

Zechariah Three

Gloria Volpe

Verse 1:

And he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him.

Following quotes taken from Harper's Bible Dictionary; priests, pps 821-823:

pp 822:

"Chief among the duties of the priests was the performance of sacrifices. Only they were allowed to approach the altar, and then only within the context of a complex series of rituals and while wearing specific vestaments that symbolized their holiness."

"While ordinary priests performed these daily functions, the high priest was entrusted with the sin offerings, especially that of the Day of Atonement."

"In addition to preparing the sacrifices, the priests also were in charge of the maintenance of the Temple. They conducted routine inspections of the Temple grounds, noting what had to be repaired, and they solicited funds to carry out the work."

pp 823:

"Among the functions of the priests was that of judging....In the blessing of Moses before his death, Levi is charged with the teaching of the law to the people of Israel as well as offering incense and sacrifices upon the altar (Deut. 33:10)."

"As a prestigious, elite class the priests were also expected to preserve the holiness of the sanctuary and the uniqueness of the people of Israel. Therefore they were subject to added restrictions not incumbent upon the average Israelite."

"Although Israel is said to be "a kingdom of priests and a holy nation" (Exod. 19:6), it was the priesthood that embodied the highest levels of sanctity in ancient Israel."

Notes from study Bible: Priesthood of Israel; Ez. 44:10-16,23,24\ levites, sons of Zadok; more obedient of the 2 types of priests of Israel.

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Notes from study Bible: Priesthood of Israel; Ez. 44:10-16,23,24\ levites, sons of Zadok; more obedient of the 2 types of priests of Israel.

10 And the Levites that are gone away far from me, when Israel went astray, which went astray away from me after their idols; they shall even bear their iniquity.

11 Yet they shall be ministers in my sanctuary, [having] charge at the gates of the house, and ministering to the house: they shall slay the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister unto them.

12 Because they ministered unto them before their idols, and caused the house of Israel to fall into iniquity; therefore have I lifted up mine hand against them, saith the Lord GOD, and they shall bear their iniquity.

13 And they shall not come near unto me, to do the office of a priest unto me, nor to come near to any of my holy things, in the most holy [place]: but they shall bear their shame, and their abominations which they have committed.

14 But I will make them keepers of the charge of the house, for all the service thereof, and for all that shall be done therein.

15 But the priests the Levites, the sons of Zadok, that kept the charge of my sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from me, they shall come near to me to minister unto me, and they shall stand before me to offer unto me the fat and the blood, saith the Lord GOD:

16 They shall enter into my sanctuary, and they shall come near to my table, to minister unto me, and they shall keep my charge.

Zechariah Three

17 And it shall come to pass, [that] when they enter in at the gates of the inner court, they shall be clothed with linen garments; and no wool shall come upon them, whiles they minister in the gates of the inner court, and within.

18 They shall have linen bonnets upon their heads, and shall have linen breeches upon their loins; they shall not gird [themselves] with any thing that causeth sweat.

19 And when they go forth into the utter court, [even] into the utter court to the people, they shall put off their garments wherein they ministered, and lay them in the holy chambers, and they shall put on other garments; and they shall not sanctify the people with their garments.

20 Neither shall they shave their heads, nor suffer their locks to grow long; they shall only poll their heads.

21 Neither shall any priest drink wine, when they enter into the inner court.

22 Neither shall they take for their wives a widow, nor her that is put away: but they shall take maidens of the seed of the house of Israel, or a widow that had a priest before.

23 And they shall teach my people [the difference] between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.

24 And in controversy they shall stand in judgment; [and] they shall judge it according to my judgments: and they shall keep my laws and my statutes in all mine assemblies; and they shall hallow my sabbaths.

25 And they shall come at no dead person to defile themselves: but for father, or for mother, or for son, or for daughter, for brother, or for sister that hath had no husband, they may defile themselves.

26 And after he is cleansed, they shall reckon unto him seven days.

27 And in the day that he goeth into the sanctuary, unto the inner court, to minister in the sanctuary, he shall offer his sin offering, saith the Lord GOD.

28 And it shall be unto them for an inheritance: I [am] their inheritance: and ye shall give them no possession in Israel: I [am] their possession.

29 They shall eat the meat offering, and the sin offering, and the trespass offering: and every dedicated thing in Israel shall be theirs.

30 And the first of all the firstfruits of all [things], and every oblation of all, of every [sort] of your oblations, shall be the priest's: ye shall also give unto the priest the first of your dough, that he may cause the blessing to rest in thine house.

Rev. 20:6: heavenly preists.

6 Blessed and holy [is] he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

Is. 61:4,6,7, revised.

4 They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

6 but you shall be called the priests of the LORD, men shall speak of you as the ministers of our God; you shall eat the wealth of the nations, and in their riches you shall glory.

7 Instead of your shame you shall have a double portion, instead of dishonor you shall rejoice in your lot; therefore in your land you shall possess a double portion; you shall be everlasting joy.

This represents all of Israel

satan at right hand(?) 1st Peter 5:8:

Be sober, be vigilant; because your advesary the devil as a roaring lion walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

Verse 2:

And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: [is] not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

Israel is like a brand plucked from the fire; everyone is headed for certain destruction, but through the understanding and obedience to YAHWEH, we are delivered from the threat of death.

The plea of Israel, Jeremiah 10: 23-25:

23 O YAHWEH, I know that the way of man [is] not in himself: [it is] not in man that walketh to direct his steps.

24 O YAHWEH, correct me, but with judgment; not in thine anger, lest thou bring me to nothing.

25 Pour out thy fury upon the heathen that know thee not, and upon the families that call not on thy name: for they have eaten up Jacob, and devoured him, and consumed him, and have made his habitation desolate.

Verse 3:

Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel.

Israel clothed in filthy raiment shows the state of imperfection of Israel.

Scripture references:

all men have fallen short of the grace of God.

Zeph 2:1

Gather yourselves together, yea gather together, O nation not rapacious.(excessivly greedy)

Verse 4:

And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.

A change of clothing. The effort must be man's.

Rev. 7:14 washing thier robes.

What does it take to represent and serve YAHWEH; the changes we must go through. the cleansing of our hearts, minds, our desires.

Zechariah Three

Rev. 7:14 washing their robes.

14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

What does it take to represent and serve YAHWEH; the changes we must go through. the cleansing of our hearts, minds, our desires.

