Lesson Five: The Fifth Night Vision

The Golden Lampstand and the Two Olive Trees (4:1-14)

- 4:1,2,3 Then the angel who talked with me returned and wakened me, as a man is wakened from his sleep. ² He asked me, "What do you see?" I answered, "I see a solid gold lampstand with a bowl at the top and seven lights on it, with seven channels to the lights. ³ Also there are two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left."
 - 1. Make a list of the items of this vision.
- 4:4,5 I asked the angel who talked with me, "What are these, my lord?" ⁵ He answered, "Do you not know what these are?" "No, my lord," I replied. ⁶ So he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel ...
 - 2. How does Zechariah respond when he sees the vision?

The Fourth Oracle, Part One: Zech. 4:6b-10

Special Note: With this first part of the oracle, God interrupts his vision of the temple to explain how God will use Zerubbabel to complete the rebuilding. This explains to Zechariah the focus of his mission among the exiles.

- 4:6b 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty.
 - 3. Call to mind the challenge facing the exiles as they stood in the ruins of Jerusalem by listing again the history of the rebuilding project for the temple, indicating when the rebuilding began, and when it was halted, and for how long it remained untended.
- 4:7 "What are you, O mighty mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become level ground. Then he will bring out the capstone to shouts of 'God bless it! God bless it!'"
 - 4. To what does the metaphor of the "mighty mountain" standing in front of Zerubbabel refer and what promise does God make concerning this "mountain"?

4:8,9 Then the word of the LORD came to me: ⁹ "The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this temple; his hands will also complete it. Then you will know that the LORD Almighty has sent me to you.

5. Who is the "me" and who is the "you" in this verse, and what is the assurance God is giving the exiles?

4:10a "Who despises the day of small things? ...

6. As the second temple neared completion and its shape came into view, the older exiles who had memories of the first temple of Solomon "began to weep" (Ezra 3:12,13; Hag.2:3,4) There was no comparison between the two. Of what spiritual truth does God remind the Jews with this verse?

The Fourth Oracle, Part Two: Zech. 4:10b-14 The Messenger returns to the discussion of the Temple and its rebuilding!

4:10b ... Men will rejoice when they see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. "(These seven are the eyes of the LORD, which range throughout the earth.)"

7. According to the oracle, to what is God referring in the vision which he now identifies as the "seven eyes of the Lord" watching over the world?

4:11-14 Then I asked the angel, "What are these two olive trees on the right and the left of the lampstand?" ¹² Again I asked him, "What are these two olive branches beside the two gold pipes that pour out golden oil?" ¹³ He replied, "Do you not know what these are?" "No, my lord," I said. ¹⁴ So he said, "These are the two who are anointed to serve the Lord of all the earth."

- 8. Explain the meaning of the two olive trees in the vision which the angel describes as the "two sons of oil"!
- 9. Remembering the lampstand, the two olive trees, and the message to Zerubbabel before the mountain, what "spiritual principle" is revealed in this fifth night vision of Zechariah?