

The Branch will Build the Temple

- *Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH! From His place He shall branch out, And **He shall build the temple of the Lord; 13 Yes, He shall build the temple of the Lord. He shall bear the glory, And shall sit and rule on His throne; So He shall be a priest on His throne, And the counsel of peace shall be between them both.***
Zech. 6:11-13
- The Branch will build the temple of the Lord
- The Branch will bear the glory
- The Branch will sit and rule on His throne
- The Branch will be a priest on His throne

The Branch is the Messiah

● There shall come forth **a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.**

2 The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, Isa 11:1-2

● "Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord, "That **I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper,**" Jer 23:5-6

Jesus is King & Priest on His Throne

- *The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool." Ps 110:1*
- Quoted by Peter in Acts 2 of Jesus.
- *The Lord has sworn And will not relent, "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek." Ps. 110:3; Heb. 5:6-10; 7:20-22*
- Jesus is the Priest after the order of Melchizedek.
- *Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, 2 a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man. Heb. 8:1-2*

A First, Second and Third Temple

- *'Who is left among you (1) who saw **this temple in its former glory?** And (2) **how do you see it now?** In comparison with it, is this not in your eyes as nothing? 6 "For thus says the Lord of hosts: 'Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; 7 **and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,**' says the Lord of hosts. 8 'The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,' says the Lord of hosts. 9 (3) **'The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,'** says the Lord of hosts. 'And in this place I will give peace,' says the Lord of hosts."*
Hag 2:3, 6-9

When Did Jesus Build This Temple?

- *He shall build the temple of the Lord; 13 Yes, He shall build the temple of the Lord. He shall bear the glory, And shall sit and rule on His throne; So He shall be a priest on His throne,*
- At the ascension, temple was not yet built. When sitting on His throne as priest the building began.
- *having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. Eph. 2:20-22*

This Third Temple is the Church

- *I will build my church Mt. 16:16-18*
- *He will build the temple of the Lord Zech. 6:11-13*
- Jews and Gentiles built on foundation of apostles and prophets, Christ the chief cornerstone a holy temple. Eph. 2:20-22
- Paul selected apostle to preach to Gentiles Eph 3:1-8
- *to the intent that now **the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church** to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, **11 according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, Eph. 3:10-11***

What Those in Heaven see We must see

- God's Holy Temple, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets is the church reflecting the manifold wisdom of God.
- From eternity, this church has been the goal and crowning achievement of God's eternal purpose.
- It is the final temple filled with a glory far greater than Solomon's.
- Like the rainbow or a diamond, it reflects the many colored multi-hued wisdom of God to them.
- When we see the church exactly the same way as they do in heaven we know the truth.

The Foundation's Cornerstone

- *built on the foundation of the apostles & prophets, **Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone***
- The chief Cornerstone
- *"Behold, **I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious,** And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame." **"The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone."** 1Pet. 2:6*
- *And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, **"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.** Mt 28:18*
- Jesus – The Christ – The rock/cornerstone Mt 16:16

The Foundation – Apostles & Prophets

- *“The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone.” 1Pet. 2:6*
- God found new builders:
- *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. “ Mt. 28:18-20*
- *built on the foundation of the apostles & prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.*

Foundation: Apostles and Prophets

- *built on the foundation of the apostles & prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone*
- *by revelation He made known to me **the mystery** (as I have briefly written already, 4 by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), 5 which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has **now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: Eph 3:3-6***
- *teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age*
- The authority of Jesus (chief cornerstone) written in the NT (apostles and prophets) is the foundation!

Completely Changes our Perspective

- Looking at the church from the perspective of heaven is completely different.
- The church on earth looks completely different.
- She is made up of small local churches scattered all over the world and separated by time.
- God made no provision for the churches to be joined into one powerful force on earth.
- Charged the elders: “*tend the flock of God among you.*” No way to alter or modify without moving the church off of its foundation.

The Church in Time

- The church, starting in Jerusalem, scattered into Judea, Samaria, and remotest parts of the earth.
- The entire church is portioned into small local congregations. Jesus addressed “*the seven churches of Asia*,” Paul spoke of “*all the churches of Christ salute you*.”
- The church on earth, on the foundation, of the apostles and prophets can never impress the “*wise, mighty, and noble*” of this age. (1Cor. 1:20-31).
- The pressure from this age corrupts the true church to conform to its wisdom. Those who resist are persecuted and scoffed at by men.
- But are the glorious temple built by the Messiah!

God “tarnished” the church on earth.

- *For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. 27 But God has **chosen the foolish things of the world** to put to shame the wise, and God has **chosen the weak things of the world** to put to shame the things which are mighty; 28 and **the base things of the world** and **the things which are despised** God has chosen, and **the things which are not**, to bring to nothing the things that are, 29 that **no flesh should glory in His presence.** 1 Cor 1:26-30*
- By faith, we see the glory and beauty of full submission to God. We see what God sees.

The Full Truth

- *“in obeying the truth through the Spirit,”* God works His power and after *“having been born again,”* *“through the word of God which lives and abides forever”* God does the rest. 1Pet 1:22-25
- Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 1Pet. 2:4-7

An Amazing Scripture!!

- Combines the temple, the priesthood and the sacrifices into one.
- Each member of a local church, built on the foundation of the NT is a stone in this temple.
- This is the glory of the church
- It is not of men and not of this creation.
- It needs no gold, no beautiful building, no strength in numbers, no glory from men.
- Only God can give this glory.
- It doesn't matter what the world thinks of all this.
- God doesn't care and neither should we.

A First, Second and Third Temple

- *'Who is left among you (1) who saw **this temple in its former glory?** And (2) **how do you see it now?** In comparison with it, is this not in your eyes as nothing? 6 **'For thus says the Lord of hosts: 'Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; 7 and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the Lord of hosts. 8 'The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,' says the Lord of hosts. 9 (3) **'The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,'** says the Lord of hosts. 'And in this place I will give peace,' says the Lord of hosts.'***
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The Glory of the Last Temple

- Haggai prophesied that God would shake the heavens and the earth and bring glory into the new temple.
- When the Holy Spirit quoted this passage:
- *“Now this, ‘Yet once more,’ indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain.”* Heb. 12:26-27
- The church is the glorious temple with *“the removal of all that is made.”*
- Nothing in this creation brings glory into the church!
- When the things that are made are finally shaken and removed, only the glorious living stones in this new temple will remain.

The Shaking and Removal

- *According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder **I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it.** But let each one take heed how he builds on it. 11 For **no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.** 12 Now if **anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,** 1 Cor 3:10-17*
- Even when the foundation is laid, there is a difference in the quality of the stones (Christians)
- By faithful obedience, zeal and trust we become the quality of stone we prepare ourselves to be.

The Shaking and Removal

- *each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because **it will be revealed by fire**; and **the fire will test each one's work**, of what sort it is. 14 If anyone's **work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward**. 15 If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. 16 Do you not know that **you (ye) are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you** (plural)? 1Cor 3:10-17*
- The final shaking will be combined with fire.
- The work of those building up the church must be supplemented by our own individual efforts.
- If we are not what we should be, when the things that are made are removed, we too will be.

Summing up

- *Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity." 20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. 21 Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work. 2 Tim 2:19-22*