

Zechariah 1:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the man that stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, These are they whom the LORD hath sent to walk to and fro through the earth.

Analysis

The man among the myrtle trees explains: 'These are they whom the LORD hath sent to walk to and fro through the earth.' The horses represent angelic agents sent on divine reconnaissance. 'Walk to and fro' suggests comprehensive surveillance—God monitors all earth through angelic ministry. This demonstrates divine omniscience and providence: nothing escapes God's notice. The world isn't deistic (God absent after creation) but theistic (God actively governing). This assured struggling temple-builders that God knew their situation and world conditions affecting them.

Historical Context

Ancient empires maintained courier systems for intelligence gathering and communication. Persia's famous postal system inspired this imagery. God's heavenly administration parallels but surpasses human governance. The reconnaissance assures that despite appearances (Persia ruling, temple builders struggling), God remains sovereign and informed. His government operates continuously, monitoring conditions relevant to His purposes.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does angelic reconnaissance assure us that God comprehensively knows our circumstances and world events affecting us?
2. What does this organized heavenly administration teach us about God's ordered governance versus randomness or deism?

Interlinear Text

וַיַּעַן	הָאִישׁ	הָעֹמֵד	בֵּין	הַהֲדָסִים	וַיֹּאמֶר
answered	And the man	that stood		among the myrtle trees	and said
H6030	H376	H5975	H996	H1918	H559
לָהּ	אֲשֶׁר	שָׁלַח	יְהוָה	לְהִתְהַלֵּךְ	
H428	H834	hath sent	These are they whom the LORD	to walk	
		H7971	H3068	H1980	
בָּאָרֶץ:					
to and fro through the earth					
H776					

Additional Cross-References

Zechariah 1:11 (References Lord): And they answered the angel of the LORD that stood among the myrtle trees, and said, We have walked to and fro through the earth, and, behold, all the earth sitteth still, and is at rest.

Hebrews 1:14 (Parallel theme): Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

Job 1:7 (References Lord): And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

Zechariah 1:8 (Parallel theme): I saw by night, and behold a man riding upon a red horse, and he stood among the myrtle trees that were in the bottom; and behind him were there red horses, speckled, and white.

Zechariah 4:10 (References Lord): For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.

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