

6. The Flying Roll 5:1-4

- a. A quick synopsis: A flying roll (more like a carpet) in the dimension of 15 by thirty feet passes by and on one side condemns thieves and on the other those who lie about life situations.
- b. The symbols:
 - (1) the roll v.1
 - (2) its dimensions
 - (3) the symbolic action.
- c. The Message: Don't pretend not to have things when you do have them for God will scourge the nation with truth, truth that will prove a curse to those who have acted falsely.
- d. The Lesson: You will remember that in Haggai we are told of people seeking to have much for themselves while not giving God what was His. That is the lesson here. God knows what His people have and they are accountable as stewards. If they cheat on God they will suffer for it.
- e. So another fine point comes up. Much of what the nation had was Babylonian and Persian in background. Could this sort of thing be consecrated to God? Does the nation need more of an extended period of cleansing and restrengthening?

7. The Ephah 5:5-11

- a. A quick synopsis: in some ways the most complicated of all the visions, a basket travels abroad with a leaden image of a woman in it..or an image of a woman in it with a leaden seal to be put on it...but at anyrate, it is carried away by two flying women and the destination is the land of Shinar.
- b. The symbols:
 - (1) the ephah 5:6
 - (2) the lead 5:7
 - (3) the woman 5:7
 - (4) the flying women 5:9
 - (5) Shinar
 - (6) and note some symbolic actions as well.
 There may be other symbols and some of these may not be symbols. I said it was a hard vision!
- c. The Message: Things that are Babylonian or belong to Babylonia should be sent back there. Let the Lord's people honor Him.
- d. The Lesson: There is no excuse for not getting on with the work. Being held up by theoretical or minor points is wrong. Keep the emphasis on the right thing and build the Lord's house?
- e. And then the question comes back: Is it the right time? Really? Can we feel assured about that?