

THE CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HEAVEN AND EARTH.

INTRODUCTION: “By the holy beings surrounding His throne, the Lord keeps up a constant communication with the inhabitants of the earth. The golden oil represents the grace with which God keeps the lamps of believers supplied. Were it not that this holy oil **is poured from heaven in the messages of God's Spirit,** the agencies of evil would have entire control over men. **God is dishonored when we do not receive the communications that He sends us.** Thus we refuse the golden oil which He would pour into our souls to be communicated to those in darkness.”(4BC 1179.8, Read Zechariah 4)

It is the intention of this study to show how God, **from the fall of man till time shall be no more**, has been and will be communicating to the human family. No true doctrine can lose its validity by close investigation. You, therefore, by the Help of God's Spirit, can decide what you should or shouldn't believe. You hold a key for acceptance or rejection of that which comes from above.

Let's begin by looking at

The Omnipresence and the Omniscience of God.

“Look down from thy holy habitation, **from heaven**, and bless thy people Israel ”
(Deuteronomy 26:13)

“...hear thou their prayer and their supplication **in heaven thy dwelling place..**”(1 Kings 8:49)

These scriptures, with many other, clearly show that **God dwells in Heaven**. He 's **personally present in heaven, not everywhere**. Christ did not teach us to pray “Our Father which art everywhere” but to pray **“Our Father which art in heaven”**(Matt 6:9)

The psalmist, in explaining the omnipresence of God, says: “**Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?** If I ascend up into heaven, **thou art there**: if I make my bed in hell[grave], behold, **thou art there**. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; **Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.**”(Psalms 139:7-10)

Thus, **God is present everywhere, not**

personally, but by His Spirit. “The greatness of God is to us incomprehensible. ‘ **The Lord's throne is in heaven**’ (Psalm 11:4); **yet by His Spirit He is everywhere present.** He has an intimate knowledge of, and a personal interest in **all the works of His hand.**” (Ed 132.2)

The Almighty, you see, has access to all parts of the universe by His Spirit, but His Omniscience can't be questioned, for he knows everything, even “**the thoughts of man**”(Ps 94:11)

The Son Of God.

Christ, after ascending to heaven, was received “**and sat on the right hand of God.**”(Mark 16:19). Though He is the Divine Son of the Eternal Father, and “ **Who, being in very nature God**”(Philippians 2:6, NIV) yet He is

“...next in authority to the great Lawgiver.”

(2SP 9.1) He ' s **“ the Commander of the armies of heaven, at the head..”**(7LtMs, Ms 6, 1892, par. 19, CS 66.1), the “captain of the LORD’S host.”(Joshua 5:13-15). His commands are obeyed as those of the Father. As One second in authority , he said **“ The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.”** (John 13:13), thus Christ, being submissive to His Father, obeyed the command to come into the World.

The Holy Spirit.

“...when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, **he shall testify of me.”**(John 15:26)

“ Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is

come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.”(John 16:13,14)

Being sent by Jesus from the Father, The Holy Spirit is therefore called “**the Spirit of God**” and “**the Spirit of Christ.**” Again, the Spirit is to speak only that which he hears from Christ.

There are “armies” in heaven(Rev 19:14). Interestingly enough, we read

“ All the intelligences of heaven are in **this army.** And **more than angels are in the ranks.** **The Holy Spirit, the representative of the Captain of the Lord's host, comes down to direct the battle..**”(DA 352.2)

The Holy Spirit, as pointed out in this inspired statement, is therefore called **the representative of the Captain or Commander of the Lord's host, even Christ the Lord.** The Spirit directs the battle on behalf of Christ **as he leads the army, the angels.**

Consequently, the angels obey the command of the Holy Spirit as the voice of Christ and of His Father.

This is the Order of Heaven, in terms of ranks.

- 1.GOD THE FATHER,**
- 2.JESUS CHRIST,**
- 3.THE HOLY SPIRIT,**
- 4.THE ANGELS.**

And all the messages and blessings and judgments that proceed **from the Father** pass through those ranks and are **eventually carried out by the angels.** Let's pursue this as we try

to understand

The Ministry of the Angels.

It will be noticed that the acts of God in scripture are attributed to the angels in both the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.

