

## THE MODE OF INSPIRATION

### ZECHARIAH 4

*Introduction:* This study reveals a representation of the system of interpreting the written Word of God and transmitting it to the church.

*Prayer thought:* **TM 509.1** “The continued communication of the Holy Spirit to the church is represented by the prophet Zechariah under another figure, which contains a wonderful lesson of encouragement for us.

Read **Zech. 4:1-6, 11-14**

1. What is the symbolism portraying?

The Word of the Lord (the Bible) to the servants of God – verse 6.  
It illustrates how God’s word, through the agency of the Holy Spirit, will finish the work through this system rather than by power or might.

2. The meaning of the olive trees represent.

Verse 14 - the two anointed ones; Rev. 11:3, 4 – the two witnesses  
“The two witnesses represent the Scriptures of the Old and the New Testament” {GC 267:2}

3. The meaning of the golden oil.

“The golden oil represents the **Holy Spirit**. With this oil **God’s ministers** are to be constantly supplied, that they, in turn, may impart it to church.” {188:2}

“God's holy, educating Spirit is in **His word**.” {COL 132:2}

“When the anointed ones empty themselves through the golden pipes, the golden oil flows out of themselves into the golden bowls, to flow forth into the **lamps, the churches**. This is the work of every true, devoted servant of the living God. The Lord God of heaven cannot approve much that is brought into the pulpit by those who are professedly speaking **the word of the Lord**. They do not inculcate ideas that will be a blessing to those who hear.” {TM 336:3}

4. The meaning of the seven lamps.

Rev.1: 20; TM 336.3; AA 585.3 – the churches; the entire laity.

5. The meaning of the seven pipes.

See TM 188 (above) – God’s ministers; the entire ministry at work

6. The meaning of the two golden pipes.

2Pet. 1:19-21; Amos 3:7; Hos.12:13; 2Chron. 20:20 – God’s inspired interpreters  
““In ancient times God spoke to men by the mouth of prophets and apostles. In these days He speaks to them by the testimonies of His Spirit. There was never a time when God instructed His people more earnestly than He instructs them now concerning His will and the course that He would have them pursue.” [VOL. 4, PP. 147, 148 (1876).]” {5T

661.1}

“As the olive trees empty themselves into the golden pipes, so the heavenly messengers seek to communicate all that they receive from God. The whole heavenly treasure awaits our demand and reception; and as we receive the blessing, we in our turn are to impart it. Thus it is that the holy lamps are fed, and the church becomes a light bearer in the world.” {TM 510.1}

“The inner lamp must be supplied with the oil that flows from the messengers of heaven through the golden tubes into the golden bowl. The Lord's communication never comes to man in vain.” {7T 248.3}

7. The meaning of the bowl.

Rev. 19:10 - The Spirit of Prophecy publications

1SM 55 “These words will still have life and speak.” – the living Spirit of Prophecy

Conclusion: Through this study we saw how we can come to a unified and proper understanding of the scriptures so that God can empower the church to fully reflect the character of Christ and be a light to the world.

# THE UNIVERSAL DAIRY

## **Read Isaiah 7: 14, 15**

- The child (Christ) was prescribed a special diet as was John the Baptist - Luke 1: 15; Matt. 3: 4.
- Christ's diet was not confined to literal butter and honey. He ate whatever lawful food was set before Him. See Matt. 11: 18, 19.

## Of what than are butter and honey symbolical?

They symbolize something freely used by Christ that made Him wise to discriminate between good and evil. See Matt. 4: 1-4, 6, 7, 10. It is the Word of God

## **Read Isaiah 7: 21, 22**

### A young cow and two sheep

- Butter is churned from milk. Since the milk from which this spiritual "butter" is made comes from the "two Sheep" and the "young cow", therefore, these three milk producing creatures symbolize three different sources from which the Word of God (butter) is obtained.
- The two sheep being two of a kind as the olive trees in Zechariah 4; 3, 11; they symbolize the Old and New Testament Scriptures.
- The young cow, being later in origin and larger in proportion than the two sheep; it symbolizes the volumes of the Spirit of Prophecy

### Why eat butter? Why not drink milk?

- 1Peter 2: 1, 2 – milk is for babes
- Hebrews 5: 12-14 – everyone that use milk is unskillful in the Word of God
- Isaiah 28: 9 – to receive knowledge and understanding we must be weaned from the milk and drawn from the breasts.

### What does honey represent?

Revelation 10: 8-11 – the sweetness derived from feasting on the Scriptures.

### Who is the man that nourishes the two sheep and the young cow?

"Here the Lord tells us that the milking of the two sheep and the young cow (the unfolding of the heaven-sent scrolls) is not entrusted to all, but to "a man" (prophet). This means that the one through whom the light is revealed, nourishes these sources of

supply by arousing widespread interest in them, thus keeping them alive and producing. And each one who would remain in the land, must give them his steady patronage and be on the alert, of course, to interest others in their lasting, life-giving product.

“Knowing that some would deny the Old Testament and others the New Testament Scriptures, also that still others would doubt the Spirit of Prophecy, God therefore calls attention to all three. The figures, "a young cow and two sheep," unique in their milk-producing ability, make clear that their product can sustain life for eternity, and that to the "man" who nourishes them are the saints to go for their butter.” 6Tr. 44, 45