2nd Peter 1:

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make [you that ye shall] neither [be] barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake [as they were] moved by the Holy Ghost.

Verse 5:

And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD stood by.

high priest wore a turban; so this pictures the priesthood.

6 And the angel of the LORD protested unto Joshua, saying,
7 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; If thou wilt walk in my ways, and if thou wilt keep my charge, then thou shalt also judge my house, and shalt also keep my courts, and I will give thee places to walk among these that stand by.

8 Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they [are] men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.

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8 Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they [are] men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.
9 For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone [shall be] seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.
10 In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall ye call every man his neighbour under the vine and under the fig tree.

Zechariah Three

Transcribed from tape of Jeremiah using *The Authorized Version* of the Holy Bible.

Verse 1:

And he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of YAHWEH, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him.

Now Joshua, it later tells you that he is a type, a symbol of something else. Joshua the high priest, here, pictures YAHWEH'S People. And it not only pictures the Heavenly Class, but it pictures all of YAHWEH'S People--all of Israel.

Verse 2:

And YAHWEH said unto Satan, YAHWEH rebuke thee, O Satan; even YAHWEH that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

Now Joshua, picturing the entire class of Israel, is like a brand picked out, or plucked out of a fire. In other words, all of us are headed for the final battle. All of us are ready for destruction because the world will destroy itself. And YAHWEH delivers us as though HE plucked us out of the fire and saved us, because the fire is jealousy and destruction is certain. Israel comes out in the very last days. The world goes on not knowing what is happening and they will be completely consumed. Israel is saved miraculously through truth, through understanding. Israel alone understands what is going to happen to the world. Now there has been many, many plans that man has made in the past; many schemes that he has, you might say, has invented, where he reasons he can make things better for himself. Jeremiah answers that man is not made to go his own way (Jer. 10:23-25). He is not, the way of man is not of himself. In other words, man was not created to do his own ruling. Man's curse continues throughout eternity; for him to travel the road throughout eternity, he must be guided, he must have one leading him who knows the road ahead. YAHWEH is All-wise, meaning that HE knows everything past, present, and future. HIS Knowledge is complete. HIS Wisdom is complete. You might say that HE knows everything that is going on in the universe now. Every single thing. Like an example: HE says "every hair on your head is numbered." HE knows everything that ever happened, and HE knows everything that will happen in the future. Complete. There is no darkness with YAHWEH. This is more than the human mind can grasp, but this is YAHWEH. This is the GOD that you are serving. This is the GOD that is leading Israel. And Israel, who

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Zechariah Three

is truly intelligent, (the wise will understand), who is truly intelligent will follow this GOD. Those who are not too smart will figure that they can solve it, they can do things. Well, if they haven't had enough in 6,000 years of misery, I don't know what more it is going to take to teach them. But Israel is the one that is blessed by YAHWEH because they give HIM credit for HIS Wisdom and Power.

Verse 3:

Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel.

All of Israel comes out of the world. All of Israel, at one time, is filthy, is imperfect. YAHWEH cannot look upon imperfection. This is not what HE created. This is not what HE wanted. It had to be this way because we are free moral agents, we are stubborn, we have to find out for ourselves that there is no other way but YAHWEH'S Way. So HE does say "Gather yourselves together, O, unchastised nation." (Zeph.2:1){or with the Hebrew Translation; "Gather yourselves together, yea gather together, Oh nation not rapacious."} They are corrupted, they are imperfect, and all of Israel is as though they were clothed in filthy garments.

Verse 4:

And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.

Or a change of clothing. So the filthy garments are taken away and he gets a change of clothing. Now naturally this isn't going to be done by YAHWEH alone. The man must put forth effort. He works out his own salvation in fear and trembling. Meaning that he is careful to make sure that everything he does is right and doesn't take the wrong course. You must be concerned enough with the truth that let's say that half of it is not good enough. You must be careful to be accurate in every decision that you make. Making sure that you do please your GOD. It says in Revelation 7:14:

These are they which come out of a great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

In other words, YAHWEH'S People themselves wash their own robes and correct themselves. They do this, they please YAHWEH by having faith in YAHWEH'S Promises. Those who come unto HIM must believe that HE is. And without faith it is impossible to please HIM. In other words, when YAHWEH makes a statement, you don't just look at HIM and doubt it. It is impossible for YAHWEH to lie, HE doesn't need you, HE doesn't need anybody. Why should HE lie to you? When HE makes a statement; believe it. HE is YAHWEH. HE is not a politician. HE is going to bless the human race, this is what HE says. HE is way above falsehood of any kind, or misleading anyone. HE doesn't have to. So in order to please HIM, believe that what HE is and that HE will reward, just as HE says HE does.

Zechariah Three

Verse 5:

And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of YAHWEH stood by.

I'll read this from the *Jerusalem Bible*:

They clothed him in splendid robes of state and put a clean turban on his head.

This means he had met with YAHWEH'S Approval and that the clean clothes were ordered for him. The clean turban also indicates something. We find that the High Priest had to wear a turban. So this pictures all of YAHWEH'S Organization, the Priesthood and the Earthly Israel. In other words, he had a complete change of garments. This means that Israel now met with YAHWEH'S Approval.

Verse 6:

And the angel of YAHWEH protested unto Joshua, saying,

Now this protesting is wrong too, he did not protest. *The Revised Standard* says:

The angel of YAHWEH enjoined Joshua.

The Jerusalem Bible brings out:

The angel of Yahweh then proclaimed to Joshua:

In other words, spoke; not protested.

Verse 7:

Thus saith YAHWEH of hosts; If thou wilt walk in my ways, and if thou wilt keep my charge, then thou shalt also judge my house, and shalt also keep my courts, and I will give thee places to walk among these that stand by.

The Jerusalem Bible:

Yahweh Sabaoth says this, If you walk in my ways and keep my ordinances, you shall govern my house, you shall watch over my courts, and I will give thee free access among those who stand here.

Now this means that Israel who makes the grade will be in charge of everything. In charge of HIS House, and HIS Courts, both Heavenly and Earthly. Israel is HIS Inheritance and it will be Israel who accepts corrections and meets with YAHWEH'S Approval and proves that YAHWEH can trust them. And YAHWEH puts them in charge throughout eternity. HE says when the Kingdom is established it will not be left to other people, indicating that Israel who prove themselves will keep the

Zechariah Three

Kingdom forever. There will be no changes anymore. And YAHWEH knows when we have made the grade, and when we can accept responsibility.

