

b. The persons in the vision:

- (1) the prophet (v. 18)
- (2) the "angel that talked with me"
- (3) the "smiths". KJV says carpenters.

No action is actually seen in the vision but the course of potential action is set on the grounds of previous action.

c. The symbolic images:

(1) the horns... "horn" is used symbolically in the Scripture many times to indicate "power" "authority", "might", etc. Daniel 8 gives a good example of this symbolism. See also Ezek 34:21. These horns represent the nations that have been used in judgment on Judah (v. 21) and note the absence of any reference to Israel... a significant statement, I think in the light that Israel is mentioned in 19. The scattering looks at the whole history of abuse the people of God have suffered.

(2) The "smiths", etc., as in Ezek 21:36 (Hebrew Bible) were persons skilled enough to destroy or remold. They are not depicted as doing the building of Judah but as "fraying" the foes created against her.

d. The historical notes amount chiefly to a reminder that many nations have at times come against the Jews and that now, with the passage of time, these have been ruined under the determinate will of God.

e. The Prediction of the vision:

God will deal with the foes.

f. Hebrew notes:

No complicated words or phrases... check terms behind the symbolism suggestions.

g. The teaching of the vision: Get on with the work of God.