





Be Encouraged

**Not by might, nor by power,
but by the LORD's Spirit**

6 Then he said to me, “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: **Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit**, says the LORD of hosts.

7 Who are you, O great mountain?

Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain.

And he shall bring forward the top stone amid shouts of ‘**Grace, grace to it!**’ ”

Zechariah 4:1-10

1 And the angel who talked with me came again and woke me, like a man who is awakened out of his sleep.

2 And he said to me, “What do you see?” I said, “I see, and behold, a lampstand all of gold, with a bowl on the top of it, and seven lamps on it, with seven lips on each of the lamps that are on the top of it.

3 And there are two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left.”

4 And I said to the angel who talked with me, “What are these, my lord?”

5 Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, “Do you not know what these are?” I said, “No, my lord.”

6 Then he said to me, “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts.

7 Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain. And he shall bring forward the top stone amid shouts of ‘Grace, grace to it!’ ”

8 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
9 The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also complete it. Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent me to you.
10 For whoever has despised the day of small things shall rejoice, and shall see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel.

1. The Words in Context

Jerusalem in 520 BC

The background image is a detailed illustration of Jerusalem in 520 BC. It shows the city's walls and a large construction site for the Temple. In the foreground, there is a scene of poverty and exploitation. A woman is hugging a child, and a man is covering his face in despair. In the background, a man in a crown is sitting at a table with another man, while a man in a turban is kneeling and begging. The scene is filled with people, donkeys, and tents, suggesting a state of hardship and reconstruction.

**a. Poverty
(Zech. 8:10)**

**c. Opposition to
Temple
Reconstruction
(Ezra 4-5)**

**b. Exploitation
(Zech. 11:5)**

1 And the angel who talked with me came again and woke me, like a man who is awakened out of his sleep.

– **Zechariah was not necessarily physically sleeping; the phrase shows that he was roused again within the night visions, like a man awakened from sleep.**

The world is at rest,
Jerusalem is not.

1

**The Lord and his
people returning
to Jerusalem**

2

Scattered people enabled
to return from the North
A house built for
the Lord in Jerusalem
Jerusalem cannot be
measured or contained

3

4&5

Restoration of Priesthood and Temple

**Sin and iniquity
going out**

6

7

8

The Lord's Spirit
'resting' on the North

Sin is banished
to the North
A house built for
sin in Babylon
Sin is measured
and contained

Taken from RtB Zechariah

2 And he said to me, “What do you see?” I said, “I see, and behold, a lampstand all of gold, with a bowl on the top of it, and seven lamps on it, with seven lips on each of the lamps that are on the top of it.

3 And there are two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left.”

4 And I said to the angel who talked with me, “**What are these, my lord?**”

5 Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, “**Do you not know what these are?**” I said, “**No, my lord.**”

Psalm 27:4

One thing have I asked of the Lord,
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord
and **to inquire** in his temple.

The LORD speaks into our context.
Even in a dark situation,
He still speaks.
He calls us to keep listening
and to know Him with humble hearts.

2. The Words that Encourage

6 Then he said to me, “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: **Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit**, says the LORD of hosts.

7 Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain. And he shall bring forward the top stone amid shouts of ‘**Grace, grace to it!**’ ”

- a. The LORD is deeply concerned for His temple.
- b. The LORD calls Zerubbabel to depend on His Spirit, not on human strength.
- c. The LORD Himself will ensure that the temple is completed through Zerubbabel.

How can the words of encouragement for Zerubbabel
be our encouragement?

3. The Words Fulfilled

a. Fulfilled during Zechariah's time

9 “The hands of Zerubbabel

have laid the foundation of this house;

his hands shall also complete it.

Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent me to you.

Ezra 6:14–15

14 And the elders of the Jews built and prospered through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. **They finished their building** by decree of the God of Israel and by decree of Cyrus and Darius and Artaxerxes king of Persia; **15 and this house was finished on the third day of the month of Adar, in the sixth year of the reign of Darius the king.**

b. Fulfilled ultimately in Christ

Luke 3:5–6

- 5 Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,
and the rough places shall become level ways,
- 6 and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

b. Fulfilled ultimately in Christ

Luke 4:18–19

18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me

to proclaim good news to the poor.

