

Day of Small Things

Zechariah 4:6-10

I. The context of Zechariah 4

- A. The immediate context is the rebuilding of the temple (second temple) in Jerusalem
- B. The broader context is the comparison of the apparent quality of the second temple with that of the first

II. The first temple was constructed by King Solomon

- A. He had an abundance of gold, silver, precious materials
- B. 180,000 builders worked over 7 years

III. The second temple was constructed by Zerubbabel

- A. He had a greatly limited amount of gold, silver, and precious materials compared to Solomon's temple
- B. 42,000 returned to Jerusalem from Babylon to rebuild the temple; the work was completed over about a four year period
- C. In appearance, the second temple was greatly inferior to the first
- D. There were some who were building the second temple that had seen the first; their work seemed as "nothing" in comparison (Hag. 2:3)

IV. Application

- A. The builders of the second temple saw their effort as a "day of small things" and tended to despise it
- F. We compare our outward gifts and abilities to others and often despise what we can do; ours is seen as a "day of small things"
- G. God knew exactly what He was getting; He didn't despise it because He didn't care about its outward appearance
- H. God cared about the content; the glory of His Son and that of the church.
- I. God declares that the latter glory of the temple would be greater than the former's; we must be focused on His glory, not on ourselves and what we can do for Him (Hag. 2:2-9)