First, it was the angels who communed with Adam and Eve, **giving them messages of warning** about Satan, and also guarded the tree of life after their fall(see 1SG 20,RH Feb 24, 1874, Gen 3:24)

Next, when Cain became angry at Abel, “**the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? ...**”(Gen 4:6,7)

Yet an inspired statement says “**The angel inquires of him the reason of his anger...**”

(TA 65.1)

This simply means that the Lord spoke to Cain through the angel.

Again, “ Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.” (Gen 4:24), but the Lord simply “sent His angels to take him to heaven without seeing death.” (ST, Feb 20, 1879)

Furthermore, Christ through the Spirit preached to souls which “ sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah. ” (1 Peter 3:20), but “the Lord sent an angel to faithful Noah to make known to him that he would no longer have mercy upon the corrupt race..” (1SP 69.2)

And who shut the door of the Ark? We read “And they that went in, went in male and

female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: **and the LORD shut him in.**”(Gen 7:16)

“God had shut it, and God alone could open it..”(PP 98.2). **“An angel is seen by the scoffing multitude descending from heaven, clothed with brightness like the lightning. He closes that massive outer door, and then takes his course upward to heaven again.”**(SR 65.3)

Thus, God shut the door of the Ark by his angel.

And how much more can we say about the angels **confounding the tongues and taking down the Tower of Babel** when the Bible says it was the Lord who did it?(see Genesis 11:5-9, SR 73.1) And about Abraham, and all the patriarchs and prophets?

David, too, made the pattern of the temple **“by the Spirit”**(1 Chronicles 28:11,12). Yet “The

Lord, **through His angel, instructed David, and gave him a pattern of the house which Solomon should build for Him.**”(3BC 1128.12)

Talking about the bread from heaven(John 6:31,32) we read, “**Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you.**”(Exodus 16:4). Yet when God “**had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven. Man did eat angels' food..**”(Psalms 78:24,25) Notice the phrase “**angel’s food**” - “**that is, food provided for them by the angels.**” They were daily taught that they were as secure from want as if surrounded by fields of waving grain on the fertile plains of Canaan..”(EP 204.3)

Let’s look at three more examples.

Christ said, “ If I do not **the works of my Father**, believe me not. But if I do, though ye

believe not me, **believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him.**”(John 10:38)

“The angels of God are ever moving up and down from earth to Heaven, and from Heaven to earth. **All the miracles of Christ performed for the afflicted and suffering were, by the power of God, through the ministration of angels..**”(2SP 67.2)

The Father’s miracles were done by the Holy Spirit(Matt 12:28) through the angels.

Who raised Jesus from the grave? The scriptures say it was God who raised him up the third day(Acts 10:38-40)

But it was actually the “**messenger**” who “**fills the position from which Satan fell**” that called Him out of the grave(DA 779.3)

Regarding the day of Pentecost we read, “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, **they were all with one accord in one place.** And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it **filled all the house where they were sitting.** And there appeared unto them **cloven tongues like as of fire**, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and **began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.**”(Acts 2:1-4)

While it’s true that the Spirit worked through the apostles, and also remembering that it is He who is able to convert souls(John 16:8,9, 2 Cor 3:18), yet, “ **Through the ministry of the angels the Holy Spirit is enabled to work upon the mind and heart of the human agent and draw him to Christ...**”(TMK 57.2

“All heaven is interested in your salvation, and angels of God are waiting to do for you

what they did for the early disciples on the day of Pentecost..”(10MR 112)

“When the angels of heaven come among us, and work through human agents, there will be solid, substantial conversions, after the order of the conversions after the day of Pentecost.”(2SM 57.2, ML 58.6)

Thus the Spirit has worked through the angels in the giving of messages of warnings, and judgments and conversions. Who can doubt what angels can do under Christ’s command?

“Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?”(Hebrews 1:14) And when God pours out **his wrath in the seven last plagues**, are they not the ones who will do that?(Read Revelation 16)

Angels, you see, bring messages to us(Dan 10:21), they not only take our requests to

God but also bring answers to our prayers(Dan 10:12, Prayer 254.2), they guard, protect and deliver us(Psalms 34:7)

The Spirit is till to work even me during the time of

The Second Pentecost.

