

Mountains of Brass

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Many times scriptures can be viewed as a literal outward, as well as an allegory, type or symbol of something inward, of the mind. This study focuses on an understanding of the first eight verses of Zechariah six as the description of a historical time period. However, it still requires understanding of the symbols in order to determine the event.

Zec 6:1-8: *1. And I turned, and lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came four chariots out from between two mountains; and the mountains were mountains of brass. 2. In the first chariot were red horses; and in the second chariot black horses; 3. And in the third chariot white horses; and in the fourth chariot grised (or spotted) and bay horses. 4. Then I answered and said unto the angel that talked with me, What are these, my lord? 5. And the angel answered and said unto me, These are the four spirits of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the Lord of all the earth. 6. The black horses which are therein go forth into the north country; and the white go forth after them; and the grised go forth toward the south country. 7. And the bay went forth, and sought to go that they might walk to and fro through the earth: and he said, Get you hence, walk to and fro through the earth. So they walked to and fro through the earth. 8. Then cried he upon me, and spake unto me, saying, Behold, these that go toward the north country have quieted my spirit in the north country.*

Mountains (Hebrew - Strong's # is 2022): **Ps 24:3:** *Who shall ascend into the hill ⁽²⁰²²⁾ of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? The mountain ²⁰²² of the Lord is His holy place; Ps 15:1: Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? God's tabernacle is His holy hill ⁽²⁰²²⁾. Ps 48:1-2: 1. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. 2. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King. Mount Zion is a symbolic name for Jerusalem and God's people; it is the holy mountain of God, the city of the great King, and a king rules a kingdom.*

Jer 51:24-25: *24. And I will render unto Babylon and to all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight, saith the Lord. 25. Behold, I am against thee, O destroying mountain, saith the Lord, which destroys all the earth: and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and will make thee a burnt mountain. Babylon is called a mountain, which is a strong hold, a high place from which one views the land, or figurative of an inward strength. It represents a power, or nation outwardly, but a way of thinking inwardly. We have two great mountains, two ways of thinking: One is God's, the other Babylon's.*

Brass: **Job 6:12-13:** *12 Is my strength the strength of stones? Or is my flesh of brass? 13 Is it not that I have no help in me, And that wisdom is driven quite from me? (American Standard) Brass is an impure metal, taken out of the earth (self) and molten out of stone (concept) {Job 28:2}. **2 Ki 25:7:** *And they slew the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, and put out the eyes of Zedekiah, and bound him with fetters of brass, and carried him to Babylon. Spiritually, Babylon slew the thoughts of Zedekiah (king of Judah), then put out his understanding. Babylon in scripture is a symbol of spiritual confusion and lack of God's understanding. Chains for binding in the ancient days were often made of brass, and it is mankind's impure thoughts which causes bondage in sin. Ps 107:10-11, 15-16: 10. Such as sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, being bound in affliction and iron; 11... Because they rebelled against the words of God, and contemned the counsel of the most High: 15. Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to**

the children of men! 16. For he hath broken the gates of brass, and cut the bars of iron in sunder. Iron is another metal taken out of the earth and is a symbol for strength - good or bad. The gates of Babylon were made of brass and iron (Isa 45:1-2), and here they represent bondage and affliction. **Jer 6:28:** *They are all grievous revolters, walking with slanders: they are brass and iron; they are all agents of corruption.* Spiritually, iron and brass are symbols of strong, impure thoughts which cause rebellion, affliction and the bondage of people because of the way they think. **Ex 27:1-2:** *1. And thou shalt make an altar of Shittim wood, five cubits long, and five cubits broad; the altar shall be foursquare: and the height thereof shall be three cubits. 2. And thou shalt make the horns of it upon the four corners thereof: his horns shall be of the same: and thou shalt overlay it with brass.* In the study on Gethsemane, it was shown that the brazen altar represents Christ's suffering and affliction in the garden, as he resisted the human nature he was carrying. (The cross is represented as being outside the city - Heb 13:11-13.) Impure thoughts cause suffering.

- ▶ **Chariots: Ps 68:17:** *The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands upon thousands; The Lord is among them, as in Sinai, in the sanctuary.* (American Standard) **Isa 66:15:** *For, behold, the Lord will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.* Chariots are messengers, or people who follow leaders - horses. (Also 2 Ki 6:17; unsanctified - Ps 20:7; Isa 31:1-3; Ps 76:6)
- ▶ **Horses: Isa 63:13:** *13. That led them through the deep, as an horse in the wilderness, that they should not stumble? Moses is likened to a horse (cf Zech 10:3), through whom God led Israel (chariot). Ps 32:9: *Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle...* A horse must be guided by the rider. So, depending on the rider, the messenger can be good or bad. **Isa 31:1, 3:** *1. Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the Lord!... 3. Now the Egyptians are men, and not God; and their horses flesh, and not spirit...* Here God's people are leaning on the messengers of Egypt, a type of the worldly, messengers of the flesh. Zech 10:3: *Mine anger was kindled against the shepherds, and I punished the goats: for the Lord of hosts hath visited his flock the house of Judah, and hath made them as his goodly horse in the battle.* Judah is God's goodly horse. Color is generally 'understanding', and represents spiritual quality: **Red: Gen 2:19:** *And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them:...* Hebrew *adamah*¹²⁷ = ground, land or earth. *Adam*¹²⁰ and *adamah* have the same root - the verb *adam*¹¹⁹, meaning *to be red, dyed red*. In the case of man, red is his earthly understanding.*
- ▶ **Black: Pr 4:19:** *The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble.* Absence of light - i.e. spiritual darkness, is no knowledge of God. **Jn 3:19:** *And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.* Jesus came to reveal the Father, to give knowledge and understanding.
- ▶ **White: Rev 19:8:** *And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.* White raiment is righteous thoughts or character.
- ▶ **Grisled (spotted⁽¹²⁶¹⁾): Jer 13:23:** *Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil;* **Jude 11-12:** *11. Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core. 12. These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withers, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots;* Spots = sin nature, that cannot be changed.
- ▶ **Bay (Strong, brave, steadfast, persistent⁽⁵⁵⁴⁾): Ruth 1:18:** *When she saw that she was steadfastly minded to go with her, then she left speaking unto her.* Uses the verb form "steadfastly minded"⁽⁵⁵³⁾.

