

The information contained in this study is compiled from my notes which were used to teach an Adult Sunday School Class at Radiant Church. Because they are my own personal notes, I have not made notations throughout the study of where the material came from. Because of this, I am placing this letter as a cover letter identifying the sources I used for the material.

Also, since these are my own notes, you will no doubt find an occasional misspelled word and a few errors in grammar. I do apologize for these and I am open to your corrections for both spelling and grammar.

## **THE BOOK OF ZECHARIAH**

The main sources of information are:

1. A tape series by Chuck Missler on the Book of Zechariah
2. Strong's Exhaustive Concordance

## CHAPTER 1

**Zech 1: (ESV) In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to the prophet Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, son of Iddo, saying,**

Iddo was a priest and Zechariah succeeded him. Iddo means "in his time." Zechariah means "whom Jehovah remembers." His father's name, Berechiah, means "Yahweh blesses." If you put these names together in the order they appear, in Zech 1:1, it says, "Jehovah remembers and blesses in His time."

This was written two months after Haggai (Hag 1:1). It appears to be addressed to Jews who are indifferent.

**Zech. 1:2-6 (ESV) "The Lord was very angry with your fathers. [3] Therefore say to them, Thus declares the Lord of hosts: Return to me, says the Lord of hosts, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. [4] Do not be like your fathers, to whom the former prophets cried out, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, Return from your evil ways and from your evil deeds.' But they did not hear or pay attention to me, declares the Lord. [5] Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, do they live forever? [6] But my words and my statutes, which I commanded my servants the prophets, did they not overtake your fathers? So they repented and said, As the Lord of hosts purposed to deal with us for our ways and deeds, so has he dealt with us."**

Right up front, Zechariah is commissioned to bring a word of exhortation from the Lord of Hosts. God is telling the people He is extremely displeased with them. The real flavor of this seems to be lacking in the English.

Zechariah states, "says the Lord Almighty" (NIV) or "thus sayeth the Lord of Hosts" (KJV) and it is there, emphasized by him to let the people know this isn't some preachers sermon. This is a direct message from God Himself. The message to the people is a call from God to be restored in their relationship with Him. This is the same as in Lam 5:21-22

**21 Restore us to Thee, O LORD, that we may be restored;**

**Renew our days as of old,**

**22 Unless Thou hast utterly rejected us,**

**And art exceedingly angry with us. NASB**

In verse four the admonition is to learn from the mistakes that had been made by their previous history. God's message is the same for us today. We are to learn from the previous history recorded for us in God's Word. Look at what Paul said in 1 Cor 10:1-13

**1 For I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; 2 and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea; 3 and all ate the same spiritual food; 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ. 5 Nevertheless, with most of them God was not well-pleased; for they were laid low in the wilderness. 6 Now these things happened as examples for us, that we should not crave evil things, as they also craved. 7 And do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written, " The people sat down to eat and drink, and stood up to play." 8 Nor let us act immorally, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day. 9 Nor let us try the Lord, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the serpents. 10 Nor grumble, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. 11 Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. 12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. 13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond**

**what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it. NASB**

Paul is telling us that all of the previous history recorded in the Bible is for our learning. 1 Cor 10:11 is actually the purpose of the Old Testament. There is no need for us to repeat the same mistakes. The end result will be the same for us as it was for the Israelites.

In Zechariah 1:6, Zechariah tells us that the people would understand the faithfulness of God.

**Zech. 1:7-17 (ESV) On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, which is the month of Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to the prophet Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, son of Iddo, saying, [8] "I saw in the night, and behold, a man riding on a red horse! He was standing among the myrtle trees in the glen, and behind him were red, sorrel, and white horses. [9] Then I said, 'What are these, my lord?' The angel who talked with me said to me, 'I will show you what they are.' [10] So the man who was standing among the myrtle trees answered, 'These are they whom the Lord has sent to patrol the earth.' [11] And they answered the angel of the Lord who was standing among the myrtle trees, and said, 'We have patrolled the earth, and behold, all the earth remains at rest.' [12] Then the angel of the Lord said, 'O Lord of hosts, how long will you have no mercy on Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, against which you have been angry these seventy years?' [13] And the Lord answered gracious and comforting words to the angel who talked with me. [14] So the angel who talked with me said to me, 'Cry out, Thus says the Lord of hosts: I am exceedingly jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion. [15] And I am exceedingly angry with the nations that are at ease; for while I was angry but a little, they furthered the disaster. [16] Therefore, thus says the Lord, I have returned to Jerusalem with mercy; my house shall**