Read Revelation 18:1-5, Joel 2:23,28

“It is with an earnest longing that I look forward to the time when the events of the Day of Pentecost shall be repeated with even greater power than on that occasion. John says, **‘I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory ’** [Revelation 18:1]. Then, as at the Pentecostal season, **the people will hear the truth spoken to them, every man in his own tongue.”(LDE 202.3)**

The re-manifestation of the gift of tongues, as here pointed out, is to be realized in the time of the loud cry.

“ It is impossible to give any idea of the experience of the people of God who will be alive on the earth when past woes and celestial glory will be blended. They will walk in the light proceeding from the throne of God. **By the means of the angels there will be constant communication between heaven and earth..**”(2SM 54)

This glorious period for the church will come about as a result of **the outpouring of the latter rain on “pure and true”**(5T 80, 3SM 385) **people with “even greater power”** than it was at first. This church period, is not only typified by the apostolic church, but also by

The Second Temple in the Old

Testament .

“In the seventh month, in the one and twentieth day of the month, **came the word of the LORD by the prophet Haggai, saying, Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah,** and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and to the residue of the people, saying, **Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory? and how do ye see it now? is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing?... The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts...**”(Haggai 2:1-3,9)

The first temple, you remember, was built by Solomon (1 Kings 6 and 7) but it was later destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon.(2 Kings 25)

In Haggai 2, we have the description of the time when this temple was rebuilt. In comparison, **Solomon's temple was far better in appearance than this second temple.** Nevertheless, the Lord said , **“The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts.”** Literally this was untrue, and therefore the only way the second temple was to be more glorious than Solomon's temple is explained in the following reference...

“The second temple was honored, not with the cloud of Jehovah's glory, but with the presence of the One in whom dwelt ‘all the fullness of the Godhead bodily’ — God Himself ‘manifest in the flesh.’ Colossians 2:9; 1 Timothy 3:16. In being honored with the personal presence of Christ during His earthly ministry, and **in this alone, did the second temple exceed the first in glory..”(PK 597.2)**

Thus we have two temples in the Old Testament , **the first from the time of Solomon to the time of the Babylonian captivity, and the second after the captivity to the time of Christ.**

Christ was born in this second temple, the Jewish Church. **But did the Church accept the Prince of life?** No, they rejected Him. Thus,

“Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, **The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner:** this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? Therefore say I unto you, **The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.**”(Matthew 21:43,44)

“ Christ was the cornerstone of the Jewish

economy, and of the whole plan of salvation.

This foundation stone the Jewish builders, the priests and rulers of Israel, were now rejecting..”(DA 597.2)

When Christ, “**the chief corner stone**” was rejected, He was no longer the foundation of their religion. Though he initially recognized this church as His “**Father’s house**”(John 2:16), he later denounced it and said “**your house is left unto you desolate**”(Matt 23:38). But since He said the stone that was rejected “**the same is become the head of the corner**”, it clearly shows that **Christ became the foundation of another religion, to which the kingdom of God was given, even to the Christian Gentiles.**(Acts 13:46)

Peter calls this antitypical temple “**a spiritual house**”(1 Peter 2:5)

Paul also wrote about it: “Now therefore ye are

no more strangers and foreigners, **but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;** And **are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets,** Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto **an holy temple** in the Lord: In whom ye also are **builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.”**
(Ephesians 2:19-22)

The Christian Church, you see, was built upon the foundation of the apostles(The New Testament) and the prophets(the Old Testament), with Christ as the chief or head(Matthew 16:18)

Now to prove that **this New Testament spiritual temple** is the antitype of the Old Testament physical temple (**Solomon’s temple being the type of the apostolic church, and the second temple a type of the last section**

of the **Christian church**), let's consider some facts.

The **second temple**, you recall, was to be built by **Zerubbabel**. Says the Word, “**The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it.**” (Zechariah 4:9), and talking about rebuilding this temple, the prophet declared concerning the Lord himself,

“**I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies: my house shall be built in it ... My cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad; and the LORD shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem...** Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein: **For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her** ... O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee,

saith the LORD. And **many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people: and I will dwell in the midst of thee**, and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto thee. And **the LORD shall inherit Judah his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again.** ”
(Zechariah 1:16,17, 2:4,5,10-12)

“For thus saith the LORD of hosts; **Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts...** The **glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts.**”(Haggai 2:6,7,9)

