

May 15, 2022

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

Zech. 4:6 So he said to me, “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ says the LORD Almighty. (NIV)

The King of Persia, Cyrus, began to believe in the God of the Israelites. After they had been in captivity from 608 - 538 B.C., he told Zerubbabel to lead a group back to Jerusalem to re-establish their home in that land. An angel appeared to Zerubbabel and told him that the LORD wanted to dwell with His people in the Temple that would be rebuilt. This would fulfill the prophecy of Jeremiah in the 25th chapter. Those that had taken the land when the Israelites were taken into captivity, would be scattered and destroyed, and thus, the Israelites could return to the ‘promised land’ again. And so, Zerubbabel led many of the people back to Jerusalem to begin rebuilding. Now Zerubbabel was anxious as the angel began to tell him what was to take place. It would have been as well. It is not every day that the LORD sends an angel to speak to someone. Because Zerubbabel seemed reticent to accept these words, but the angel spoke to him our passage for today. ***So he said to me, “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ says the LORD Almighty.***

Herein we again see how the LORD works. He speaks and things happen. He can change the heart and direction of kings and He can move and shape history as He desires. Zerubbabel knew that those who were returning to the land would not have weapons or army or any means of defense against others who desired that same land. God does not always strike down people with the swath of His sword, but He certainly could. However He chooses to do it, He certainly will do it. And so, Zerubbabel believed by faith and led the people back to the land that was given to them by the LORD. The Spirit of the LORD led them. And there they prospered and later, another group from the captives were release to return. This group was led by Nehemiah and they ultimately re-built the walls of Jerusalem. No here is the gem in all of this. Man can do some things with his own might and intellect, but these things are temporal and will fail. If the LORD builds the house, it will stand no matter what. Who’s building your house?

Dear LORD, help us to try doing everything with our own strength. Unless You LORD build the house, those who labor, labor in vain. But with You, we can do all things. In Jesus Name, Amen