

TO THE CONQUERORS

OCTOBER 18, 2026 / CLASS 6 / ANNOTATED EDITION ADDENDUM

Ezekiel and Zechariah: Additional References

An addendum to the Annotated Edition, for Revelation 1:9–3:22.

- The short form of each reference is in the Annotated Edition's notes on these chapters.
- Here: the references in full, and the patterns across all seven letters.

The vision of the Son of Man (1:9–20)

- **The voice behind John (1:10, 12):**
 - Ezekiel: "Then the Spirit lifted me up, and I heard behind me the voice of a great earthquake" (Ezekiel 3:12).
 - Greek Old Testament, the next verse: "I saw the voice" (3:13).
 - John: "I heard behind me a great voice like a trumpet... I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me."
- **The lampstand (1:12):**
 - "He said to me, 'What do you see?' I said, 'I see, and behold, a lampstand all of gold... and seven lamps on it'" (Zechariah 4:1–2).
 - In 1:12: the turning, the one speaking, the seeing, the golden lampstand with seven.
- **The robe (1:13):** the Greek word for "a robe reaching to His feet" is worn by two men in these books.
 - The man in Ezekiel 9: he puts "a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and groan over all the abominations" before judgment begins at God's sanctuary (9:2–6).
 - Joshua the high priest: filthy garments off, this robe on, his iniquity taken away (Zechariah 3:3–5).
 - In the letters, the One in this robe names the faithful: "the rest of you in Thyatira" (2:24); "a few names in Sardis" (3:4).
- **The many waters (1:15):**
 - "The sound of His coming was like the sound of many waters, and the earth shone with His glory" (Ezekiel 43:2).
 - The Greek Old Testament has "many waters" for the living creatures' wings (Ezekiel 1:24) and in Psalm 93:4.

- At Ezekiel 43:2 only the Hebrew has it, and there it is God's own coming.
- John gives it to Jesus: "His voice like the voice of many waters."
- **The shape of the opening:** Ezekiel 1–3 and Revelation 1:9–3:22 share every piece.
 - a prophet in exile
 - the glory of God in human form
 - the voice behind him
 - the prophet falls down, is raised, is sent
 - "Thus says the Lord GOD"
 - "He who will hear, let him hear" (Ezekiel 3:27)
- **The glory leaves and comes back:**
 - Ezekiel 8–11: the glory looks into the Temple ("I know the things that come into your mind," 11:5); the faithful are marked; judgment begins at the sanctuary; the glory leaves by the east gate (10:18–19).
 - Ezekiel 43–44: it comes back by the same gate (43:4); the gate is shut behind it (44:1–2).
 - Revelation 1–3: Jesus walks among the lampstands, knows their works, names the faithful, warns that He will move a lampstand.

The seven letters as a set

- **"They will know that I am":**
 - Ezekiel's sentence: "You shall know that I am the LORD," more than seventy times, most often after judgment on God's own people.
 - Jesus to all the churches: "All the churches will know that I am the One Who searches minds and hearts" (2:23).
 - To Philadelphia: "they will know that I have loved you" (3:9).
- **"Let him who has ears hear what the Spirit says" (the end of every letter):**
 - "They refused to pay attention and turned a stubborn shoulder and stopped their ears that they might not hear. They made their hearts diamond-hard lest they should hear the law and the words that the LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets. Therefore great anger came from the LORD of hosts" (Zechariah 7:11–12).
- **Seven lampstands where the Temple had one:**
 - The Temple: one lampstand in the holy place. John: seven, one per church, Jesus in the middle.
 - God's holy presence going out from the one place:
 - "I will be the glory in her midst" (Zechariah 2:5).
 - "Holy to the LORD" on the bells of the horses and every pot in Jerusalem (Zechariah 14:20–21).

- "I have been a sanctuary to them for a while in the countries where they have gone" (Ezekiel 11:16).
- **The center of Zechariah's visions:**
 - Eight night visions in matching pairs, the high priest (ch. 3) and the lampstand (ch. 4) at the center (James B. Jordan, *Revelation Notes*, pp. 107–108).
 - Revelation 1–3 draws on those two chapters most: the lampstands, the seven spirits, the robe, the garments, the engraved stone, the seven eyes.
 - The letters split three and four; Zechariah 4 gives the title that opens each group: the lampstands (Ephesus, 2:1), the seven spirits (Sardis, 3:1).
- **"Because you said":**
 - Ezekiel quotes people against themselves: "you have said, 'I am a god'... yet you are but a man, and no god" (Ezekiel 28:2).
 - The letters, six times:
 - "those who call themselves apostles and are not" (2:2)
 - "those who say they are Jews and are not" (2:9)
 - "who calls herself a prophetess" (2:20)
 - "the deep things of Satan, as they call them" (2:24)
 - "who say they are Jews but are not, but are liars" (3:9)
 - "you say, 'I'm rich'" (3:17)
- **The last three promises climb:** white garments (3:5) → a pillar in the sanctuary (3:12) → a seat on the throne (3:21). Zechariah and Ezekiel give the same steps in order:

