

- h. It is true that what seems plain to us may not be so plain to others. So this vision gives rise to a third vision that is intended to help the Judaeans understand why it is important the temple be built.

3. The Man with the Measuring Line 2:1-13

- a. Precise: This vision differs from the first two in that it leads to a poem of exhortation in vss 6-12. In its expression it shows that God has a great future for the Jews, the temple, and for Jerusalem. That is why the city should be built and why the temple is needed. The poem that follows shows the delight that the Lord has in His people, challenges them to follow Him and promises the future blessing that is the hope of the nation. To the doubters and the skeptics it trumpets out the truth that God has a purpose and a plan for the nation. Those who expect to enjoy it had better "get with it".

b. The Persons in the Vision:

- (1) the prophet
- (2) the communicating angel
- (3) an attendant angel
- (4) a man with a measuring line

There is some thought that the man with the line is identical with the speaking angel but vs. 4 seems to move against it. Visions are rarely simple, however, and what seems clear to me (as I have often noted) may not seem so clear to another.

c. The Symbols in the vision

- (1) The symbolic action of the measuring of the city.

It could mean one of two things at least: a line could be laid on for judgment which, in this case in the context of the previous visions, would seem to be out of