 - Isaiah 60:1-7
- When this happens it will be a testimony that the Lord sent his word through Zechariah the prophet.
 - Or, “the Branch”, who is also the “angel of the Lord” in the visions, has arrived or been sent to Israel
- “If you will diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God” does not mean this word of the Lord will not be fulfilled unless the Jews of 519 BC obey. It means the Jews of 519 BC (and, future generations of Jews) will participate in this event if they obey. This will happen, but they may not be part of the events