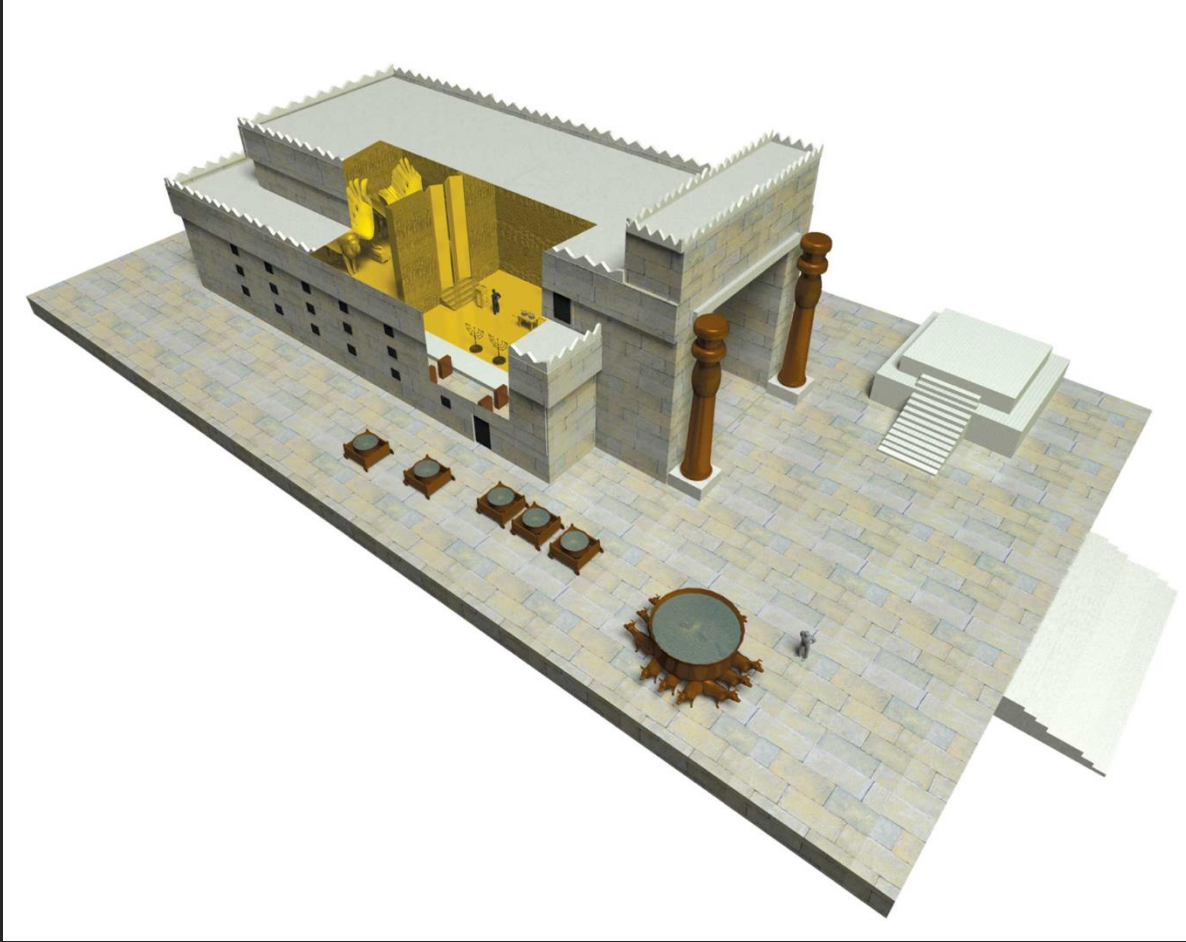
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives

and recovering of sight to the blind,

to set at liberty those who are oppressed,

19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

How can the words of encouragement for Zerubbabel
be our encouragement?



Amid all the problems we face,
the LORD is deeply concerned
for us
—His church, His temple—
for His glory.

1 Pet. 2:6-7

6 “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a **cornerstone** chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

7 So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who
do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the **cornerstone (topstone)**”

Eph. 2:19–22

19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

4. The Words in Today's Context



**The Rebuilding of God's Temple
and the
Restoration of Sinners through Christ**

DEBATE



**God Cares About Your Whole Life,
& Especially Your Spiritual Condition**



As God builds His church by the Spirit today:

a. Live out the gospel by faith

John 6:63

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all.
The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

b. Proclaim the gospel by faith

Acts 2:4; 4:8, 31; 13:9...

c. Depend on the Lord in everything (John. 15:5)

1. The Words in Context

2. The Words that Encourage

3. The Words Fulfilled

4. The Words in Today's Context



Be Encouraged

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but by the LORD's Spirit**