**April 29, 2021**

**BIBLE STUDY**

**Refuge Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc.**

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**SATAN, THE LORD REBUKE THEE**

**ZECHARIAH 3:1-10**

***Zechariah 3:1 "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."***

The fourth vision involved Joshua standing before the angel of the Lord, with Satan standing at his right side to accuse him. In this, Joshua represents the priesthood, and he, also, represents the people. Standing indicates a judgment. The angel of the LORD has to do with the Judge of all the world, Jesus. Satan, the accuser, was standing at the right hand of Joshua. Satan was there to accuse Joshua to the Judge. Satan is the Hebrew word that means “adversary.” It is also used as a proper name to refer to the one known in Scripture as “the evil one” (Matthew 6:13; 2 Thessalonians 3:3), “the devil,” “the ancient serpent,” and “the great dragon” (Revelation 12:9). Satan was once a righteous angel, but he rebelled against the Lord and fell from grace. As the chief demon, he has set up a rival “kingdom” in opposition to God (Matthew 12:26). He is “the god of this age” (2 Corinthians 4:4), “the ruler of the power of the air” (Ephesians 2:2), and “the one who deceives the whole world” (Revelation 12:9). He tempted Adam and Eve to reject God’s word (Genesis 3:1-5) and still tempts us today. He seeks to hinder the work of God’s kingdom in the world (see Mark 4:15; 1 Thessalonians 2:18). One of the chief ways Satan opposes God’s kingdom is by acting as “the accuser of our brothers and sisters” whom he “accuses before our God day and night” (Revelation 12:10). We see Satan’s accusing work in the life of Job (Job 1:9-11; 2:4-5), and we see it here in Zechariah. Joshua represented all the people. We, too, will stand before the Judge of all the world and give account. Satan accuses us constantly to the Father. Jesus is our intercessor. He pleads for us. He is our counsel.

***Zechariah 3:2 "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?"***

The LORD is over Satan. When we stand against Satan, it is the name of Jesus that actually rebukes Satan. He would not listen to any rebuke that we might bring, but he must bow to the name of Jesus. God has not turned from His people, just because they have sinned. They are still His people.

***Romans 8:33 "Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? [It is] God that justifieth."***

***Romans 8:34 "Who [is] he that condemneth? [It is] Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us."***

God had plucked Israel out of the fire of captivity in Babylon. Satan tries to remind God of their sins. Jesus paid the price in full for their sins, and for ours. God had a plan of salvation. When Satan stood by Joshua to accuse him, the Lord came to Joshua’s defense with a rebuke for Satan.

***Zechariah 3:3 "Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel."***

These filthy garments symbolize being clothed in sins. The filthy garments is speaking of the sin of the priesthood, but it, also, speaks of the sins of the people. Any of us that stand before Jesus in the garments we have provided for ourselves, would be just like this Joshua.

***Isaiah 64:6 "But we are all as an unclean [thing], and all our righteousnesses [are] as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away."***

***Zechariah 3:4 "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."***

The raiment here is Jesus' raiment. In a sense, Joshua is just like the believers in Christ. We gave Him our sins {filthy garments}, and He gave us His righteousness {robe washed in His blood}. The garment that the LORD provided made him worthy. It is a robe of righteousness. He took the priest's sins, when he took the stained garment. He robed Him in His garment of righteousness.

***Revelation 1:5 "And from Jesus Christ, [who is] the faithful witness, [and] the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,"***

***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."***

***Zechariah 3:5 "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."***

The "head" symbolizes the mind. In receiving this fair mitre, he symbolically took on the mind of Christ. The LORD re-instated him to his authority and power.

***Zechariah 3:6 "And the angel of the LORD protested unto Joshua, saying,"***

***Zechariah 3:7 "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."***

This is saying that Joshua must walk in the salvation he has received. This is one of the most important things for Joshua to remember, and for all believers to remember, as well. Salvation is a daily walk with Jesus. The conditions of his power to judge, depend on his steadfastness in Jesus.