Verse 8:

Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they [are] men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.

The Authorized Version is very unclear here. In other words, they are types. *The Jerusalem Bible* brings out:

Now listen, High Priest Joshua, you and the friends who sit before you-- for you are men of good omen.

Other translations bring out "you are types." But what it means is you are not the fulfillment right there but you are typical of something else.

When HE says "I will bring forth my servant the branch," we refer to Isaiah 11:1-2:

1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

2 And the spirit of YAHWEH shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of YAHWEH;

This is referring to Yahshua. Jeremiah 23:5 brings out:

Behold, the days come, saith YAHWEH, that I will raise unto David a righteous branch, and a king shall reign and prosper and shall execute judgement and justice in the earth.

Now the Branch that HE is referring to here is Yahshua. This is the One who is going to have the full responsibility over all of YAHWEH'S House and the others just symbolize the ones that are beneath Him.

Verse 9:

For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone [shall be] seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith YAHWEH of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

The stone that HE is referring to here is also Yahshua because HE brings out in Isaiah 28:16 (using the *Hebrew translation*, as translated from Jeremiah ¹):

Therefore thus speaks GOD YAHWEH: behold, lay in Zion stone, stone approved, corner, precious [a] foundation foundation, he who is firm not make haste.

¹ refer to last page of notes for more information.

Zechariah Three

The clarification:

Therefore thus saith YAHWEH GOD, behold, I will lay in Zion a stone, an approved stone, a precious corner stone, a foundation upon which all other foundations shall be built, he who is firm in his faith will not attempt to speed ahead.

Or will not be worried or concerned. So the stone that He is referring to here is Yahshua. Upon this one stone shall be seven eyes, or complete wisdom is what HE is referring to here. Now HE says I will engrave the graving thereof. Now the writing...{end of tape}

Zechariah Three

Updated information as of 7-4-89-gv

Verse 1: Satan standing at the right hand; ordinarily the right hand is the place of favor, in this instance it is the hand that is used to accomplish things. (example, Yahshua is at right hand of YAHWEH, because YAHWEH uses Yahshua to establish HIS Kingdom, and accomplish HIS Will) satan at the right hand of YAHWEH indicates the position, or place of authority that satan wants to attain. (refer to Isaiah 14)

Verse 2: The angel of YAHWEH is rebuking satan, it is not YAHWEH speaking directly to satan, the translators have neglected to put this in, an example is found in verse 6 where the angel of YAHWEH speaks to Joshua.

Verse 9: Refer to Hebrew Translation:

Clarification:

For behold Israel whom I have trodden down before you, because of my beloved Son, whom I have made all wise. Behold, I will open your mouth and engrave you in a manner that all may see and recognize, declares YAHWEH of hosts. And I will even remove your iniquity in you land at the same time.

Two stones; one trodden down is Israel. Shows the state of imperfection of Israel (born in sin, imperfections refrain us from living free from sin).

Second stone, with seven eyes is Yahshua. Seven denoting complete heavenly wisdom given.

"..because of my beloved son, whom I have made all wise." Because of the sacrifice of Yahshua, Israel's mouth will be opened by YAHWEH, or HE will teach us HIS Truths because Yahshua has opened the way for our redemption.

Israel engraved, or marked, showing that we belong to YAHWEH. At the time that we are cleansed (or striving to be cleansed), and are receiving HIS Truths (when HE is "opening our mouths"), we will be recognized as belonging to YAHWEH. The world will see that we are truly striving to serve YAHWEH, and that HE is dealing with us.

"I will even remove the iniquity in your land at the same time." By learning the truth, by striving to serve YAHWEH, and learning obedience to the FATHER and the Son, our iniquity will be removed. Our sins are covered as long as we strive to do what is right and not be willfully disobedient.

Verse 10:

In that day, saith YAHWEH of hosts, shall ye call every man his neighbour under the vine and under the fig tree.

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Zechariah Three

The Kingdom is the results of our obedience. Calling every man his neighbor shows total peace, total contentment.

Information taken from Isaiah 28 article written by Jeremiah:

The stone that is approved by YAHWEH and precious and whom HE makes the cornerstone, which is the beginning of the Building and therefore the Chief Stone in the Building, is Yahshua. The 144,000 who are the only others to be admitted into the Heavens, make up the rest of the Stones to complete the Spiritual Building. (refer to Rev. 7:4; and 1st Pet. 2:5, R.S.V.)

"A Foundation Foundation" means that Yahshua has become the supporting foundation for all other foundations poured by Israel, or that He becomes the Support, Instructor and Guide of Israel forever. "He who is firm not make haste." This means one who is strong in faith, firmly established, unable to be shaken for he is fully convinced, This individual will not make haste, or will not run ahead of YAHWEH, because he doubts and is therefore uneasy, but he will trust the guidance of the ONE who gave him this beautiful understanding and follow HIM to complete victory and everlasting fulfillment.

(GINGER
STETSON)

ZECHARIAH 3

"AND HE SHEWED ME JOSHUA THE HIGH PRIEST STANDING BEFORE THE ANGEL OF THE LORD, AND SATAN STANDING AT HIS RIGHT HAND TO RESIST HIM."

Joshua pictures Israel and Israel is made up of a heavenly and an earthly class. Revelation 9:16 says:

"AND THE NUMBER OF THE ARMY OF THE HORSEMEN WERE TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND THOUSAND; AND I HEARD THE NUMBER OF THEM."

So YAHWEH'S army numbers 200,000,000; the invisible and the visible ruling elements of YAHWEH'S organization. So Joshua is picturing YAHWEH'S complete organization--heavenly and earthly. Now Joshua is the "high priest". Revelation 20:6 states:

"BLESSED AND HOLY IS HE THAT HATH PART IN THE FIRST RESURRECTION: ON SUCH THE SECOND DEATH HATH NO POWER, BUT THEY SHALL BE PRIESTS OF GOD AND OF CHRIST, AND SHALL REIGN WITH HIM A THOUSAND YEARS."

