

Zechariah 14:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses,
HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD; and the pots in the LORD'S
house shall be like the bowls before the altar.

Analysis

In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD (בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא יִהְיֶה עַל־מִצְלֹת הַסּוּס קֹדֶשׁ לַיהוָה)—metzillot (bells/cymbals) on horses inscribed with qodesh la-YHWH, the exact phrase on the high priest's golden headplate (Exodus 28:36). What was exclusively priestly now extends to common items—even war horses bear the holiness inscription. **And the pots in the LORD's house shall be like the bowls before the altar**—ordinary cooking pots in temple equal sacred vessels used for sacrifices.

This depicts comprehensive sanctification: everything becomes holy, no distinction between sacred and secular. The entire creation is consecrated to God's glory. This fulfills the kingdom of priests concept (Exodus 19:6, 1 Peter 2:9): all life is worship, all activities sacred. It anticipates New Jerusalem where **"there shall be no more curse"** (Revelation 22:3) and all is holy. This is restoration beyond Eden—not innocent creation, but redeemed, glorified creation where holiness permeates everything.

Historical Context

In millennial kingdom under Messiah's reign, the whole earth becomes God's temple. The separation between holy and common (necessary under Law due to sin) is overcome through Christ's redemptive work. This fulfills prophetic visions

like Isaiah 11:9: "The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea."

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. What does 'HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD' on common items teach about integrating faith into daily life?
2. How does elimination of sacred/secular distinction reflect the gospel's comprehensive lordship of Christ?
3. In what ways can believers live out this principle now—making all activities worship?

Interlinear Text

בִּי וּם	הָהּ וָא	יְהוָה	עַל	מִצֵּל וְת	הַסּ וּס
In that day	H1931	H1961	H5921	shall there be upon the bells	of the horses
H3117				H4698	H5483
קִדְּשׁ	יְהוָה הָ	יְהוָה הָ	הַסִּירוֹת	בֵּית יֵת	יְהוָה הָ
HOLINESS	UNTO THE LORD	H1961	and the pots	house	UNTO THE LORD
H6944	H3068		H5518	H1004	H3068
כַּמִּזְבֵּק יִם	לִפְנֵי י	הַמִּזְבֵּחַ:			
shall be like the bowls	before	the altar			
H4219	H6440	H4196			

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 39:30 (Holy): And they made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold, and wrote upon it a writing, like to the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD.

Isaiah 23:18 (Holy): And her merchandise and her hire shall be holiness to the LORD: it shall not be treasured nor laid up; for her merchandise shall be for them that dwell before the LORD, to eat sufficiently, and for durable clothing.

Leviticus 8:9 (Holy): And he put the mitre upon his head; also upon the mitre, even upon his forefront, did he put the golden plate, the holy crown; as the LORD commanded Moses.

1 Peter 2:5 (Holy): Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

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