

C. Zechariah 4...the challenge of rebuilding the temple

A huge task faces the returned captives from Babylon and they are slow to get to it. In this chapter we discover that God's Spirit will provide the power' but it will be seen in the lives of those whom God has commissioned to do the work. The situation is certainly temporal but the principle is exactly that of which we read in the New Testament of the work of the Holy Spirit in our age..

III. Conclusion: The one who studies God's Word in its totality will be better equipped to live, blessed in doing, and able to achieve for the glory of God by the power of God.

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MESSAGE # 4: NOTES ON THE STUDY OF PROPHECY

Biblical Passages: Isaiah 7:1-14

I. Introducing the Subject:

Prophecy is one of the great studies of the Bible and its foundation is laid in the Old Testament very emphatically. Prophecy by definition is speaking for God and involves both prediction (events of the future) and direction (advice). Prediction gets most of the attention although in reality there is more of the latter. (The terms "foretelling" and "forthtelling" are often used to define these two sides of prophecy) Fulfilled predictions are a great evidence of the accuracy of the Bible but they are always used in a sense of leading the observer to a trust in God. The purpose of prophecy is not to simply inform us of what is to be but to teach us how to live in the light of what is to be. A good study of this is found in the passage noted above in Isaiah and we will continue to concentrate on what the passage teaches about God, His people, and His program.

II. Discussion:

A. The historic background (too long for a recapping in these notes so check it out in any Old Testament survey of the