**be built in it, declares the Lord of hosts, and the measuring line shall be stretched out over Jerusalem. [17] Cry out again, Thus says the Lord of hosts: My cities shall again overflow with prosperity, and the Lord will again comfort Zion and again choose Jerusalem.' "**

This is the first of 8 visions. They all come to Zechariah in one night. I believe all 8 of them are connected in some way.

Shebat is the Chaldian name for the 11th month. This isn't a surprise because Zechariah grew up in Babylon. This vision seems to emphasize comfort, but also that this will take a long time.

Look at verse 8. **"I saw in the night, and behold, a man riding on a red horse! He was standing among the myrtle trees in the glen, and behind him were red, sorrel, and white horses.** Where do we associate "red" specifically with horsemen? Rev is one possibility, but it doesn't seem to fit if we see the mission of those horsemen in Rev. Look at Zech 1:11. **And they answered the angel of the Lord who was standing among the myrtle trees, and said, 'We have patrolled the earth, and behold, all the earth remains at rest.'**

Who is the rider on this red horse? The phrase "angel of the Lord" almost always points to Jesus Himself. In the Babylonian Talmud the statement is made, "This man is no other than the Holy One, Blessed be He, for it is said, 'The Lord is a man of war.'"

Turn to Rev 19:11-21

**11 And I saw heaven opened; and behold, a white horse, and He who sat upon it is called Faithful and True; and in righteousness He judges and wages war. 12 And His eyes are a flame of fire, and upon His head are many diadems; and He has a name written upon Him which no one knows except Himself. 13 And He is clothed with a robe dipped in**

blood; and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. 15 And from His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may smite the nations; and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. 16 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds which fly in midheaven, "Come, assemble for the great supper of God; 18 in order that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders and the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great. "

19 And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies, assembled to make war against Him who sat upon the horse, and against His army. 20 And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone. 21 And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat upon the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh. NASB

Now read Isaiah 63:1-4.

**1 Who is this who comes from Edom,  
With garments of glowing colors from Bozrah,  
This One who is majestic in His apparel,**

**Marching in the greatness of His strength?**

**"It is I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save."**

**2 Why is Your apparel red,**

**And Your garments like the one who treads in the wine press?**

**3 "I have trodden the wine trough alone,**

**And from the peoples there was no man with Me.**

**I also trod them in My anger,**

**And trampled them in My wrath;**

**And their lifeblood is sprinkled on My garments,**

**And I stained all My raiment.**

**4 "For the day of vengeance was in My heart,**

**And My year of redemption has come. NASB**

Edom means "red." It comes from the same word translated "red" in reference to the horse in Zechariah 1. When Jesus returns, Bozrah is where He will come. Isaiah 63:3 is the key here. It describes Armageddon.

If one does an in-depth study of the Book of Ruth, you learn what a "Goel" is. A "Goel" is the "kinsman-redeemer" or "nearer-kinsman." He was the redeemer and it was his obligation to redeem the land. To take the idea of the Goel we seem to forget or overlook that he is to be the "avenger of blood." We aren't comfortable with the idea of Jesus as the avenger of blood, but in Rev 19 it's there. We saw the same idea in Isaiah 63. Look also at Rev 14:17-20

**17 And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, and he also had a sharp sickle. 18 And another angel, the one who has power over fire, came out from the altar; and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Put in your sharp sickle, and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, because her grapes are ripe." 19 And the angel swung his sickle to the earth, and gathered the clusters from the vine of the earth, and threw them into the great wine press of the wrath of God. 20 And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses' bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles. NASB**

I suggest that in anticipation of what is recorded in Revelation 14 we see in Zechariah 1 a rider on a red horse. In Rev 19:13 it says He is clothed in a garment "dipped in blood." We usually think of this as the blood of the cross. But, based on Isaiah 63, I believe it is the blood of His enemies - Israel's enemies.