***Matthew 19:28 "And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."***

***Revelation 3:21 "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne."***

The key word in verse 7 above is "if". All of his ability to judge, depends on whether he stays in God's path and keeps His commandments. With this cleansing work of God accomplished, he charged Joshua to walk in his ways, keep his mandates, and rule his house (that is, the temple). Though Satan is “a liar and the father of lies” (John 8:44), sometimes, when he points out our sin, his accusations are correct. Enter the redeeming work of Jesus Christ on the cross to forgive believers and set them free from slavery to sin. In spite of Satan’s continual accusations, Christians have “conquered him by the blood of the Lamb” (Rev 12:10-11). And, in light of the cleansing power of Christ’s blood, we can accomplish the kingdom tasks that God puts before us. In order for him to grant you access to his kingdom power and restore you to your kingdom position and purpose, he calls you to repent and walk in his ways and keep his mandates. This is the appropriate response to God’s grace.

***Luke 22:31-32***

***31 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:***

***32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.***

***John 21:15-17***

***15 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.***

***16 He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep.***

***17 He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.***

***Zechariah 3:8 "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 cleansing of the High Priest Joshua and his fellow priests was a sign that God was about to bring his servant, the Branch. The careful reader of the Old Testament knows that this is a messianic reference. The "BRANCH" is Jesus Christ. God had promised David that a dynasty of kings would descend from him, leading to a King who would have an eternal throne and kingdom. But most of the Davidic kings rebelled against the Lord; therefore, they experienced God’s judgment when Judah was carried into exile by Babylon. Nevertheless, God promised, “A shoot will grow from the stump of Jesse [David’s father], and a branch from his roots will bear fruit”. Though the Davidic dynasty had experienced the ax of God’s judgment, the stump and its roots were still there, and a branch would grow “the Branch of the Lord” (Isa 4:2), the Messiah. The high priest always had priests who worked under him. This is the promise of the coming Messiah. Joshua is to begin telling the priests, that the coming of Messiah is near. Not only is Joshua to give his attention to this, but he is to spread the news to the priests, as well.

***Isaiah 11:1 "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:"***

***Romans 1:3 "Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;"***

***Zechariah 3:9 "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."***

The church of our Lord Jesus Christ is to be established through this BRANCH. All sin will be abolished, when washed in the blood of the Lamb {Jesus}. "Eyes" denote wisdom, and "seven" means spiritually complete. This wisdom is so great, it is perfection. The iniquity is removed on the day when Jesus shed His blood for the sins of the world. Jesus actually took the sin of the world upon His body, and sin died on the cross. Jesus became our substitute. This stone is that Corner Stone {Jesus Christ}.

***Colossians 2:9 "For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily."***

***Zechariah 3:10 "In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall ye call every man his neighbour under the vine and under the fig tree."***

There will be peace in that day when Jesus reigns as King. He is the God of Peace. There will be prosperity, as well. He will provide all our needs. Satan will be bound, and there will be no jealousy among neighbors. There will be plenty of everything for the physical man and for the spirit of man. The "vine" symbolizes Jesus. The fig tree symbolizes Israel. We see in this, that salvation is offered to all of mankind in that day.

***John 15:5 "I am the vine, ye [are] the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."***

***Luke 21:28-31***

***28 And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.***

***29 And he spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees;***

***30 When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand.***

***31 So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand.***

**QUESTIONS**

1. Who was standing before the angel of the LORD.
2. Who was standing at Joshua's right hand.
3. Who does Joshua represent?
4. Who is the Judge of all the world?
5. Who is the accuser?
6. Who rebuked Satan?
7. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is over Satan.
8. How can we rebuke Satan?
9. What does Satan accuse us of?
10. What do Joshua's filthy garments symbolize?
11. What is Joshua's new raiment?
12. How are we Christians like Joshua?
13. The "head" symbolizes the \_\_\_\_\_\_.
14. In receiving this fair mitre, he symbolically took on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
15. What is verse 6 saying?
16. The key word in verse 7 is what?
17. The "BRANCH" is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
18. What is Joshua to tell the priests?
19. According to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Jesus is descended from David.
20. The church is established through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
21. "Eyes" symbolize \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
22. "Seven" is symbolic of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
23. The "vine" symbolizes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.