

Zechariah 6:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.

Analysis

Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both—The prophecy intensifies with emphatic repetition: **Even he shall build the temple of the LORD** confirms verse 12. **And he shall bear the glory** (vəhū' yissā' hōd, אֵह֔וּ שִׁׁשָּׁׁד)—hōd (הֹדֶד) means splendor, majesty, royal dignity. The Branch will carry divine glory, as Jesus revealed: 'we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father' (John 1:14).

And shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne—Two offices, one throne. Vəyāshab ūmāshal 'al-kis'ō vəhāyāh khōhēn 'al-kis'ō, 'וְיָשַׁב וְמַשְׁלֵל עַל-כְּסָאוֹ וְהִיא כְּהֵן עַל-כְּסָאוֹ' (and he shall sit and rule on his throne, and he shall be a priest on his throne'). Kings rule from thrones; priests serve at altars. The Branch does both simultaneously from one throne—royal authority and priestly mediation united. **And the counsel of peace shall be between them both**—'atsath shālōm tihyeh bēyn shēnēhem (עַצְתִּ שָׁלֹם תִּהְיֶה בֵּין שְׁנֵי הֵם), 'and counsel of peace shall be between the two'). The 'two' are the priestly and royal offices, harmoniously united in the Branch. Or it may refer to the Branch and Yahweh working in perfect agreement. Jesus is both our King and High Priest, making peace between God and humanity (Colossians 1:20; Hebrews 2:17).

Historical Context

In Israel's history, priesthood (Levi) and kingship (Judah) were separate tribes and functions. Any attempt to combine them met divine judgment. The Branch's uniqueness is that He legitimately holds both offices without usurpation. Jesus descended from Judah (royalty) yet is 'a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek' (Hebrews 7:14-17), the ancient priest-king who blessed Abraham (Genesis 14:18-20). The 'counsel of peace' between the offices culminates in Christ reconciling God and sinners.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus bearing 'the glory' fulfill divine majesty in human form?
2. Why is it essential that Christ be both King (ruling) and Priest (mediating) on one throne?
3. What practical difference does Christ's dual priest-king office make in your relationship with God?

Interlinear Text

וְהִוא יְבִטֵּה אֶת הַיּוֹם
Even he shall build the temple of the LORD

וְיִשְׁאַל וְיִמְשְׁלַל וְיִשְׁבַּב וְיִכְּסַא וְיִתְּנַשֵּׁא
and he shall bear the glory and shall sit and rule upon his throne

וְיִכְּסַא וְיִעַצֵּת וְיִשְׁלַם וְתִּרְאֵה הַכֹּהן
and he shall be a priest upon his throne and the counsel of peace

בֵּין־עַמּוֹת
shall be between them both

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 110:4 (References Lord): The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Hebrews 3:1 (Parallel theme): Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;

Isaiah 22:24 (Glory): And they shall hang upon him all the glory of his father's house, the offspring and the issue, all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flagons.

Isaiah 11:10 (Glory): And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

Isaiah 9:6 (Peace): For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Psalms 21:5 (Glory): His glory is great in thy salvation: honour and majesty hast thou laid upon him.

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