

November 11, 2021

Zech. 4:6 So he said to me, “This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ says the LORD Almighty. (NIV)

Zerubbabel was the leader of the first wave of Israelites who returned to Jerusalem after their years in Babylonian captivity. He was the governor of Judaea and led the rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem. The rebuilding had stalled and he needed encouragement to carry on the work of the rebuild. Zechariah was awakened from his sleep by an angel and given a message to deliver to Zerubbabel. You might think this to be strange, that an angel is speaking to a person, but this was before the Holy Spirit had come to dwell with the redeemed. The LORD chose to speak to people through angels on a regular basis.

The critical thing here is not the messenger, but the message. This was a word of encouragement from the LORD to Zerubbabel. It was a reminder to him that this was not his work, but the work of the LORD. Whatever the LORD is set to do, He will accomplish it. It reminds me of the encouraging word that Paul later gave the church at Philippi in **Phil. 1:6 *being confident of this, that He Who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*** (NIV) The LORD was reminding Zerubbabel that this rebuild had nothing to do with how many workers he had or what little resources they could gather, but instead, it had everything to do with the Provider of all things, the LORD God Almighty. They could not accomplish this work in their own power, but only by submitting themselves to the leadership of the Spirit of the LORD. What a wonderful testimony this should be to us. We may have a vision given to us that seems unattainable, and yet if the LORD has given it, He will see it done. All that we must do is rid ourselves of doubt and worry, and carry on with expectation to see Him accomplish the goal.

Dear LORD, thank You for Your encouragement through the Holy Spirit. You are so good to us and You lead us where we are to go and what we are to do. We praise Your Holy Name. In Jesus Name, Amen