These promises were not all fulfilled at that time. Consequently, They have a full

application to the church of God in the time of the loud cry and before the closing of the gospel work, when through the proclamation of the loud cry “many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day”, **which day?**

The scriptures say, “But in the last days it shall come to pass, that **the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains**, and **it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it**. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.”(Micah 4:1,2)

When, in the last days (the days preceding the last day of resurrection - John 11:25) “**the mountain of the house of the LORD**” is

established(built) above all other mountains (churches), and when God shall “fill this house with glory”, “That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”(Eph 5:27) then it is that these prophecies, along with Isaiah 60:1-5,11, shall be fully realized (compare with 3SM 338):

“Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD[Rev 18:1] is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles[during the loud cry]shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: **all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side. Then**

thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged; **because the abundance of the sea[multitudes of people - Rev 17:15] shall be converted unto thee, the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee...** Therefore **thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that men may bring unto thee the forces of the Gentiles, and that their kings may be brought.**”(Isa 60:1-5,11)

This, you see, is the second Pentecostal period of the purified Church, the final harvest of this earth’s history. This is the time when God shall shake all nations including the heavens and the earth (compare with Joel 2:28,30,31), when the Church, as she enters upon her final conflict, will go into all the world **“conquering and to conquer”**(PK 725, Daniel 2:44, Jer 51:20-24,29)

“Large numbers will be admitted who in these last days hear the truth for the first

time..”(LDE 182.2)

Thus, the Lord shall dwell with her in that day, and unlike physical walls of ancient temples, the Lord himself will be a **“wall of fire”** around this latter house. “ God will use ways and means **by which it will be seen that He is taking the reins in His own hands.** The workers will be surprised by the simple means that **He will use to bring about and perfect His work of righteousness..”(LDE 203.3)**

Since this is true, **then this second temple of the Old Testament represents the church in the time of the loud cry, and Solomon’s temple represents the apostolic church.** Interestingly enough, as Solomon’s temple was destroyed by Babylon, so the apostolic church, after the death of the apostles, was destroyed by antitypical Babylon(the papacy - Daniel 8;10-13,11:31) at the beginning of AD538, and was not rebuilt until after the captivity(Dan

7:25), that is after AD1798.

Just like the first and second temples in the Old Testament , **the church in the time of the loud cry will be far more glorious than the apostolic church, for the events of Pentecost will be repeated with greater manifestation of God's power than at the beginning.**

“Before the final visitation of God's judgments upon the earth, **there will be, among the people of the Lord, such a revival of primitive godliness as has not been witnessed since apostolic times. The Spirit and power of God will be poured out upon his children..**”(GC88 464.1)

“The great work of the gospel is not to close with less manifestation of the power of God than marked its opening. The prophecies which were fulfilled in the outpouring of the former rain at the opening of the gospel, **are**

again to be fulfilled in the latter rain at its close...Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from Heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given. **Miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and signs and wonders will follow the believers..**
“(GC88 611.1,612.1)

Consequently, the vision of Zechariah 4 is applicable to **this latter period of the church**, for the message it has is applicable first to the second temple in the Old Testament and more to our time, the time of building this antitypical temple.

Moreover, **“Each of the ancient prophets spoke less for their own time than for ours, so that their prophesying is in force for us.”**(3SM 338.1)

Therefore the significance of this prophecy in Zechariah 4, as well as other prophecies, is **more for our time** (in the antitypical second temple) than in Zechariah's time (in the typical second temple).

Let's look at

ZECHARIAH 4



“And the angel that talked with me came again, and waked me, as a man that is wakened out of his sleep, And said unto me, What seest thou?

And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof:

And two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof. So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, What are these, my lord? Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord. Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, **This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts ...** Then answered I, and said unto him, **What are these two olive trees**

upon the right side of the candlestick and upon the left side thereof? And I answered

again, and said unto him, **What be these two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves?** And he answered me and said, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord. Then said he, **These are the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth.**”(Zechariah 4:1-6,11-14)

“This chapter is full of encouragement for those who do the work of the Lord in these last days...Read and study the fourth chapter of Zechariah. The two olive trees empty the golden oil out of themselves through the golden pipes into the golden bowl from which the lamps of the sanctuary are fed..”(4BC 1179.3, TM 188.2)

The entire meaning of this symbolism, the angel explained: **“This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith**

the LORD of hosts...The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it.”