Back to Zechariah. This rider on the red horse is among the myrtle trees. The Hebrew word for Myrtle is **HADASA**, which is the word for Esther. Myrtle is a fairly low fragrant shrub. It suggests humility and fragrance. See Lev 23:33-44 Here is the celebration of the feast of tabernacles. Lev 23:33-44

**33 Again the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 34 "Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'On the fifteenth of this seventh month is the Feast of Booths for seven days to the LORD. 35 'On the first day is a holy convocation; you shall do no laborious work of any kind. 36 'For seven days you shall present an offering by fire to the LORD. On the eighth day you shall have a holy convocation and present an offering by fire to the LORD; it is an assembly. You shall do no laborious work.**

**37 "These are the appointed times of the LORD which you shall proclaim as holy convocations, to present offerings by fire to the LORD — burnt offerings and grain offerings, sacrifices and libations, each**

day's matter on its own day — 38 besides those of the sabbaths of the LORD, and besides your gifts, and besides all your votive and freewill offerings, which you give to the LORD.

39 'On exactly the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the crops of the land, you shall celebrate the feast of the LORD for seven days, with a rest on the first day and a rest on the eighth day. 40 'Now on the first day you shall take for yourselves the foliage of beautiful trees, palm branches and boughs of leafy trees and willows of the brook; and you shall rejoice before the LORD your God for seven days. 41 'You shall thus celebrate it as a feast to the LORD for seven days in the year. It shall be a perpetual statute throughout your generations; you shall celebrate it in the seventh month. 42 'You shall live in booths for seven days; all the native-born in Israel shall live in booths, 43 so that your generations may know that I had the sons of Israel live in booths when I brought them out from the land of Egypt. I am the LORD your God.' " 44 So Moses declared to the sons of Israel the appointed times of the LORD. NASB

In Neh 8:15, when the captives were returning from the Babylonian captivity, on the Mount of Olives, they found myrtle that they used to celebrate the feast of tabernacles with. Neh 8:15

**So they proclaimed and circulated a proclamation in all their cities and in Jerusalem, saying, "Go out to the hills, and bring olive branches, and wild olive branches, myrtle branches, palm branches, and branches of other leafy trees, to make booths, as it is written." NASB**

In Is 41:19 and 55:13 the myrtle is elevated as one of the desirable symbols of the millennium. Isa 41:19

**I will put the cedar in the wilderness,  
The acacia, and the myrtle, and the olive tree;  
I will place the juniper in the desert,  
Together with the box tree and the cypress, NASB**

Isa 55:13

**Instead of the thorn bush the cypress will come up;  
And instead of the nettle the myrtle will come up;  
And it will be a memorial to the LORD,  
For an everlasting sign which will not be cut off." NASB**

I would suggest the possibility that the myrtle could be another idiom of Israel. Israel is the humble remnant of Israel which God has His eye on that to Him is fragrant and desirable.

There is another thing here. Throughout scripture, we find examples of trees representing governments. Here, in verse 8, these myrtle trees are in a ravine. I believe the KJV refers to being at the bottom. In Ps 107:23-24 is the same word used as it appears here. Ps 107:23-24

**23 Those who go down to the sea in ships,  
Who do business on great waters;  
24 They have seen the works of the LORD,  
And His wonders in the deep. NASB**

The word "deep" is the same as in Zechariah 1:8.

The rider is among the myrtle trees is in a dark, deep place. Perhaps, what Zechariah is telling us is the angel of Jehovah mounted, but among Israel, in it's depths. They have come back from their captivity; they are discouraged; they've had a new beginning. The whole message of the Book of Haggai is to get the people moving again and the message here in Zechariah is one of comfort. The basic message which Zechariah will come across is God saying to Israel, "I have not forgotten you, I have My eye on you, and I want you aware of all these things I am going to do."

We also have more horses here. These, I believe, are angelic hosts.

**Zech. 1:9-10 (ESV) Then I said, 'What are these, my lord?' The**

angel who talked with me said to me, 'I will show you what they are.' [10] So the man who was standing among the myrtle trees answered, 'These are they whom the Lord has sent to patrol the earth.'

Those sent are the other horsemen. See Job 1:7, 2:2, and 1 Peter 5:8.

