ANALOGY OF THE TWO WITNESSES OF REVELATION 11:4 (ZECHARIAH 4)

In <u>Revelation 11:4</u>, we have an analogy to the two witnesses, taken from <u>Zechariah</u> <u>4</u>. God raised up Zechariah to stir the spiritual leaders. The Lord gave him 10 Visions, all in one night. (See Related Study: <u>Zechariah's Visions of the Tribulation</u>)

- 1. The Jews are given an opportunity to witness again.
- 2. They are encouraged to rebuild their Temple and Zechariah was one of the prophets to help them and encourage them along this line.
- 3. In the book of Zechariah (chapter 4) one olive tree represents Zerubbabel (4:11) the political ruler, the Son of David. Another olive tree represents Joshua, the High Priest, who was the spiritual leader. Note Zechariah's martyrdom in Matthew 23:33-35.
- 4. Olive oil was extracted from the olive tree; oil is a type of the Holy Spirit and in Zechariah 4, where the two trees are mentioned, the oil was taken and placed in a drum then they had a candlestick. There are 7 pipes from the drum going to each of the candles, or *bowls* (oil goes from the bowls into the wick and burns).
- 5. This is the testimony of Israel.
- 6. The leadership is Zerubbabel and Joshua.
- Israel's darkest hour is in the tribulation, and they need a testimony. So, we have here in <u>Revelation 11:4</u> "THE TWO OLIVE TREES AND THE TWO CANDLESTICKS" ONE IS MOSES THE OTHER IS ELIJAH.

ANALOGY OF THE TWO WITNESSES OF REVELATION 11:4 (Continued)

- 8. The olive tree is used because it refers back to Zechariah 4, and has to do with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. The Lord said to Zerubbabel (4:6) "NOT BY MIGHT [Mental strength or the strength of many], NOT BY POWER [Human good-strength of one], BUT BY MY SPIRIT, SAITH THE LORD OF HOSTS".
- 9. A person cannot serve the Lord apart from the power of the Holy Spirit.
- 10. The reference to the olive trees of Zechariah refers to the importance of the Holy Spirit in *SERVICE*.
- 11. The two olive trees are Moses and Elijah, controlled by the Holy Spirit, called the two candlesticks two witnesses "*standing before the Lord of the earth"*.
- 12. Moses and Elijah did have the old sinful nature yet they were two of the greatest believers of all times.
- 13. Just because they were great in the past does not mean they will be great when they come back to preach in the Tribulation. THE THING THAT MAKES THEM GREAT IS THE SAME THING THAT MAKES ANY BELIEVER GREAT: THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.
- 14. God is going to bring back to Jerusalem two great men, Moses and Elijah. But they do not stand upon their past ability and success. (Illustration of how it could happen: "I'm Moses I LED the Jews out of Egypt Elijah will tell you tomorrow night about his chariot ride..." NO!) God the Holy Spirit makes Moses and Elijah great, effective witnesses in the Tribulation not our successes but HIS POWER.

ANALOGY OF THE TWO WITNESSES OF REVELATION 11:4 (Continued)

15. Moses and Elijah understood, more than anyone in the Jewish Age, the Grace of God and the importance of the Spirit of God.