Thus it's about the communication of **God's word to his servants on how bring about this glorious “house”(the church in her purity) so that the gospel work can be completed, “by His Spirit”,** and Christ can come to fetch his own.

Consequently, just like in the type, Satan at this time is trying to slow down this work by turning the Church from following Christ. The tares are in the church today, and daily the church is being converted to the world(COL 315), but **God's purpose will surely be fulfilled, his glorious house will be finished just like the typical one was finished.**

“God's glorious work, founded on the eternal principles of right, will never come to nought.

It will go on from strength to strength, ‘not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.’ Zechariah 4:6. .”(PK 595.3)

Let’s us now unlock the symbols used, beginning with

The Candlestick.

“..the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.”(Revelation 1:20)

Since all books of the Bible **meet and end in Revelation**(AA 585.1), then we have the meaning of the candlestick found in Zech 4. If the seven candlesticks of Revelation 1-3 are the seven churches, **then one candlestick represents the church. Which Church specifically? We have already seen that the full application of this prophecy is in the**

latter section of the Christian dispensation, in our time. But let's discover more about this by unlocking the meaning of

The Two Olive Trees.

“I had looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold...And **two olive trees by it, one upon the right side...and the other upon the left side...”(Zech 4:2,3)**

“And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.”(Revelation 11:3,4)

“The two witnesses represent the Scriptures of the Old and the New Testament..**”(GC88 267.1)**

“The two olive trees” are “the two witnesses”
- **the Bible**. If this is the case, then **the full application of this prophecy, as already pointed out, is in the latter section of the Christian church** when the two olive trees (the Old and New Testament) are existing **along with the candlestick**. That this prophecy cannot be applied to the apostolic age is evident in that the writing of the New Testament materials had not yet been completed at that time.

Again we read,

“The anointed ones standing by the Lord of the whole earth have the position once given to Satan as covering cherub. By the holy beings surrounding His throne, the Lord keeps up a constant communication with the inhabitants of the earth.” (The Review and Herald, July 20, 1897)

“ And when these angels empty from themselves the golden oil of truth into the heart of him who is teaching the word, then the application of the truth will be a solemn, serious matter..”(TM 337.2)

The two olive trees are here **said to be the angels who occupied the position of Lucifer before his fall**, and therefore “stand before the Lord..” Is this interpretation contradicting the previous one? Well, let’s dig deeper...

“...the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. “ (2 Peter 1:21).

The authors of the scriptures were actually **moved by the Holy Spirit through the angels**. It was the angels that were guiding the thoughts and hands of these people.(compare Daniel 10:21, Rev 1:1, Zech 4:1)

Just to reiterate, the two olive trees are said to be **standing in God's presence**. Interestingly enough, It was "...**Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God**"(Luke 1:19) who spoke to and guided Daniel in visions and in writing the book(Dan 8:16,9:21), and it was Gabriel who spoke to John: "**Of Gabriel the Saviour speaks in the Revelation, saying that 'He sent and signified it by His angel unto His servant John.'** Revelation 1:1...**that the angel who stands next in honor to the Son of God is the one chosen to open the purposes of God to sinful men.**"(DA 99.1)

Thus we are at liberty to say, upon the authority of these inspired statements, that it is the covering Cherubs who bring **the Word of God** to this earth.

And Christ himself being "**the Word of God**" (Rev 19:13, John 1:1, 5:39, **the Bible**, He,

through the Spirit, **commands these angels to communicate the word both during the writing of scripture and after, to explain the meaning of these scriptures through the Spirit of Prophecy.**

And if the words of these Angels can be received **as the very words of Christ(the Bible - OT and NT)**, then the perfect meaning of these two olive trees is exactly that, “**the Bible**” **brought to mankind by the Angels.** They are the **very channel** through which the Bible has come to mankind (Compare Hebrews 2:2,3)

The last book of the Bible records...

