Zech 3-4

Overview of Zechariah 3-4

Revelation 3:1 (NKJV)
"And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: "I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.

Look for the seven spirits of God

SARDIS
& the seven spirits of God

This is the first of two occasions where nothing positive is said about the congregation, except a dual domination in verse 1

1. **Bible interpretation**

1. **seven Spirits of God** - comes out of imagery in Zechariah indicating the fullness of the Spirit's presence

Most of the symbols found in the Book of Revelation, have their source in Old Testament imagery.

Primarily they are found in **Zechariah**, **Daniel**, **Isaiah** and especially **Ezekiel**. So in order to understand this Ignatius language from the book of Revelation we must look to some of these Old Testament books

Very important that we don't just start assigning new meanings to these symbols and events, that have been already identified in the Old Testament.

Thus why God in His wisdom chooses these symbols and these events, in preference to Jerusalem throughout the Old Testament as that when you get to Revelation, everything comes together

Its not new revelation

But our job is to be together the Old Testament imagery with the book of Revelation in order to understand what's being communicated

2. **The seven Spirits of God?**

Revelation 1:4 (NKJV)
4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits which are before His throne,

Revelation 4:5 (NKJV)
5 And out of the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings and voices. And there were seven lamps burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

Revelation 5:6 (NKJV)
6 And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, a Lamb standing as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

Rev. 4:5

The seven Spirits of God are the seven Spirits of God

The vision in chapter 1

A much stronger word

Revelation 1:4 (NKJV)
4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits which are before His throne,

from the seven Spirits who are before His throne

Revelation 2:1 (NKJV)
1 "To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, "These things says the one who **holds** the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:

holds
G2192 ἔχω echō; a primary verb; properly to hold (literally or figuratively); by implication to have (in many senses): - accounted, [be] able, [be] about, [be] account[-ed], [be] affected with, after, allege, amiss, answer, [be] at, attain, avail, be [-longed, -longing, -longs, -ment], better, brought, can, cause, charge, chargeable, [be] chargeable, claim, concerning, consider, continue, contract, count, dare, deal, do, doubt, endure, enjoy, fare, forbear, forgive, have [-ing], hold [fast, forth, on, out, up], intend, keep, lack, lay, lie, lodge, marry, mind, occasion, occupy, order, ought, pain, part, partake, pertain, please, possess, prevail, put, recover, regard, reputed, sake, shall, should, skill, stand, stay, suffer, take, tarry, tell, tend, trouble, use, wax, wed, will, wish, wit, would, wrong.

Revelation 2:1 (NKJV)
1 "To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, "These things says He who **holds** the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:

Revelation 5:1 (NKJV)
1 And I saw in the right hand of Him Who sat on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals.

Revelation 5:6 (NKJV)
6 And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, a Lamb standing as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

Rev. 4:5

The seven Spirits of God are the seven Spirits of God

Revelation 1:4 (NKJV)
4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits which are before His throne,

from the seven Spirits who are before His throne

The seven spirits are before God the Father's Throne, not Jesus Christ's

A reference of the Holy Spirit
God the Father

Revelation 2:1 (NKJV)
1 "To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, "These things says **He who holds** the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:

He who holds
G2192 ἔχω echō; a primary verb; properly to hold (literally or figuratively); by implication to have (in many senses): - accounted, [be] able, [be] about, [be] account[-ed], [be] affected with, after, allege, amiss, answer, [be] at, attain, avail, be [-longed, -longing, -longs, -ment], better, brought, can, cause, charge, chargeable, [be] chargeable, claim, concerning, consider, continue, contract, count, dare, deal, do, doubt, endure, enjoy, fare, forbear, forgive, have [-ing], hold [fast, forth, on, out, up], intend, keep, lack, lay, lie, lodge, marry, mind, occasion, occupy, order, ought, pain, part, partake, pertain, please, possess, prevail, put, recover, regard, reputed, sake, shall, should, skill, stand, stay, suffer, take, tarry, tell, tend, trouble, use, wax, wed, will, wish, wit, would, wrong.

Revelation 5:1 (NKJV)
1 And I saw in the right hand of Him Who sat on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals.

Revelation 5:6 (NKJV)
6 And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, a Lamb standing as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

Rev. 4:5

The seven Spirits of God are the seven Spirits of God

Revelation 1:4 (NKJV)
4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits which are before His throne,

from the seven Spirits who are before His throne

A reference of the Holy Spirit
Jesus Christ

By shifting to the use of this word he's indicating that Jesus Christ **has** these things,

emphasizing the source of the Holy Spirit and the source of the churches, is from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ

I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.

The focal point for the church that's being emphasized here, is that through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ is directing them to the solution to their problem of spiritual failure.

2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die; for I have not found your works perfect before God.
3 Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.
4 You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy.
5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.
6 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

2. **The function of the Holy Spirit in history**

This is the period after the return from the Babylonian captivity around 520 BC.

Chapters 3 and 4 of Zechariah focus on the two leaders, **Zerubbabel** and **Joshua**, **and their role in bringing about a restoration of Israel** as they come back to the land and the dedication of the new temple.

Chapter 3 focuses on a big picture
personal character of Joshua the high priest
and **Inspiration of righteousness.**

Pay attention to who is speaking

Zechariah 3:1-10 (NKJV)
1 Then he showed me **Joshua** the high priest **standing before the Angel of the Lord**, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him.
2 And the Lord said to Satan, "The Lord rebuke you, Satan! Indeed the Lord who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?"
3 Now **Joshua was clothed with filthy garments**, and was standing before the Angel.
4 Then He spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, "Take away the filthy garments from him." Also to him He said, "See, I have **removed your iniquity from you**, and I will clothe you with rich robes."
5 Then I said, "Let them put a clean turban on His head." So they put a clean turban on His head, and they put the robes on him. And the Angel of the Lord stood by.
6 Then the Angel of the Lord solemnly assured Joshua, saying,
7 "Thus says the Lord of hosts: 'If you walk in My ways, and if you will keep My command, Then you shall judge My house, And likewise keep My courts, And I will give you places to walk among these who stand by.'
8 'Hear, O **Joshua**, the high priest, You and your companions who sit before you, For they are a wondrous sign; For behold, I bring forth My **Servant, the Branch.**
9 For behold, the **stone** that I have set before **Joshua**; Upon the stone **seven eyes**. Indeed I will engrave its inscription, Says the Lord of hosts, And I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.
10 In that day, Says the Lord of hosts, Every one will invite his neighbor Under his vine and under his fig tree."

The function of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

Ezekiel 36:26 (NKJV)
26 I will also give you a new heart, and put a new spirit within you; I will take the stony heart out of your flesh, and give you a heart of flesh.

Ezekiel 36:27 (NKJV)
27 I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

Ezekiel 11:19 (NKJV)
19 Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them; I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them a heart of flesh,

Ezekiel 18:31 (NKJV)
31 Cast away from you all your transgressions by which you have transgressed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel?

Ezekiel 36:27 (NKJV)
27 I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

Ezekiel 36:26 (NKJV)
26 I will also give you a new heart, and put a new spirit within you; I will take the stony heart out of your flesh, and give you a heart of flesh.

Ezekiel 11:19 (NKJV)
19 Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them; I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them a heart of flesh,

Ezekiel 18:31 (NKJV)
31 Cast away from you all your transgressions by which you have transgressed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel?

Joshua the high priest **standing before the Angel of the Lord**

Joshua was clothed with filthy garments

Joshua the high priest **You and your companions who sit before you**

Joshua the high priest **Hear, O Joshua**

Joshua the high priest **Joshua**

Joshua the high priest **Joshua**

Joshua the high priest **