

RUSSELL SANDERS

2-25-2021

ZECHARIAH THE PROPHET – LESSON 5

THE NEW JERUSALEM

We saw in Lesson 3 (2-23-21) that Zechariah in verse 1:16 spoke of a measuring line stretched forth upon Jerusalem indicating the rebuilding of the Temple after the Babylonian exile. Now in chapter 2 we again encounter a measuring line speaking of a futuristic prophecy of the new Jerusalem which is yet to come. This was his third vision of the night.

Zechariah 2:1 says, ***“I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold a man (angel) with a measuring line in his hand.”*** Upon inquiry, the angel replied, ***“To measure Jerusalem to see what is the breadth (and) the length... (v. 25).”*** In verse 4, a second angel came to pass a message to the prophet saying, ***“Jerusalem shall be inhabited...without walls for the multitude of men...”*** and verse 5 says, ***“For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.”***

Cities in Zechariah’s time could not exist freely without walls to protect it. For the angel to speak of a Jerusalem without walls is futuristic. ***“...for multitudes of men”*** means for gentiles as well as Jews. (Jews always had excluded gentiles.) Verse 5 says the LORD Himself will be its wall (of fire) and will be its glory dwelling in the midst of it. We know this will be true in the New Jerusalem.

The measurements from the measuring line in verses 1 and 2 are found in Revelation 21:15-17.

The future timing of this Jerusalem is said will happen in verse 8, ***“After the glory hath He sent me unto the nations which spoiled you.”*** Jesus spoke the specific timing of it in Matthew 25:31-32 when He said, ***“When the Son of Man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory (in New Jerusalem) and before Him shall be gathered all nations (Jew and gentile).”***

Verse 11 says, ***“And many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people, and I will dwell in the midst of thee...”***

The New Testament reveals meanings of what is found in the Old Testament as the one is necessary to the other. John was shown the New Jerusalem (in Revelation) in great detail. Zechariah prophesied the New Jerusalem, but the details of it were left for John.

Verse 8 is a clear reference to Messiah’s first coming in glory (John 1:14, ***“and we beheld His glory...”***) and the final advent of Messiah’s inhabitation of New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:10-11), ***“...the Holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God.”***

Both the Old and New Testaments affirm the New Jerusalem. I will be full of joy to see it someday. How about you?