“The **Revelation of Jesus Christ**, which **God gave unto him**, to shew **unto his servants** things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and **signified it by his angel unto his servant John ...** **John to the seven churches**

which are in Asia: Grace be unto you... What thou seest, **write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia ...**”
(Revelation 1:1,4,11)

Again we see that God the Father gives His revelations to Christ, then Christ gives to the Angel **through the Holy Spirit**(for we read **“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches”** - Rev 2:7), then the angel **gives them to the prophet**, who then **sends the messages to the Church through the ministry** (for we read **“And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write..”** - Rev 3:14). These seven angels(the seven stars - Rev 1:16,20) of the seven churches are not heavenly angels, for almost all of them are at fault. **“God's ministers are symbolized by the seven stars ...”** (GW 13.3). Having received messages from the angels, **the Church has to share them to the world.**

The Spirit of Prophecy in the Old and New Testament.

“The manifestation of the spirit of prophecy was designed for all dispensations..”(1SP 7.3)

“For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John.”(Matthew 11:13)

This scripture does not mean, as some teach, that John the Baptist was the last prophet, that no other prophet was to come after him. It doesn't teach that the law was not valid after John either .

“The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it. And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail. ” (Luke 16:16-17).

Though the law was until John, yet Christ emphasized that it couldn't pass away, and the same is true for the prophets, because **Christ himself was a prophet**(Luke 24:19), and there were many other prophets after John the Baptist including the writer of Revelation. Moreover we've already seen that God put **"some" prophets in the Church of the New Testament**. This scripture, therefore, is teaching that **there are two divisions of the prophets, those of the Old Testament who were until John and those of the New Testament after John**. Sacred history shows that the prophets **in the first division received the Word directly from God through the medium of His Spirit**. They were not obliged to prove any part of their prophecies by the writings of the preceding prophets. Whereas the prophets **in the second division** are appointed by the unction of the Spirit **to interpret the writings of the prophets of the**

first division. This all-important distinction and division shows that **the Old Testament Scriptures contain the light of our salvation for both periods — Jewish and Christian.** And when one considers that the former period is called the “ **typical** ” dispensation, and the latter the “**antitypical,**” then evidence upon evidence rivets the conclusion that **the New Testament gospel is based on the gospel of the Old unfolded.** Consequently, as the Gift of prophecy was needed in the Old Testament Church, so it is needed in the New Testament.

Remember, too, that the Old Testament testified of Christ(John 5:39), so **the New Testament is the unfolding of the Old Testament Christ.** Since this is true, then Hebrews 1:1,2 is clear when it says,

“ God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days

spoken unto us by his Son.”(Hebrews 1:1-2).

And as he has revealed Himself to us by the testimony of the Apostles and the prophets, then the Testimony of Jesus (which is the Spirit of prophecy- Rev 19:10) is what we need at the present time for guidance.

Thus while the angels brought down the very Word of God to the Old Testament prophets to write it down, the same angels brought down the inspired interpretation of that Word to the prophets in the New Testament. The role of these angels(represented by the two olive trees) in Zechariah 4 is to give inspired interpretations of the Bible (Which is the Spirit of Prophecy) to the prophets of this last section of the church, the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

The very last true church, therefore, is that which keeps “**the commandments of**

God”(The Written Bible) and have “the testimony of Jesus”(the interpretation of the written Bible by the prophets) - Rev 12:17.

Going back to Zechariah 4, let's now look at the

Golden Oil.

Since this vision pertains to “**the word of the Lord**” then this golden oil represents “**the messages of God's spirit**”(RH, July 20, 1897).

And Since they come from the Bible (Christ) through the angels, then they are **the very interpreted truths of scripture**, given to John(representing the prophets), thus we can unlock the symbolism of

The Two Golden Pipes.

“What be these two olive branches which

through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves?”(Zech 4:12)

Notice what it says: The two olive Branches(**The Bible brought down by the angels**) empty the golden oil (**the messages of God’s spirit - inspired interpretations**) out of themselves **through the two golden pipes**(inspired Channels).

No one can doge the fact that the Spirit of prophecy was introduced **as the channel of communication** between Heaven and earth after the fall (see 1SP 7), **thus prophets (individuals through whom the Spirit of prophecy comes, or who have the Gift of prophecy) are channels or pipes** through which God communicates to his people.