Now this is referring to the heavenly class; showing us they are to be preists (and they rule over the earthly portion of YAHWEH'S organization). Isaiah 61:6 states:

"BUT YE SHALL BE NAMED THE PRIESTS OF THE LORD: MEN SHALL CALL YOU THE MINISTERS OF OUR GOD: YE SHALL EAT THE RICHES OF THE GENTILES, AND IN THEIR GLORY SHALL YE BOAST YOURSELVES."

So this verse is pertaining to Earthly Israel, who also will be priests. The role or the duty of a priest was or is to teach and guide others as to what YAHWEH wants of them. What offerings are acceptable to HIM and what are not. And this is what Israel will do. And all righteous hearted man will hear, listen and obey; thereby being acceptable to YAHWEH and will not perish when YAHWEH pours out HIS wrath upon this present evil, and corrupt system. They will become a part of YAHWEH'S kingdom and honor YAHWEH throughout eternity. Verse 1 continues:

"AND SATAN STANDING AT HIS RIGHT HAND TO RESIST HIM."

Peter 5:8 states:

"BE SOBER, BE VIGILANT; BECAUSE YOUR ADVESARY THE DEVIL, AS A ROARING LION WALKETH ABOUT, SEEKING WHOM HE MAY DEVOUR."

2

This means that the devil is constantly looking for a soft spot in our armor. We should always be on our guard; studying diligently, doing YAHWEH'S work, preaching HIS plan and purpose for mankind; setting up HIS earthly kingdom. Trying to keep our minds always on YAHWEH. We are imperfect and this is what satan counts on; always trying to have our iniquities, our faults overcome us. But we must remember that not one of Israel will be lost()and YAHWEH gives no more that we can bear(). We must always trust and put our faith in YAHWEH.

"AND THE LORD SAID UNTO SATAN, THE LORD REBUKE THEE
O, SATAN, EVEN THE LORD THAT HATH CHOSEN JERUSALEM
REBUKE THEE; IS NOT THIS A BRAND PLUCKED OUT OF THE
FIRE?

Here YAHWEH is rebuking satan, or reprimanding him. YAHWEH is an all wise God. He knows everything past, present and what will happen in the future. HIS knowledge is complete. Now when man was created, he was meant to be guided; not to go off on his own to do as he please. We are all imperfect and stem from the stock of Adam and YAHWEH knows all of this and HE reproves satan. Verse 2 continues:

"THE LORD THAT HATH CHOSE JERUSALEM REBUKE THEE"

Jerusalem is YAHWEH'S ruling city which is made up of 144,000. They rule from the heavens over YAHWEH'S earthly Israel. This fire is a destructive fire and Israel is headed for this destruction since they dwell in babylon, or this confused and corrupt system of things on the earth today--but, just as a "brand is plucked out of the fire" to be used, so all of Israel (imperfect as we are) will be plucked out of this system. We will learn the knowledge and purpose of YAHWEH and we will serve YAHWEH in a perfect and righteous matter. And gradually we will be perfect in every way; physically, mentally, spiritually.

"NOW JOSHUA WAS CLOTHED WITH FILTHY GARMENTS, AND
STOOD BEFORE THE ANGEL."

This is showing us that Joshua, or Israel is dirty or imperfect. YAHWEH cannot look upon imperfection because HE did not create it. And Israel comes out of this corrupt world, with all that we have learned from it. We are dirty, unclean, full of iniquities. But as we learn the truth and continue to progress in the knowledge we rid ourselves of our faults. It doesn't happen overnight and sometimes we fall, but always we go forward and eventually perfection is attained.

"AND HE ANSWERED AND SPAKE UNTO THOSE THAT STOOD
BEFORE HIM, SAYING, TAKE AWAY THE FILTHY GARMENTS
FROM HIM AND UNTO HIM, HE SAID, BEHOLD, I HAVE
CAUSED THINE INIQUITY TO PASS FROM THEE, AND I WILL
CLOTHE THEE IN CHANGE OF RAIMENT."

Now this is telling us that there is a change in clothing; from filthy garments to "splendid robes" as the Jerusalem Bible states. This is not going to be done for us. We must do this ourselves. Philippians 2:12 states:

"WHEREFORE, MY BELOVED, AS YE HAVE ALWAYS OBEYED, NOT AS IN MY PRESENCE ONLY, BUT NOW MUCH MORE IN MY ABSENCE, WORK OUT YOUR OWN SALVATION WITH FEAR AND TREMBLING."

REVELATION 7:14:

"AND I SAID UNTO HIM, SIR, THOU KNOWEST. AND HE SAID TO ME, THESE ARE THEY WHICH CAME OUT OF GREAT TRIBULATION AND HAVE WASHED THEIR ROBES, AND MADE THEM WHITE IN THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB."

So we must work out our own salvation but we could not even attempt this if Yahshua had not first shed His blood and ransomed us from death. When he died we were then given the opportunity to work out our own salvation. Being very careful in every decision we make, making sure that YAHWEH'S attributes of love, justice, wisdom and power are in use. To correct all of our faults and to please YAHWEH in all that we do. Thereby meeting with HIS approval. Verse 5 will be read from the Revised Standard Version:

"AND I SAID, LET THEM PUT A CLEAN TURBAN ON HIS HEAD. SO THEY PUT A CLEAN TURBAN ON HIS HEAD AND CLOTHED HIM WITH GARMENTS; AND THE ANGEL OF THE LORD WAS STANDING BY."

In times of old the High Priest had to wear a turban. So this is signifying the priesthood, picturing all of YAHWEH'S organization, both heavenly and earthly serving in this capacity. So we find Israel is clothed from head to foot(toe?) in clean raiments, or garments. Again showing that we are meeting with YAHWEH'S approval. Verse 6:

"AND THE ANGEL OF THE LORD PROTESTED UNTO JOSHUA, SAYING,"

This should not be "protested", but to "proclaim". R.S.V. says "enjoined" which means spoke or proclaimed. Verse 7 is also read from R.S.V.:

"THUS SAYS THE LORD OF HOSTS: IF YOU WILL WALK IN MY WAYS AND KEEP MY CHARGE, THEN YOU SHALL RULE MY HOUSE AND HAVE CHARGE OF MY COURTS AND I WILL GIVE YOU THE RIGHT OF ACCESS AMONG THOSE WHO ARE STANDING HERE."