	Sardis (3:5)	Philadelphia (3:12)	Laodicea (3:21)
Zechariah 3–6	Joshua's filthy garments off; clean garments on (3:3–5)	"You shall rule My house and have charge of My courts, and I will give you the right of access among those who are standing here" (3:7)	"He shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne" (6:13)
Ezekiel 40–48	the priests' linen garments in the inner court (44:17)	the house and its pillars (40:49)	"This is the place of My throne" (43:7)

- **Near, not far:**
 - The people: "The vision that he sees is for many days from now, and he prophesies of times far off."
 - God: "None of My words will be delayed any longer" (Ezekiel 12:27–28).
 - Jesus: "I am coming to you soon" (2:16); "I am coming soon" (3:11).

Ephesus (2:1–7)

- **"Remember where you have fallen from" (2:5):** the unfaithful bride "did not remember the days of your youth" (Ezekiel 16:22, 43).
- **"I will move your lampstand out of its place" (2:5):** "Behold, I will profane My sanctuary" (Ezekiel 24:21), to God's own people.
- **"The paradise of God" (2:7):**
 - "You were in Eden, the garden of God" (Ezekiel 28:13); the Greek Old Testament: "the paradise of God."
 - Same passage: "the day that you were created" (28:13, 15).
 - The first letter's promise: the tree in the paradise of God. The last letter's title: "the beginning of the creation of God" (3:14).

Smyrna (2:8–11)

- **"Don't fear what you are about to suffer" (2:10):** God to Ezekiel, sent to his own people: "Be not afraid of them... though briers and thorns are with you and you sit on scorpions" (Ezekiel 2:6).

Pergamum (2:12–17)

- **"To eat food sacrificed to idols and to play the whore" (2:14):** Ezekiel's righteous man "does not eat upon the mountains" and "does not defile his neighbor's wife" (Ezekiel 18:6; also 18:11, 15; 22:9).
- **Idol food and hidden manna (2:14, 17):** "My bread that I gave you — I fed you with fine flour and oil and honey — you set before them" (Ezekiel 16:19).
- **"The sword of My mouth" (2:16):** "Behold, I am against you and will draw My sword from its sheath" (Ezekiel 21:3), against God's own people.
- **The white stone with a name written on it (2:17):** "on the stone that I have set before Joshua, on a single stone with seven eyes, I will engrave its inscription" (Zechariah 3:9).

Thyatira (2:18–29)

- **"Who calls herself a prophetess" (2:20):**
 - "Set your face against the daughters of your people, who prophesy out of their own hearts" (Ezekiel 13:17).
 - They "encouraged the wicked, that he should not turn from his evil way" (13:22); God delivers His people from them (13:23).
 - Compare "I gave her time to repent, and she doesn't want to repent" (2:21).

- **Idols and false prophets together (2:14, 20):** "I will cut off the names of the idols from the land... and also I will remove from the land the prophets" (Zechariah 13:2).
- **"I am throwing her onto a bed" (2:22):** the Greek word for bed, once in Ezekiel, of the adulteress: "You sat on a stately couch, with a table spread before it on which you had placed My incense and My oil" (Ezekiel 23:41).
- **"Her works" (2:22):** the Greek Old Testament calls Jerusalem's sins "works of a whore" (Ezekiel 16:30; 23:43).
- **"I will strike her children dead. All the churches will know that I am..." (2:23):**
 - Ezekiel 23 ends in the same order: the adulteress judged; "they shall kill their sons and their daughters" (23:47); "that all women may take warning" (23:48); "you shall know that I am the Lord GOD" (23:49).
 - Ezekiel 33:24–29: eyes lifted to idols, neighbors' wives defiled, death "by pestilence," "they will know that I am the LORD."
- **"According to your works" (2:23):** "I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways... Repent" (Ezekiel 18:30; 24:14).
- **"He will shepherd them" (2:27):** in the Greek Old Testament, said of the coming David: "I will set up over them one shepherd, My servant David, and he shall feed them" (Ezekiel 34:23).