- ▶ Four Spirits ⁽⁷³⁰⁷⁾ of the Heavens: **Zec 6:5**: *And the angel answered and said unto me, These are the four spirits (literally = winds) of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the Lord of all the earth. The four horse drawn chariots are said to be four spirits standing before the Lord. Zec 1:8-12: 8. 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. 9. Then said I, O my Lord, what are these? And the angel that talked with me said unto me, I will shew thee what these be. 10. 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. 11. 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 sits still, and is at rest. 12. Then the angel of the Lord answered and said, O Lord of hosts, how long wilt thou not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which thou hast had indignation these threescore and ten years?* In chapter one, God's people are spoken of as being at rest in Babylon. In chapter two they are called out, which begins the persecution and the coming out of the red horses. These are the same as the four winds ⁽⁷³⁰⁷⁾ of the heavens, i.e. God's people scattered through out Babylon. **Zec 2:6-7**: *6. Ho, Ho, come forth, and flee from the land of the north, saith the Lord: for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven, saith the Lord. 7. Deliver thyself, O Zion, that dwells with the daughter of Babylon.*

The two mountains of brass are two kingdoms, or the last two heads of the beast (Rev 17:3), or, significant periods of great rebellion, bondage and suffering. **Deu 4:30-31**: *30. When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, even in the latter days, if thou turn to the Lord thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice; 31. ...he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he swore unto them.* Moses talked of a tribulation in the latter days. **Mt 24:21**: *For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.* Jesus put an exceeding great tribulation future to His day. **1 Th 3:4**: *For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know.* Tribulation began in the apostolic church and grew greater through the time of Rome, when allegedly, over 50 million Christians were killed.

Red Horses: The four horse drawn chariots represent periods of religious movements which happen between two periods of great tribulation. The horses are leaders, and chariots are those that follow, or ride in a chariot. The first tribulation (brass mountain) began to taper off in the 1700s. Martin Luther, perhaps influenced by others before him, as Wycliff, Huss, nailed his 95 thesis to the church door in 1517, the time set for the beginning of the Protestant reformation. This is the 'red horse group, which split into several groups, out of which came this great Protestant movement and many denominations, such as Anglican, Lutheran, Baptist, Methodist, etc, which split away from the Roman Catholic Church. Why a red horse? Earlier, it was stated that Moses was a type of horse. **Rev 6:4**: *And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.* Outwardly, the second seal represents the time period of Moses. During this period of time, the people were given a great sword - the law. A similar thing happened during the reformation when original manuscripts were translated into other languages, especially English, and the printing press was invented, which allowed the common man to have a Bible. But, understanding of Scripture was according to the flesh (red), and not the spirit (Rom 7:5, 25).

Black Horses: By the early 1800s, the denominations had generally stopped protesting. They did not continue to advance in light; they did not continue to leave the dark and confused teachings of that period. In Zechariah 2, it was shown how God's people were scattered into Babylon. **Jer 25:9**: *Behold, I will send and take all the*

families of the north, saith the Lord, and Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof... Jer 4:6-7: 6. Set up the standard toward Zion: retire, stay not: for I will bring evil from the north, and a great destruction. 7. The lion is come up from his thicket, and the destroyer of the Gentiles is on his way... North is a type for Babylon, as is a lion, and Babylon is a type for confusion about God.

White horses: There was an element of reformation which continued into the 19th century (often referred to as the Advent Movement, because they expected the second coming of Christ) when there were many splinter churches, some of which advanced beyond the black horses in spiritual understanding. But notice, scripture says the white horses followed the black ones into Babylon (Zec 6:6). So, giving up what truth they had, they eventually followed the black horses into confusion and darkness. The white & black horses, which went north, quieted the Spirit of God, i.e. they stopped their ears from hearing God's voice.

Grisled horses: The fourth chariot consisted of two different colored horses. Grisled, or spotted (sin spots) are the people that go south, into Egypt, a symbol of the world (see a Bible map of area). The spotted, those with worldly traits left the church and went into the world.

The bay (strong, steadfast, persistent) horses: These walk to and fro through the earth, which is a symbol of self. To walk to and fro through the earth is to examine self according to the Lord's understanding. **2 Ch 16:9**: *For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him...* The spotted and bay horses represent those coming out of the denominations today. Many are giving up religion and going into the world. Others are seeking an abiding relationship with the Lord and form other churches, or, often assembling with others in their home. There is another brass mountain before us, the seventh head of the beast being formed right before us. However, it will be the last in this world because God intervenes to bring to an end sin and wickedness. Are you ready? **Isa 66:15-18**: *15. For, behold, the Lord will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. 16. For by fire and by his sword will the Lord plead with all flesh: and the slain of the Lord shall be many. 17. They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the Lord. 18. For I know their works and their thoughts: it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory.*

Rom 8:35-39: *35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. 37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. 38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

2 Cor 10:3-5: *3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh 4 (for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but mighty before God to the casting down of strongholds), 5 casting down imaginations, and every high thing that is exalted against the knowledge of God, and bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. (American Standard) Amen!*