4

Israel's position in YAHWEH'S organization is that of rulers. But we receive this position only after we prove that we are responsible enough to receive it. Only Israel is YAHWEH'S inheritance. And it is only Israel who are willing to accept correction and learn YAHWEH'S knowledge thereby obtaining HIS approval. Israel will have charge over HIS courts and everything and everyone in YAHWEH'S kingdom and they will do this for eternity; because now YAHWEH can truly trust HIS people. Israel judges Israel and also the regular ones who are instructed by Israel in YAHWEH'S knowledge and purpose for them. Verse 8:

"HEAR NOW, O JOSHUA THE HIGH PRIEST, YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS WHO SIT BEFORE YOU, FOR THEY ARE MEN OF GOOD OMEN: BEHOLD, I WILL BRING MY SERVANT THE BRANCH."

Young's Literal is better as the authorized is unclear:

"Hear I PRAY THEE, JOSHUA, THE HIGH PRIEST, THOU AND THY COMPANIONS SITTING BEFORE THEE; FOR MEN OF TYPES ARE THEY."

Again showing that Joshua is being used as a type. And this type is Israel. The Israel of promise. The verse continues:

"BEHOLD I WILL BRING FORTH MY SERVANT THE BRANCH."

Isaiah 11:1-2:

"AND THERE SHALL COME FORTH A ROD OUT OF THE STEM OF JESSE, AND A BRANCH SHALL GROW OUT OF HIS ROOTS:2) AND THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD SHALL REST UPON HIM, THE SPIRIT OF COUNSEL AND MIGHT, THE SPIRIT OF KNOWLEDGE AND OF FEAR OF THE LORD."

Jeremiah 23:5:

"BEHOLD, THE DAYS COME, SAITH THE LORD, THAT I WILL RAISE UNTO DAVID A RIGHTEOUS BRANCH, AND A KING SHALL REIGN AND PROSPER, AND SHALL EXECUTE JUDDGEMENT AND JUSTICE IN THE EARTH."

The Branch is Yashua and it is He who has the ultimate responsibility of handing YAHWEH'S perfected kingdom back to HIM. He is our King, and Ruler over all of YAHWEH'S kingdoms.

Verse 9 will be first read from the Authorized, but then the correct translation as taken directly from the Hebrew, by Jeremiah:

"FOR BEHOLD, UPON THE STONE WHICH I HAVE SET BEFORE JOSHUA, UPON A SINGLE STONE WITH SEVEN FACETS, I WILL ENGRAVE ITS INSCRIPTION, SAYS THE LORD OF HOSTS, AND I WILL REMOVE THE GUILT OF THIS LAND IN A SINGLE DAY."

And now the verse correctly translated and expressed in the English Language:

"FOR BEHOLD ISRAEL WHOM I HAVE TRODDEN DOWN BEFORE YOU, BECAUSE OF MY BELOVED SON WHOM I HAVE MADE ALL WISE. BEHOLD I WILL OPEN YOUR MOUTH AND ENGRAVE YOU IN A MANNER THAT ALL MAY SEE AND RECOGNIZE DECLARES YAHWEH OF HOSTS. AND I WILL EVEN REMOVE YOUR INIQUITY IN YOUR LAND AT THE SAME TIME.

There are 2 stones mentioned. The first stone mentioned is Israel and the second stone is Yahshua. It is Israel who is promised all of the blessings from YAHWEH. But here it says HE will "trodden them down", this is because Israel, like all of man are born in sin.

Psalm 53:3:

"THEY HAVE ALL FALLEN AWAY; THEY ARE ALL ALIKE DEPRAVED; THERE IS NONE THAT DOES GOOD, NO, NOT ONE."

Psalm 51:5:

"BEHOLD, I WAS BROUGHT FORTH IN INIQUITY, AND IN SIN DID MY MOTHER CONCEIVE ME."

Psalm 49:7-9,15

"TRULY NO MAN CAN RANSOM HIMSELF, OR GIVE TO GOD THE PRICE OF HIS LIFE, 8) FOR THE RANSON OF HIS LIFE IS COSTLY, AND CAN NEVER SUFFICE, 9) THAT HE SHOULD CONTINUE TO LIVE ON FOREVER, AND NEVER SEE THE PIT. 15) BUT GOD WILL RANSOM MY SOUL FROM THE POWER OF SHEOL, FOR HE WILL RECIEVE ME."

Now remembering we are born with sin and we cannot ransom ourselves, YAHWEH ransoms us by bringing forth HIS Branch, bringing HIS son Yahshua forward to ransom us.

John 1:29

"THE NEXT DAY HE SAW JESUS COMING TOWARD HIM, AND SAID, BEHOLD, THE LAMB OF GOD WHO TAKES AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD!"

John 10:17-18

"FOR THIS REASON THE FATHER LOVES ME, BECAUSE I LAY DOWN MY LIFE, THAT I MAY TAKE IT AGAIN. 18) NO ONE TAKES IT FROM ME, BUT I LAY IT DOWN OF MY OWN ACCORD. I HAVE POWER TO LAY IT DOWN, AND I HAVE POWER TO TAKE IT AGAIN; THIS CHARGE I HAVE RECIEVED FROM MY FATHER."

So Yahshua takes away our sins by giving His life as a ransom price. Because Yahshua willingly gave up His life to ransom us, we are now His. He bought us as we are; imperfect. Whereas YAHWEH cannot look at us in this imperfect state, Yahshua bought us as we are. He then proceeds to bring us back to a perfect condition so He can hand us back to YAHWEH, His father and ours. Now because Yahshua has done this, YAHWEH says "because of my beloved son whom I have made all wise" or because Yahshua has done this for us, "behold, I will open your mouth" HE opens Israel's mouth, and "engrave you in a manner that all may see and recognize, declares YAHWEH of hosts." He opens our mouth HE teaches us the truth. We can now vindicate YAHWEH'S name by preaching HIS truth throughout the world. Engraving us shows that we are marked, or recognized that we belong to YAHWEH. The world will know that we are YAHWEH'S servants and that we are doing HIS will. "I will even remove the iniquity in your land at the same time" Remove the iniquity; because Yahshua laid down His life for us, YAHWEH then removes our imperfections. Our sins are covered as long as we are obedient to Yahshua, and obedient to YAHWEH. As long as we are not deliberately disobedient and striving to do what is right, our sins will be covered.

Verse 10:

"IN THAT DAY, SAITH THE LORD OF HOSTS, SHALL YE CALL EVERY MAN HIS NEIGHBOR UNDER THE VINE AND UNDER THE FIG TREE."

