

## **Dedication day - April 19, 2026**

Membership / Baptism celebration

Zechariah 3:1–5 Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. 2 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 standing before the angel. 4 He spoke and said to those who were standing before him, saying, “Remove the filthy garments from him.” Again he said to him, “See, I have taken your iniquity away from you and will clothe you with festal robes.” 5 Then I said, “Let them put a clean turban on his head.” So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments, while the angel of the Lord was standing by.

Zechariah 3:1 Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him.

“**Joshua**” (high priest) - This is not Joshua who led Israel into the promised land

“**the angel of the Lord**”

“**Satan**” (adversary)

“**right side**”

2 The Lord (Yahweh) 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?”

**Why did God rebuke Satan when his accusation of Israel was true?**

**“chosen”**

**This is a tremendous statement that explains two beautiful realities:**

1. Why Satan’s accusations cannot stick.
2. It shows how guilty sinners who deserve to be condemned can be saved.

**“plucked from the fire”**

3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments and standing before the angel.

**“filthy garments”**

**“filthy”** Deuteronomy 23:13

4 He spoke and said to those who were standing before him, saying, “Remove the filthy garments from him.”

4a Again he said to him, “See, I have taken your iniquity away from you

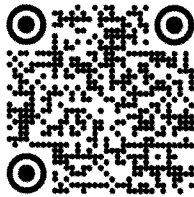
4b and will clothe you with festal robes.” Celebration clothes

## Implication

Our salvation is not achieved by our own merit, but by God's sovereign electing grace.

## Discussion Guide

1. The Hebrew word for "filthy" used in verse 3 is the strongest possible term for human waste. Why is it important for us to understand the true "vile" nature of our sin before we can fully appreciate the beauty of God's grace?
- 2 Why is it so important that we know that we are a "brand plucked from the fire"?
3. If our guilt is real, why is the doctrine of Divine Election (God's sovereign choice) the only thing that can successfully rebuke the Accuser?
4. Why is it not enough to simply be "washed clean"? Why must we also be "clothed" in the merits of Christ?



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