“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners **spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets..**”(Heb 1:1)

“But through the ministration of holy angels could the great God speak to him[man] in dreams and in visions. ‘If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream.’ Numbers 12:6. .”(1SP 7.2)

Notice, it is through the angels speaking to the prophets **“in dreams and visions”** that God speaks to mankind. **“In the highest sense the prophet was one who spoke by direct inspiration, communicating to the people the messages he had received from God..”(Ed 46.1)**

If the established channel of communication is **the Spirit of Prophecy delivered by the angels to the prophets**, then the meaning of the **two golden pipes** cannot be misunderstood.

Again, John, Daniel and other prophets being linked next to the angel who stands in the presence of God, and the two golden pipes holding the same position, then the meaning is: **the two golden pipes represent two channels [pipes] through which the testimonies by the angels come to the church after 1798.** These messengers, the prophets, give this oil to the church .

These are necessarily two prophets through which the messages[inspired interpretations] from the angel come **for the building of the antitypical house of God, the Church that keeps “the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus.”**(Rev 12:17), hence the command of the Lord,

“Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.”(Rev 10:11)

The “**prophecy again**” instruction at the very beginning of building this house of God after the Babylonian captivity ,after 1798, did not come about by the will of man, but “**Sister White spoke**” as she was moved by the Holy Spirit through the “**accompanying angel**”(EW 76.3)

“Will you believe this testimony? Will you heed what the Lord has spoken through Sister White, or will you cast the word of the Lord behind you?.(2SM 82.1)

“Men may get up scheme after scheme, and the enemy will seek to seduce souls from the truth, **but all who believe that the Lord has spoken through Sister White, and has given her a message, will be safe from the many delusions that will come in these last days.**”(3SM 83.5)

Again the Lord promised to send another

messenger to the Church before he comes:

“Behold, **I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:** And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse”(Malachi 4:5,6,3:1-3)

“**Prophecy must be fulfilled.** The Lord says: ‘Behold, **I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.**’ Somebody is to come in the spirit and power of Elijah, [See Appendix.] and when **he appears**, men may say: ‘You are too earnest, you do not interpret the Scriptures in the proper way. Let me tell you how to teach your message’” .(TM 475.3)

This antitypical Elijah is “**somebody**” beside Sister White. Thus, “As never before, we

should pray not only that laborers may be sent forth into the great harvest field, **but that we may have a clear conception of truth, so that when the messengers of truth shall come, we may accept the message and respect the messenger.** “(6T 420.3)

The Golden Bowl.

“What thou seest, write in a book...for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”
(Rev 1:11,19:10)

John, you see, was told to **write down** what he received from the angel in a book (container or bowl of those messages) so that the churches could read and benefit.

“And it came to pass, when Moses had made an end of writing the words of this law in a book, until they were finished.”(Deut 31:24)

“The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD God of Israel, saying, **Write thee all the words that I have spoken unto thee in a book.**”(Jer 30:1,2)

“And the LORD answered me, and said, **Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.**”(Habakkuk 2:2)

Not only John, but Moses, Jeremiah and Habakkuk were also told to write down what they received from the the Lord through the angels, “**that he may run that readeth it**”, so these **two golden pipes** receive these “messages of God’s Spirit”, **write them in the books of the Spirit of Prophecy, represented by the Golden Bowl.** These books, like “**the little book**” (Rev 10:8), are to be consumed [studied] by all and **keep them inside the**

heart [by practicing the truth]. Thus when kept into the heart, it[the heart] becomes the golden bowl of these messages (TM 337.2) to be imparted to others. Are you receiving this holy oil in your heart or you are like those five foolish virgins who are not serious with Bible truth?

The Seven Pipes and the Seven Lamps

Since Revelation 1-3 reveals that when the ministers(the seven angels) receive these written messages(in the golden bowl - the book) from John, they are to give it to the candlestick (the church laity), **then the seven pipes drawing oil from the golden bowl to the lamps represent the same angels(the ministers)**

“The golden oil represents the Holy Spirit.