This will be the condition of the kingdom. No one will try to obtain what his neighbor has because everyone will have all they need. We will trust each other completely, no one will want more than the next person. We'll totally enjoy each others company. No suspicion, hatred or jealousy any of these evil traits in YAHWEH'S perfect kingdom.

Zechariah Three

Gloria Volpe

Introduction:

This study concerns the role of Israel, YAHWEH'S Servants. Israel is the one that will perform the will of YAHWEH, they recognize the need to serve their CREATOR, and they desire to lead all other righteously motivated individuals to HIM.

Isaiah 49:3:

Thou [art] my servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified.

YAHWEH will be glorified by Israel. This will be accomplished by a great testimony that will take place in the last days, in which YAHWEH'S Purpose will be brought out, entirely.

Matthew 24:14 brings outs:

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, as a testimony to all nations; and then the end will come.

In this study, Joshua is used to typify all of Israel. Both the Heavenly and Earthly portions of YAHWEH'S Organization. Joshua was a High Priest. The role of a priest was very important to the Israelites.

Among the many functions of the priesthood, such as offering sacrifices for the sins of Israel, they were commanded to teach the law to the people. Through this understanding, and knowledge of the Law, all the people of Israel would be able to honor their CREATOR. This will be the duty of Israel in the last days. To minister the law of YAHWEH to the people, to lead them to the Purpose of YAHWEH. To offer the sacrifice of their lives, the total devotion of their hearts, and minds to serve their GOD; to see HIS Purpose fulfilled.

Ezekiel 44:11,23,24:

11 Yet they shall be ministers in my sanctuary, [having] charge at the gates of the house, and ministering to the house: they shall slay the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister unto them.

Verses 23, and 24 bring out the duties of these ministers of YAHWEH:

23 And they shall teach my people [the difference] between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.

24 And in controversy they shall stand in judgment; [and] they shall judge it according to my judgments: and they shall keep my

Zechariah Three

laws and my statutes in all mine assemblies; and they shall hallow my sabbaths.

In the times of old, the priests were also responsible for the upkeep of the Temple, any repairs that were necessary they would see to. This pictures another function of Israel in the Kingdom, that of maintaining YAHWEH'S Temple. The temple of YAHWEH will not be a physical structure, but an Organization that will run as efficiently, and as smoothly as a fine piece of machinery. Those that YAHWEH will use to acheive this will be Israel. As the name implies, these are those who strive for YAHWEH. These will adhere to the Prophets, who are given strict instructions from the Heavenly Organization, and minister to others that make up this Earthly Organization. Making sure that all the needs are met of every individual, insuring that all transactions are done righteously and justly.

Verse 1:

And he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of YAHWEH, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him.

So here is Joshua the high priest, this is representing all of Israel, standing before YAHWEH. This shows that YAHWEH is dealing with them. Leading them, guiding them. They are receiving HIS Instructions.

Satan standing at the right hand. Ordinarily, the right hand shows the place of favor, such as the eldest son receiving the blessing of the right hand. But in this instance, the right hand is the hand that is used to accomplish things. This would show that satan is ever present as the advesary of YAHWEH. It has been his sincere desire to be like the Almighty YAHWEH. As Isaiah 14 brought out satan's claim:

13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven,
I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also
upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:
14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like
the most High. (the next verse brings out that he will fail)
15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the
pit.

Likewise it has been satan's pursuit to tempt, and sway all others from serving YAHWEH. By obtaining more converts, he must feel that he would most certainly win this war. And so through all types of deciet, through all sorts of oppression, he tries to gain his followers.

1st Peter 5:8 warns us:

Be sober, be vigilant; because your advesary the devil, as a roaring lion walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

Verse 2:

And YAHWEH said unto Satan, YAHWEH rebuke thee, O Satan; even YAHWEH that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: [is] not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

Here YAHWEH is rebuking satan, stating that HE has already chosen Jerusalem, and as for all of Israel, "is this not a brand plucked from the fire?" Firstly, Jerusalem is made up of 144,000 members, and this is part of HIS Heavenly Organization. Jerusalem is where the word, or instructions come from as Isaiah 2:3 states:

For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of YAHWEH from Jerusalem.

This shows the channel of authority stemming from the heavens, briefly: Zion is made up of Yahshua and the New Jerusalem, and the Law comes from YAHWEH to Zion, and then it is passed through Jerusalem to the angelic host who are serving as messengers, straight to the Prophets who are guiding all of Israel, and the rest of the earth's population.

This was the intent of YAHWEH before satan was even created. YAHWEH foreknew all events that were to happen, and HE already had planned on redeeming mankind, and establishing an organization well before man was created and had ever sinned.

HE continues by saying "is this not a brand plucked out the fire?" This is all of Israel. A brand that is plucked out of the fire is something that is delivered from a certain destruction. This world is headed on a course of certain destruction. Isaiah 34:1,2 brings out that YAHWEH is enraged against all nations and has doomed them for slaughter. They are headed for destruction, but Israel is like a brand plucked from the fire; through the understanding and strict obedience to YAHWEH, they are delivered from the threat of death.

The plea of Israel, found in Jeremiah 10:23-25(R.S.V.):

23 I know, O YAHWEH, that the way of man is not in himself, that it is not in man who walks to direct his steps.

24 Correct me, O YAHWEH, but in just measure; not in thy anger, lest thou bring me to nothing.

25 Pour out thy wrath upon the nations that know thee not, and upon the peoples that call not on thy name;

So this destruction is due for those who call not on YAHWEH, who do not adhere to HIS Provisions, who reject HIS Purpose, and thus they bring upon their own destruction.

Verse 3:

Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel.

Israel clothed in filthy raiment shows the state of imperfection of Israel. All of Israel comes out of this corrupt, and filthy world with all

that they have learned from it. All of Israel at one time is filthy; unclean, full of iniquities. YAHWEH cannot look upon this imperfection, this is not what HE created. As we learn the truth, and continue to progress in knowledge we learn to clean ourselves, wash our own robes, correct our imperfections.

Verse 4:

And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.

This demonstrates clearly that the clothing is symbolic, for HE says, "I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee," In other words, a change of raiment, or cleansing the imperfections. As I brought out this effort must be man's. Revelaton 7:14 brings out that we wash our own robes in the blood of the Messiah. Meaning that it is only through His Sacrifice that we are able to obtain this chance for redemption.