Job 1:8

**And the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Then Satan answered the LORD and said, "From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it." NASB**

Job 2:2

**And the LORD said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Then Satan answered the LORD and said, "From roaming about on the earth, and walking around on it." NASB**

1 Peter 5:8

**Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. NASB**

There are angelic hosts walking around on this earth. Job clearly tells us Satan roams the earth but we need to keep in mind God sends His angels also for our protection. Look at Heb 1:14

**Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation? NASB**

Let's continue on with Zech. 1:11-15 (ESV)

**And they answered the angel of the Lord who was standing among the myrtle trees, and said, 'We have patrolled the earth, and behold, all the earth remains at rest.' [12] Then the angel of the Lord said, 'O Lord of hosts, how long will you have no mercy on Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, against which you have been angry these seventy years?' [13] And the Lord answered gracious and comforting words to the angel who**

talked with me. [14] So the angel who talked with me said to me, 'Cry out, Thus says the Lord of hosts: I am exceedingly jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion. [15] And I am exceedingly angry with the nations that are at ease; for while I was angry but a little, they furthered the disaster.

At this time, Persia was ruling and all the world was at peace. Is there such a thing as an unrighteous peace? Notice verse 15. God is reaffirming that His eye is on Israel and He will avenge Israel.

The nations that Zechariah refers to in verse 15 are the heathen nations. Look at Isa 10:7-19

7 Yet it does not so intend Nor does it plan so in its heart, But rather it is its purpose to destroy, And to cut off many nations. 8 For it says, "Are not my princes all kings? 9 "Is not Calno like Carchemish, Or Hamath like Arpad, Or Samaria like Damascus? 10 "As my hand has reached to the kingdoms of the idols, Whose graven images were greater than those of Jerusalem and Samaria, 11 Shall I not do to Jerusalem and her images Just as I have done to Samaria and her idols?"

12 So it will be that when the Lord has completed all His work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, He will say, "I will punish the fruit of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria and the pomp of his haughtiness." 13 For he has said,

"By the power of my hand and by my wisdom I did this, For I have understanding; And I removed the boundaries of the peoples, And plundered their treasures, And like a mighty man I brought down their inhabitants, 14 And my hand reached to the riches of the peoples like a nest, And as one gathers abandoned eggs, I gathered all the earth; And there was not one that flapped its wing or opened its beak or chirped. "

15 Is the axe to boast itself over the one who chops with it? Is the saw to exalt itself over the one who wields it? That would be like a club wielding those who lift it, Or like a rod lifting him who is not wood. 16 Therefore the Lord, the GOD of hosts, will send a wasting disease among his stout warriors; And under his glory a fire will be kindled like a burning flame.

**17 And the light of Israel will become a fire and his Holy One a flame, And it will burn and devour his thorns and his briars in a single day. 18 And He will destroy the glory of his forest and of his fruitful garden, both soul and body; And it will be as when a sick man wastes away. 19 And the rest of the trees of his forest will be so small in number That a child could write them down. NASB**

Back to Zechariah.

**Zech. 1:16 (ESV) Therefore, thus says the Lord, I have returned to Jerusalem with mercy; my house shall be built in it, declares the Lord of hosts, and the measuring line shall be stretched out over Jerusalem.**

In chapter 2 there is a specific vision about a man with a measuring line. The line implies judgment. It is used this way in II Kings 21 and Isaiah 34 and Lam 2:8. We'll see this more when we look at chapter 2. Haggai and Zechariah both prophesied to stir the people to rebuild the temple.

**Zech. 1:17 (ESV) Cry out again, Thus says the Lord of hosts: My cities shall again overflow with prosperity, and the Lord will again comfort Zion and again choose Jerusalem.' "**

The KJV says they will be spread abroad again. They were just regathered. The whole comfort was one of rebuilding Jerusalem, but God says they will yet be spread abroad. This is what we call the "diaspora." It was yet future. The Lord will again comfort Zion and again choose Jerusalem. We can see this starting in June of 1967.

Here is where the chapter ends in the Hebrew. Verse 18 is the beginning of Chapter 2 in the Hebrew text.

