Zechariah - Commentaries by Henry Allan Ironside

Continual Burnt Offering: Daily Meditations, May 21

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“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: He is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass” — Zechariah 9:9.

OUR Lord’s entry into Jerusalem at the beginning of His last week of public ministry had been foretold long before and was in exact accord with this prophetic Word. The joyous cries of the multitude who welcomed Him were also prophesied beforehand by David in Psalms 118:25,26. Thus there were two distinct scriptures fulfilled on this momentous occasion. Then when Jesus cleansed the Temple (for the second time), He referred to and quoted Isaiah 56:7 as His authority for acting as He did. All this is in keeping with the character of Matthew’s Gospel, which, as we have seen, is designed throughout to link the Old Testament promises and predictions with their New Testament counterparts. It might be said that everything Jesus did, and all He taught, was in exact accord with that which had been foretold by the voice of inspiration throughout the ages. In this, as in all else, we see the perfection of the Word of God. Prophecy is the seal of its divinely unique character. No other book is thus accredited. The Bible is in fact the only book of prophecy in the world. The so-called sacred literature of the great religions is without this mark and is puerile in the extreme when contrasted with the revelation given in the Holy Scriptures.

Daily Sacrifice, May 31

“And speak, unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, Behold the Man whose name is The BRANCH; and He shall grow up out of His place, and He shall build the temple of the Lord: even He shall build the temple of the Lord; and He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon His throne; and He shall be a priest upon His throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both”— Zechariah 6:12, 13.

CHRIST Himself is the Branch out of Jesse’s root. It is He who builds the temple of the Lord, who bears the glory and shall sit as a Priest upon His throne. The counsel of peace is between the Father and the Son, and all who believe enter into the blessedness of this peace which Christ Himself has made by the blood of His cross, and which He imparts freely. It is not we who make our peace with God, but we enter into the good of it and enjoy this peace when we believe the gospel.

—T. Kelly.

Daily Sacrifice, May 30

“Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts”— Zechariah 4:6.

THIS is a lesson we are all very slow to learn. We try to accomplish things in our own power and by our own wisdom, only to fail again and again. When at last we realize our utter helplessness and yield ourselves to the Lord that He may work in and through us by His Holy Spirit, we find that He can do what we have tried in vain to accomplish before. Oil is a beautiful type of the Holy Spirit, and just as the unseen oil flowed through the golden pipes to keep the light burning, so does the Spirit of God, though unseen, work in and through those who are yielded to Him.

—Mary E. Maxwell.

Daily Sacrifice, May 29

“Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. 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”—Zechariah 3:3, 4.

JOSHUA was the representative of a sinful people, and therefore he was seen in vision as clothed in filthy garments, but when Satan attempted to accuse him the angel of the Lord appeared as an advocate. The word went forth, “I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.” It is thus that God deals with all who turn to Him in repentance and who put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ who bore our sins in His own body on the tree. The believer stands justified before God, and is in God’s sight as though he had never sinned at all.

—Mary Bowley.

Daily Sacrifice, May 28

“For I, earth the Lord, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her” —Zechariah 2:5.

IT is of Jerusalem that the Lord here speaks— Jerusalem as it will be in the latter day when the people of Israel will have returned to the Lord their God, and He Himself will be manifested in the midst of them. But the spiritual application is for believers in every dispensation. We today can count upon Jehovah to be a wall of fire about us protecting from every danger, and to be the glory in the midst of us and enlightening our hearts and giving us to rejoice in the revelation of His infinite lovingkindness. No foe can ever injure the one who is under the divine protection.

—T. Kelly.

Continual Burnt Offering: Daily Meditations, May 22

“I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon Me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for Him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for Him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn” — Zechariah 12:10.

IN these words Zechariah depicts the repentance of the people of Judah when at our Lord’s return they recognize Him as their own Messiah whom their fathers rejected, but who comes again in power and glory for their deliverance and to fulfill all the glad promises of glory and blessing. The wounds in His hands and feet and side will abide for Eternity and will tell out the story of a love that was stronger than death. It is ours to see Him now by faith bearing these marks of His passion as He appears for us in the presence of God.

—J. W. H. Nichols.

Daily Sacrifice, June 1

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IT will be a wonderful day in Israel’s history when, after all their wanderings, they turn back to Jehovah to behold Him revealed in the One whom once they rejected and crucified. As they look upon Him whom they have pierced, their hearts will be broken in repentance, and they will know at last His saving grace. Blessed are all they who have turned to Him already and found in Him an all-sufficient Saviour!

—Charles Wesley.

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