To represent and serve YAHWEH; we must go through changes, it is actually a cleansing of our hearts, our minds, and our desires.

We correct ourselves in stages, first we gain the knowledge, then we can recognize what steps have to be taken for our correction. 2nd Peter 1:5-9 brings out that some of the things that we strive for, help to bring on other qualities that will also help us improve:

- 5 For this very reason make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge,(virtue; a commendable quality such as uprightness, or righteousness)
- 6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness

These things each encourage the other traits. With faith comes virtue, and with virtue comes knowledge, and with the knowledge gained, we can learn to practice self-control, and the more we strive for self-control, then we gain steadfastness, or, we become more and more dedicated to YAHWEH, and this of course will eventually bring us to our goal of GODliness. And as verse 8 brings out:

- 8 For if these things are yours and abound, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Yahshua.

So in this manner, we strive to cleanse ourselves, to make a more acceptable sacrifice to YAHWEH, to honor HIM even more.

Verse 5:

And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of YAHWEH stood by.

Verse 5(R.S.V.):

And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments; and the angel of YAHWEH was standing by.

Verse 5(Jerusalem Trans.):

and put a clean turban on his head." They clothed him in splendid robes of state and put a clean turban on his head.

The turban indicates the attire of the priesthood. The priests had special garments to wear. These garments symbolized purity, and devotion to YAHWEH.

This change of clothing, as I mentioned, indicates a cleansed condition. This means they are cleansed, and are meeting with YAHWEH'S Approval, and when they are cleansed,(even while they are cleansing themselves) they will serve in the capacity of priests, or ministers.

Verse 6(R.S.V.):

And the angel of YAHWEH enjoined Joshua,

(enjoined means to command, order, or to bid.)

Verse 7(R.S.V.)

Thus says YAHWEH of hosts: if you will walk in my ways and keep my charge, then you shall rule my house and have charge of my courts and I will give you the right of access among those who are standing here.

And so after striving for YAHWEH, striving to cleanse our imperfections, striving to do HIS Will, Israel is rewarded with the position or charge of his household. This means after we have corrected ourselves, and met with YAHWEH'S Approval, by following HIS ordinances, and walking in HIS ways, then we have shown that we can accept the responsibility as rulers in HIS Organization.

Verse 8:

Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they [are] men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.

Verse 8(Young's Literal Trans.):

Hear, I pray thee, Joshua, the High Priest, thou and thy companions sitting before thee; for men of types are they.

This explains that these are only types, examples of the Promised Israel to come.

The verse continues, and says, "Behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH." This branch is Yahshua.

Isaiah 11:1,2:

- 1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots:
- 2 And the spirit of YAHWEH shall rest upon him, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of fear of YAHWEH.

Or reverence for YAHWEH.

Also Jeremiah 23:5 brings out concerning Yahshua:

Behold, the days come, saith YAHWEH, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a king shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgement and justice in the earth.

So this branch is Yahshua, and He will be King and Ruler over all of Israel. Leading them in the ways of YAHWEH, guiding them to perfection. It is His responsibility to restore mankind to perfection.

Verse 9:

For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone [shall be] seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith YAHWEH of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

Verse 9, as correctly translated, the clarification:

For behold Israel whom I have trodden down before you, because of my beloved Son, whom I have made all wise. Behold, I will open your mouth and engrave you in a manner that all may see and recognize, declares YAHWEH of hosts. And I will even remove your iniquity in your land at the same time.

Note, there are two stones, one is laid, or more correctly translated, trodden down, one has seven eyes.

Israel is the first stone. The verse brings down they are trodden down. This explains the present condition of Israel. They are born of sin, and likewise our imperfection refrains us from living free from sin.

Which brings us to the second stone, the one which the Authorized brings out has seven eyes, This is Yahshua. The seven eyes shows the complete

heavenly wisdom He has been given by YAHWEH. This knowledge and wisdom was given because of the supreme sacrifice of Yahshua. He laid down His life so that all mankind would be free of the inherited sin of Adam, and so that they would have a chance to receive the everlasting life that YAHWEH had to offer. As John 1:29 refers to Yahshua:

Behold, the Lamb of GOD who takes away the sins of the world.

So it is only because of this sacrifice, that we are free from the death sentence of Adam. And because Yahshua did this, YAHWEH says:

because of my beloved son whom I have made all wise,

or because Yahshua has done this for us, that:

behold I will open your mouth and engrave you in a manner that all may see and recognize, declares YAHWEH of hosts.

YAHWEH is speaking to Israel, and HE says, "HE will open our mouths, and engrave us in a manner that all may see and recognize," HE opens our mouths, or HE teaches us HIS Truth. It is at this point that we can now preach, and vindicate YAHWEH'S Holy Name. Engraving us shows that we are marked, or it is recognized that we belong to YAHWEH. Through our message, through our actions, the world will see that we are serving YAHWEH, and that HE is dealing with us.

I will even remove the iniquity in your land at the same time.

The iniquity is removed. At the time that Yahshua laid down His life, and bought us, inherited sin was removed. It is then up to us to recognize this, and strive to serve our CREATOR. Thus by learning the truth, learning and striving to be Israel, learning obedience to the FATHER and the Son, our iniquity is removed. And even though it takes all of the 1,000 year reign of Yahshua for us to attain perfection, our sins are covered as long as we are not willfully disobedient, and ever striving to do what is right.

Verse 10:

In that day, saith YAHWEH of hosts, shall ye call every man his neighbour under the vine and under the fig tree.

This is the result of our obedience, This is a result of striving for YAHWEH, the blessings shall be numerous. "...ye shall call every man his neighbor under the vine and under the fig tree." This shows total peace, total contentment, this could only result from the Almighty YAHWEH.

Revelation 21:4:

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

1st Corinthians 2:9:

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

Zechariah Three

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Verses 23, and 24 bring out the duties of these ministers of YAHWEH: (this verse refers to the Sons of Zadok, note the difference in the duties between the two. Note the greater responsibilities, whereas the Levitical Class dealt directly with the Regular ones, or the people, the Sons of Zadok are being dealt with by the Prophets, and then in turn dealing with the Levitical Class.)

Zechariah Three

23 And they shall teach my people [the difference] between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.

24 And in controversy they shall stand in judgment; [and] they shall judge it according to my judgments: and they shall keep my laws and my statutes in all mine assemblies; and they shall hallow my sabbaths.