With this oil God's ministers are to be constantly supplied, that they, in turn, may impart it to church..(TM 188.2)

“ When the anointed ones empty themselves through the golden pipes, **the golden oil flows out of themselves into the golden bowls, to flow forth into the lamps, the churches.** This is the work of every true, devoted servant of the living God..”(Ev 209.1)

So while **the seven pipes represent all of God's ministers**(because the number 7 indicates completeness- AA 585), **the seven lamps**, we are told, are the churches, **the local churches** of the Church(the candlestick)

The flow of the messages from the Father is okay **until it reaches the ministry, for ministers have not always accepted God's warnings.**

The Bible is sufficient for every instruction, but the Lord gave “the Spirit of Prophecy” at this hour to **warn people against private interpretations of the scriptures**(2 Peter 1:19-21)

“The Word of God is sufficient to enlighten the most beclouded mind, and may be understood by those who have any desire to understand it. **But notwithstanding all this, some who profess to make the Word of God their study are found living in direct opposition to its plainest teachings. Then, to leave men and women without excuse, God gives plain and pointed testimonies, bringing them back to the Word that they have neglected to follow.**”(3SM 31.1)

“The church has turned back from following Christ her Leader and is steadily retreating toward Egypt. Yet few are alarmed or astonished at their want of spiritual power.

Doubt, and even disbelief of the testimonies of the Spirit of God, is leavening our churches everywhere. Satan would have it thus. Ministers who preach self instead of Christ would have it thus. The testimonies are unread and unappreciated. God has spoken to you..”(5T 217.2)

“We have been inclined to think that where there are no faithful ministers there can be no true Christians, but this is not the case. God has promised that where the shepherds are not true He will take charge of the flock Himself. God has never made the flock wholly dependent upon human instrumentalities...”(5T 79.4)

The correct interpretation of the Bible is in the Spirit of Prophecy (the golden bowl), **while we are to study the Bible**, we are not to get interpretations from it which **contradict** the inspired testimonies. True it is that light is to

continue shining from the Word of God, but it will always be in harmony with what has already been revealed.

Says the Spirit

“For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, **If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.**”

(Revelation 22:18,19)

It is always perilous to teach or preach that which God has not said.

“From the earliest times, **prophets had been recognized as teachers divinely appointed.**

In the highest sense the prophet was one who spoke by direct inspiration, communicating to the people the messages he had received from God. But the name was given also to those who, though not so directly inspired, were divinely called to instruct the people in the works and ways of God..”(Ed 46.1)

If the Spirit is indeed guiding you “into all truth ” as you study your Bible, you will always walk With the Holy oil in the heart, that you may impart it to others. To reject the Testimonies is to reject the Bible and the Lord himself.

When the prophecy of Joel 2:28 is fulfilled in the time of the loud cry, God will speak to His people through the angels and the work will be completed.

“And it shall come to pass afterward, that I

will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days **will I pour out my spirit. And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.**

The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.”(Joel 2:23-32)

“In immediate connection **with the scenes of the great day of God**, the Lord by the prophet Joel has promised a special manifestation of His Spirit. Joel 2:28. **This prophecy received a**

partial fulfillment in the outpouring of the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost; but it will reach its full accomplishment in the manifestation of divine grace which will attend the closing work of the gospel.”(HF 11.3)

This is the time of the second Pentecost, the glorious period of the Church, during which all who shall call on the name of the Lord by responding to the loud cry message preached by **“the remnant whom the LORD shall call”** shall be delivered.

And the fact that even **during that time** God’s people will **“prophecy”** shows this channel of communication, the Spirit of prophecy, extends to the very end of time. Then it, along with other spiritual gifts, shall come to an end. **“...whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish**

away. For we **know in part, and we prophesy in part.** But when **that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.**”(1 Cor 13:8-10)

“Once, man walked with God in Eden. With open face he beheld the glory of the Lord, and talked with God, and Christ, and angels, in paradise, without a dimming veil between. Man fell from his moral rectitude and innocence, and was driven from the garden, from the tree of life, and from the visible presence of the Lord and His holy angels ...

When all was lost in Adam, and the shades of night darkened the moral heavens, there soon appeared the star of hope in Christ, and with it there was established a means of communication between God and man. In his fallen state, man could not converse face to face with God, and with Christ, and with angels, as when in his Eden purity. But through the ministration of holy angels could the great

God speak to him in dreams and in visions...

But when the tabernacle of God shall be with men, and he shall dwell with them, and God himself shall be with them, Revelation 21:3; when Christ shall come again with all the holy angels, and receive his people unto himself, that where he shall be, there they may be also, John 14:3; and when man redeemed shall walk and talk with God, and Christ, and angels, in Eden restored; then there will be no further need of the spirit of prophecy.”(1SP 7, 11.4)

May the Lord help His people.

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