What transpires from verse 17 is the Messiah showing up. John 1:11 says He was rejected. Luke 21 says that Jerusalem will be trodden down by the Gentiles until the time of the Gentiles be fulfilled. Is Jerusalem under Gentile control today? NO! After the six day war in June of 1967 the flag of Israel flew over Jerusalem.

See Amos 9:11-12.

**11 "In that day I will raise up the fallen booth of David,  
And wall up its breaches; I will also raise up its ruins,  
And rebuild it as in the days of old;**

**12 That they may possess the remnant of Edom  
And all the nations who are called by My name,"  
Declares the LORD who does this. NASB**

David's dynasty will be raised up in the person of Jesus returning in glory at His second advent to establish the kingdom over Israel. James quotes this prophecy at the first church council. Turn to Acts 15:14-18 and see how James quotes this. Acts 15:14-18

**14 "Simeon has related how God first concerned Himself about taking from among the Gentiles a people for His name. 15 "And with this the words of the Prophets agree, just as it is written,**

**16 'After these things I will return,  
And I will rebuild the tabernacle of David which has fallen,  
And I will rebuild its ruins,  
And I will restore it,**

**17 In order that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord,  
And all the Gentiles who are called by My name,'**

**18 Says the Lord, who makes these things known from of old. NASB**

In verse 16, this happens after what? After the church is complete. This was quoted by James after the Lord's ministry on earth. Look now at Rom 11:25

**For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery, lest you be wise in your own estimation, that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; NASB**

When the church is complete, the blindness of Israel will be lifted. Continue on with Rom 11:26-27

**26 and thus all Israel will be saved; just as it is written,**

**"The Deliverer will come from Zion,  
He will remove ungodliness from Jacob."  
27 "And this is My covenant with them,  
When I take away their sins." NASB**

Acts 15 and Rom 11 are very key passages in understanding the role of Israel in prophecy.

Verses 13-17 of Zech 1 form an outline of what the other 7 visions will say. God says He loves Israel – He is angry with them, but He will also return to Israel.

The second vision is 4 verses long. It has in view the Gentile persecution of the Jews.

**Zech. 1:18-21 (ESV) And I lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, four horns! [19] And I said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these?" And he said to me, "These are the horns that have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem." [20] Then the Lord showed me four craftsmen. [21] And I said, "What are these coming to do?" He said, "These are the horns that scattered Judah, so that no one raised his head. And these have come to terrify them, to cast down the horns of the nations who lifted up their horns against the land of Judah to scatter it."**

The term "horns" is used throughout scripture as a symbol of power and authority. Here there are 4 of them. Scholars tend to believe these are the same 4 powers in view in Daniel 2 and 7. In Daniel 2 there is listed the rulership of the Gentile dominion on earth. It is the vision of the statue. Dan 2:31-35

**31 "You, O king, were looking and behold, there was a single great statue; that statue, which was large and of extraordinary splendor, was standing in front of you, and its appearance was awesome. 32 "The head of that statue was made of fine gold, its breast and its arms of silver, its belly and its thighs of bronze, 33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly**

of clay. 34 "You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay, and crushed them. 35 "Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth. NASB

This statue refers to Babylon (gold head), Meadeo-Persia (silver chest), Greece (bronze belly and thighs) and then Rome (feet of iron and clay).

In Daniel 7, God tells Daniel again the same view of Gentile dominion. Dan 7:1-7

**1** In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel saw a dream and visions in his mind as he lay on his bed; then he wrote the dream down and related the following summary of it. **2** Daniel said, "I was looking in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the great sea. **3** "And four great beasts were coming up from the sea, different from one another. **4** "The first was like a lion and had the wings of an eagle. I kept looking until its wings were plucked, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man; a human mind also was given to it. **5** "And behold, another beast, a second one, resembling a bear. And it was raised up on one side, and three ribs were in its mouth between its teeth; and thus they said to it, 'Arise, devour much meat!' **6** "After this I kept looking, and behold, another one, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird; the beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it. **7** "After this I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrifying and extremely strong; and it had large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed, and trampled down the remainder with its feet; and it was different from

**all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.  
NASB**

Rome isn't mentioned by Zechariah, but it is suggested. Greece is mentioned even though it hasn't shown up yet. Greece is identified in Daniel 10:20. Daniel 10 identifies the same four groups of people. Babylon had just been overthrown by the Medio-Persians and Greece was the next to come. Greece would be overthrown by Rome. As I mentioned, Rome isn't mentioned by name however history shows us that Rome was the fourth kingdom.