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Zechariah Three

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Verse 4:

Zechariah Three

And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.

This demonstrates clearly that the clothing is symbolic, for HE says, "I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee," In other words, a change of raiment, or cleansing the imperfections. As I brought out this effort must be man's. Revelaton 7:14 brings out that we wash our own robes in the blood of the Messiah. Meaning that it is only through His Sacrifice that we are able to obtain this chance for redemption.

To represent and serve YAHWEH; we must go through changes, it is actually a cleansing of our hearts, our minds, and our desires.

We correct ourselves in stages, first we gain the knowledge, then we can recognize what steps have to be taken for our correction. 2nd Peter 1:5-9 brings out that some of the things that we strive for, help to bring on other qualities that will also help us improve:

- 5 For this very reason make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge,(virtue; a commendable quality such as uprightness, or righteousness)
- 6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness

These things each encourage the other traits. With faith comes virtue, and with virtue comes knowledge, and with the knowledge gained, we can learn to practice self-control, and the more we strive for self-control, then we gain steadfastness, or, we become more and more dedicated to YAHWEH, and this of course will eventually bring us to our goal of GODliness. And as verse 8 brings out:

- 8 For if these things are yours and abound, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Yahshua.

So in this manner, we strive to cleanse ourselves, to make a more acceptable sacrifice to YAHWEH, to honor HIM even more.

Verse 5:

And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of YAHWEH stood by.

Verse 5(R.S.V.):

And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments; and the angel of YAHWEH was standing by.

Verse 5(Jerusalem Trans.):

and put a clean turban on his head." They clothed him in splendid robes of state and put a clean turban on his head.

The turban indicates the attire of the priesthood. The priests had special garments to wear. These garments symbolized purity, and devotion to YAHWEH.

This change of clothing, as I mentioned, indicates a cleansed condition. This means they are cleansed, and are meeting with YAHWEH'S Approval, and when they are cleansed,(even while they are cleansing themselves) they will serve in the capacity of priests, or ministers.

Verse 6(R.S.V.):

And the angel of YAHWEH enjoined Joshua,

(enjoined means to command, order, or to bid.)

Verse 7(R.S.V.)

Thus says YAHWEH of hosts: if you will walk in my ways and keep my charge, then you shall rule my house and have charge of my courts and I will give you the right of access among those who are standing here.

And so after striving for YAHWEH, striving to cleanse our imperfections, striving to do HIS Will, Israel is rewarded with the position or charge of his household. This means after we have corrected ourselves, and met with YAHWEH'S Approval, by following HIS ordinances, and walking in HIS ways, then we have shown that we can accept the responsibility as rulers in HIS Organization.

Verse 8:

Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they [are] men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.

Zechariah Three

Verse 8(*Young's Literal Trans.*):

Hear, I pray thee, Joshua, the High Priest, thou and thy companions sitting before thee; for men of types are they.

This explains that these are only types, examples of the Promised Israel to come.

The verse continues, and says, "Behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH." This branch is Yahshua.

Isaiah 11:1,2:

1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots:

2 And the spirit of YAHWEH shall rest upon him, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of fear of YAHWEH.

Or reverence for YAHWEH.

Also Jeremiah 23:5 brings out concerning Yahshua:

Behold, the days come, saith YAHWEH, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a king shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgement and justice in the earth.

So this branch is Yahshua, and He will be King and Ruler over all of Israel. Leading them in the ways of YAHWEH, guiding them to perfection. It is His responsibility to restore mankind to perfection.

Verse 9:

For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone [shall be] seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith YAHWEH of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

Verse 9, as correctly translated, the clarification:

For behold Israel whom I have trodden down before you, because of my beloved Son, whom I have made all wise. Behold, I will open your mouth and engrave you in a manner that all may see and recognize, declares YAHWEH of hosts. And I will even remove your iniquity in your land at the same time.

Note, there are two stones, one is laid, or more correctly translated, trodden down, one has seven eyes.

Israel is the first stone. The verse brings down they are trodden down. This explains the present condition of Israel. They are born of sin, and likewise our imperfection refrains us from living free from sin.

Which brings us to the second stone, the one which the Authorized brings out has seven eyes, This is Yahshua. The seven eyes shows the complete heavenly wisdom He has been given by YAHWEH. This knowledge and wisdom was given because of the supreme sacrifice of Yahshua. He laid down His life so that all mankind would be free of

Zechariah Three

the inherited sin of Adam, and so that they would have a chance to receive the everlasting life that YAHWEH had to offer. As John 1:29 refers to Yahshua:

Behold, the Lamb of GOD who takes away the sins of the world.

So it is only because of this sacrifice, that we are free from the death sentence of Adam. And because Yahshua did this, YAHWEH says:

because of my beloved son whom I have made all wise,

or because Yahshua has done this for us, that:

behold I will open your mouth and engrave you in a manner that all may see and recognize, declares YAHWEH of hosts.

YAHWEH is speaking to Israel, and HE says, "HE will open our mouths, and engrave us in a manner that all may see and recognize," HE opens our mouths, or HE teaches us HIS Truth. It is at this point that we can now preach, and vindicate YAHWEH'S Holy Name. Engraving us shows that we are marked, or it is recognized that we belong to YAHWEH. Through our message, through our actions, the world will see that we are serving YAHWEH, and that HE is dealing with us.

I will even remove the iniquity in your land at the same time.

The iniquity is removed. At the time that Yahshua laid down His life, and bought us, inherited sin was removed. It is then up to us to recognize this, and strive to serve our CREATOR. Thus by learning the truth, learning and striving to be Israel, learning obedience to the FATHER and the Son, our iniquity is removed. And even though it takes all of the 1,000 year reign of Yahshua for us to attain perfection, our sins are covered as long as we are not willfully disobedient, and ever striving to do what is right.

Verse 10:

In that day, saith YAHWEH of hosts, shall ye call every man his neighbour under the vine and under the fig tree.

This is the result of our obedience, This is a result of striving for YAHWEH, the blessings shall be numerous. "..ye shall call every man his neighbor under the vine and under the fig tree." This shows total peace, total contentment, this could only result from the Almighty YAHWEH.

Revelation 21:4:

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

1st Corinthians 2:9:

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.