

#1001 The Whore's Latter Rain – Zechariah Chapter 4 and the Latter Rain of April 9, 1906, and Latter Reign of April 6, 1917, part 6, Correlating Zechariah 4 and Revelation 1-5: Making Two Branches (a King and a Priest) into One, the Branch

Zechariah used a series of eight visions, recorded in Zechariah 1:7–6:8, to encourage the remnant to complete the rebuilding of the Temple. The fifth vision, that of the Golden Candlestick and the Two Olive Trees, is seen in Zechariah chapter 4. The Two Olive Trees in Zechariah 4 represent the two separate offices of king and priest. The governor of Judah, Zerubbabel, and the high priest, Joshua, filled the respective offices of king (though Zerubbabel was governor, not king) and priest during the rebuilding of the Temple. But in Zechariah 6:9-15, which comes immediately after the eight visions of Zechariah 1:7–6:8, we see a different picture.

Key Understanding #1: *Making two branches (a king and a priest) into one.* In Zechariah 6:9-15, a royal crown, representing kingship, is symbolically placed on the head of Joshua, the high priest. The symbolic royal crowning of Joshua was to be an illustration of the two offices of priest and king being fulfilled through one person, pointing to – in the fullness of time – the Messiah, *the Branch*, Jesus Christ, sitting as King and High Priest on his throne. *The Branch* is a Messianic title that represented the “shoot” of new life that would grow out of the hewn-down stump of Israel to provide deliverance. Isaiah 11:1 (NIV), “*A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.*” Jesus Christ is also referred to as *the Branch* in Zechariah 3:8, and in Jeremiah 23:5 and Jeremiah 33:15-18 – all of which are closely tied to this passage of Zechariah 6:9-15.



Jeremiah 23:5 (KJV) Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that **I will raise unto David a righteous Branch** [the Messiah, Jesus Christ], and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

Zechariah 6:9-15 (KJV) And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,
10 Take of them of the captivity, even of Heldai, of Tobijah, and of Jedaiah, which are come from Babylon, and come thou the same day, and go into the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah;

11 Then take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set them upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest;

12 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**:

13 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.

14 And the crowns shall be to Helem, and to Tobijah, and to Jedaiah, and to Hen the son of Zephaniah, for a memorial in the temple of the LORD.

15 And they that are far off shall come and build in the temple of the LORD, and ye shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you. And this shall come to pass, if ye will diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God.

It is suggested that you read Key Understanding #1 again before proceeding forward with the reading of Key Understanding #2.

Key Understanding #2: Two branches into one, the Branch. The offices of **king** and **priest** joined together in one man, **the Branch**, also relates directly to the Two Olive **Branches** of Zechariah 4:12, the governor, Zerubbabel, representing the office of **king**, and Joshua, representing the office of **priest**. Thus, the **two** men (Zerubbabel and Joshua), symbolized by the **Two Olive Branches** in Zechariah 4:12, become represented through **one** man, **the Branch**, in Zechariah 6:12. In short, **two** branches are made into **one**, “**the Branch**.” [Note that the Lord conveniently has what is in Zechariah 4:12 = what is in Zechariah 6:12.]

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