



A Man With a Measuring Line In His Hand by [John T Polk II](#)

*All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.*

Zechariah 2:1 – 5: Then I raised my eyes and looked, and behold, a man with a measuring line in his hand. ²So I said, "Where are you going?" And he said to me, "To measure Jerusalem, to see what *is* its width and what *is* its length." ³And there *was* the angel who talked with me, going out; and another angel was coming out to meet him, ⁴who said to him, "Run, speak to this young man, saying: 'Jerusalem shall be inhabited *as* towns without walls, because of the multitude of men and livestock in it. ⁵For I,' says the Lord, 'will be a wall of fire all around her, and I will be the glory in her midst.'"

I. Introduction:

1. The Israelites were re-building the Promised Land 70 years after their fathers lost it through corruption and rejection of God (**2 Kings 17:5-23**; **2 Chronicles 36:15-23**)
2. After the altar and foundation of the temple were re-built, work ceased (**Ezra 3:1-13**)
3. Troubled by adversaries, political pressure ("correctness"???) stopped them (**Ezra 4:1-24**)
4. Prophets Haggai ("Festive") and Zechariah ("Jehovah remembers") brought God's messages that regained the momentum (**Ezra 5:1-6:15**)
5. Haggai rips the "scab" of Israelite excuses and Zechariah pours future "hope" into their wounded egos
6. The Temple had to be precisely re-built for the people to worship God acceptably until the "Branch" would come (**Zechariah 3:6-10**; **6:11-13**)

II. Discussion:

1. Zechariah

a. Measurements noted:

- 1) Surveyor's line over Jerusalem (**Zechariah 1:16**)
- 2) Measuring line for Jerusalem (**Zechariah 2:1-5**)
- 3) Plumb line Zerubbabel had used for temple's foundation (**Zechariah 4:10**)

- b. Messages came as:
 - 1) 8 Visions in one night (**Zechariah 1:7-6:8**)
 - 2) 4 Sermons (**Zechariah 7:1-14; 8:1-8, 9-17, 18-23**)
 - 3) 2 Burdens
 - a) Against Hadrach and Damascus (**Zechariah 9:1-11:17**)
 - b) Against Israel (**Zechariah 12:1-14**)

2. God's Worship Place(s)

- a. Moses' Tabernacle
 - 1) Measurements not fully described (**Exodus 25:8-9, 40**)
 - 2) Many details given for vessels and priests-for its use (**Exodus 25-40**)
 - 3) Dedicated by Holy Spirit filling it (**Exodus 40:33-38**)
- b. Solomon's Temple
 - 1) Measurements adequately given (**I Kings 6:1-14**)
 - 2) Many details included-for its place (**2 Kings 6:15-38; 7:15-51**)
 - 3) Dedicated by Holy Spirit filling it (**I Kings 8:1-11**)
- c. Jesus' Temple/Church
 - 1) Measurements indefinite (**Acts 2:47; Revelation 7:13-17**)
 - 2) All necessary details included-for its purpose (**Matthew 7:21; Matthew 28:18-20**)
 - 3) Dedicated by Holy Spirit filling it (**Acts 2:1-4, 41**)

3. Measuring the Church (**Revelation 11:1**)

- a. The Line To Lay Down
 - 1) **Philippians 3:16** - affects our thinking
 - 2) **Galatians 6:16** - everyone obedient to Christ accepts it
 - a) **Galatians 4:22-26**
 - b) **Galatians 1:11-12**
- b. The Measuring Line for all Churches (**John 7:17**)
 - 1) Old Testament?
 - a) **Romans 2:28-29** - not fleshly circumcision today (**Galatians 5:2-3**)
 - b) **2 Corinthians 3:14** - keeping "Decalog" is veiling the truth!
 - c) **Acts 3:22-26** - Moses, Samuel and all prophets pointed to the New Testament and the Church of Christ
 - 2) Temple?
 - a) **2 Corinthians 1:1; 6:16** - Temple of God is the Church of God
 - b) **Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 3:8-11; 4:4-6** - clearly identified
 - 3) Altar/Worship?
 - a) **Hebrews 13:10** - not everyone is free to sacrifice to God
 - b) **I Peter 2:4-5** - priesthood is the church
 - c) **Galatians 3:26-29** - cleansing of sinners to be priests
 - a. Pilate used "sinners' prayer and baptism" (**Matthew 27:24**)
 - b. Many offer sacrifices, but are unqualified! (**Matthew 22:11-14**)
 - d) Sacrifices to be offered:
 - a. Singing (**Colossians 3:16**)
 - b. Passover (**I Corinthians 11:23-26; 5:7**)

- c. Giving (**I Corinthians 16:1-2**)
- d. Prayers (**Acts 2:42**)
- 4) Christian Living?
 - a) **I Peter 2:11-12** - conversion away from worldly lusts
 - b) **Ephesians 4:31-5:1** - change of attitude
- c. No Christians "measure up" without applying "the line"

III. Conclusion:

- 1.** Having an altar is not all (**Ezra 3:2**)
- 2.** Laying only a foundation for a temple (**Ezra 3:11-12**)
- 3.** Not unless it is completely done according to God's line!
- 4.** Complete your obedience to the Gospel and in serving the Lord.
- 5.** **Acts 22:16**