Sardis (3:1–6)

- **"The One Who has the seven spirits of God" (3:1):** Zechariah 4.
 - the lampstand with seven lamps
 - "Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit" (4:6)
 - "These seven are the eyes of the LORD, which range through the whole earth" (4:10)
- **"You are dead" (3:1):** "I will put My Spirit within you, and you shall live" (Ezekiel 37:14), the valley of dry bones.
- **"The things that remain, which were about to die" (3:2):**
 - The shepherds left the weak unstrengthened (Ezekiel 34:4); God: "I will strengthen the weak" (34:16).
 - The worthless shepherd: "What is to die, let it die" (Zechariah 11:9).
- **"Remember the way you received it and heard it — and keep it" (3:3):** "They hear what you say, but they will not do it" (Ezekiel 33:32).
- **"A few names in Sardis that didn't soil their garments" (3:4):** Joshua the high priest in filthy garments; taken off; iniquity taken away; pure vestments (Zechariah 3:3–5).
- **The book of life (3:5):** the false prophets "shall not be in the council of My people, nor be enrolled in the register of the house of Israel" (Ezekiel 13:9).

Philadelphia (3:7–13)

- **"The Holy One, the True One" (3:7):** "Jerusalem shall be called the faithful city, and the mountain of the LORD of hosts, the holy mountain" (Zechariah 8:3); the Greek Old Testament: "the true city."
- **"You have a little power" (3:8):** "Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit" (Zechariah 4:6); "whoever has despised the day of small things shall rejoice" (4:10).
- **"They will know that I have loved you" (3:9):** "I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD who sanctifies Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forevermore" (Ezekiel 37:27–28).
- **Endurance, the crown, the sanctuary (3:10–12):**
 - Greek Old Testament, Zechariah 6:14: "the crown shall be for those who endure... in the house of the Lord."
 - Philadelphia: "My word about endurance," "no one takes your crown," "a pillar in the sanctuary of My God."
- **Ezekiel's temple (3:7–12):** Philadelphia has the most of Ezekiel 40–48: the doors, worship at the feet and the gate, the pillar, the sanctuary, God's name, the city's name.
- **"He will never go outside again" (3:12):**
 - Ezekiel's priests lay aside the holy garments before going out to the people (42:14; 44:19).
 - The priests who kept God's charge when Israel went astray "shall come near to Me to minister to Me" (44:15).
- **"The name of the city of My God" (3:12):** Ezekiel ends with it: "The LORD Is There" (48:35).

Laodicea (3:14–22)

- **"I'm rich, and I have grown rich, and I need nothing" (3:17):**
 - Ephraim: "Ah, but I am rich; I have found wealth for myself" (Hosea 12:8).
 - The sellers of the flock: "Blessed be the LORD, I have become rich" (Zechariah 11:5).
 - The prince of Tyre, rich from trade: "you have said, 'I am a god'... yet you are but a man" (Ezekiel 28:2–5).
 - Sodom: "pride, excess of food, and prosperous ease" (Ezekiel 16:49).
- **"Wretched and pitiable and poor and blind and naked" (3:17):**
 - Greek of Zechariah 11: the shepherds made wretched (11:2–3); the worthless shepherd's "right eye utterly blinded" (11:17).
 - "Who have eyes to see, but see not, who have ears to hear, but hear not" (Ezekiel 12:2).
- **"Gold refined by fire" (3:18):**
 - "I will put this third into the fire, and refine them as one refines silver, and test them as gold is tested. They will call upon My name, and I will answer them" (Zechariah 13:9).

- Refining first, then calling and answering, as in 3:18–20.
- **"Buy from Me" (3:18):** Zechariah's last words: "there shall no longer be a trader in the house of the LORD of hosts on that day" (14:21).
- **"White garments in order that you may be clothed" (3:18):**
 - The righteous man "covers the naked with a garment" (Ezekiel 18:7, 16), the same Greek verb.
 - God clothes His naked bride (Ezekiel 16:8–13); her nakedness uncovered to her shame (16:36–37).
- **"Eye-salve" (3:18):** the unfaithful city "painted your eyes" for her lovers (Ezekiel 23:40; Jeremiah 4:30).
- **"I will come in and dine with him" (3:20):**
 - "This gate shall remain shut... for the LORD, the God of Israel, has entered by it... Only the prince may sit in it to eat bread before the LORD" (Ezekiel 44:2–3).
 - At Laodicea: the door shut, Jesus outside, offering to come in and eat.
- **"A place to sit with Me on My throne" (3:21):** "he shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne" (Zechariah 6:13).