In verse 21 the word "scattered" occurs two times and it means to scatter as one would winnow wheat. These four horns God has allowed to do His work, that is to "scatter" the people (Israel) throughout the land.

The highlight of this vision for Israel is that there are these four "horns". These are four nations which God has ordained to cast them (Israel) out of the land. See Ez 14:21 Ezek 14:21

**For thus says the Lord GOD, "How much more when I send My four severe judgments against Jerusalem: sword, famine, wild beasts, and plague to cut off man and beast from it! NASB**

and Rev 6:2

**And I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him; and he went out conquering, and to conquer. NASB**

Rev 6:4-5

**4 And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, it was granted to take peace from the earth, and that men should slay one another; and a great sword was given to him.**

**5 And when He broke the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, "Come." And I looked, and behold, a black horse; and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. NASB**

Rev 6:8

**And I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. And authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth. NASB**

The first four seals in Revelation are four horses. Some scholars see the four agencies in Zechariah as the same idioms in Ez 14 and Rev 6. In Daniel 4 we see Nebuchadnezzar - a Gentile king - was called and used by God for God's purpose. Look at Dan 4:32-34. Dan 4:32-34

**32 and you will be driven away from mankind, and your dwelling place will be with the beasts of the field. You will be given grass to eat like cattle, and seven periods of time will pass over you, until you recognize that the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind, and bestows it on whomever He wishes.' 33 "Immediately the word concerning Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled; and he was driven away from mankind and began eating grass like cattle, and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven, until his hair had grown like eagles' feathers and his nails like birds' claws.**

**34 "But at the end of that period I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever;**

**For His dominion is an everlasting dominion,  
And His kingdom endures from generation to generation.  
NASB**

This is an object lesson for Nebuchadnezzar. He is king, but he is king **BECAUSE** God ordained him to be a king. God can appoint a heathen king to accomplish His will if He wishes. What happened to Nebuchadnezzar was probably some form of mental illness that

God permitted to humble him. I would imagine that he was kept in the palace someplace and probably Daniel took care of him. Daniel 4 is actually Nebuchadnezzar's personal testimony. I wouldn't be surprised to find him in heaven. It seems as though he got the point of the infliction. Look now at Dan 5:18-21

**18 "O king, the Most High God granted sovereignty, grandeur, glory, and majesty to Nebuchadnezzar your father. 19 "And because of the grandeur which He bestowed on him, all the peoples, nations, and men of every language feared and trembled before him; whomever he wished he killed, and whomever he wished he spared alive; and whomever he wished he elevated, and whomever he wished he humbled. 20 "But when his heart was lifted up and his spirit became so proud that he behaved arrogantly, he was deposed from his royal throne, and his glory was taken away from him. 21 "He was also driven away from mankind, and his heart was made like that of beasts, and his dwelling place was with the wild donkeys. He was given grass to eat like cattle, and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven, until he recognized that the Most High God is ruler over the realm of mankind, and that He sets over it whomever He wishes. NASB**

Nebuchadnezzar was a Gentile king called by God. He was the beginning of the Gentile kingdoms. In Jer 25:9, 27:6 and 43:10 we see God used Gentile king's to punish Israel. Jer 25:9

**behold, I will send and take all the families of the north,' declares the LORD, 'and I will send to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, My servant, and will bring them against this land, and against its inhabitants, and against all these nations round about; and I will utterly destroy them, and make them a horror, and a hissing, and an everlasting desolation. NASB**

Jer 27:6

**"And now I have given all these lands into the hand of**

**Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, My servant, and I have given him also the wild animals of the field to serve him. NASB**

Jer 43:10

**and say to them,' Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, "Behold, I am going to send and get Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant, and I am going to set his throne right over these stones that I have hidden; and he will spread his canopy over them. NASB**

Nebuchadnezzar was an idol worshipping pagan king and in these verses from Jeremiah we see that God calls him His servant. Daniel had been reading Jeremiah and therefore knew that God was behind all that was going on with Israel and Babylon.

Isaiah 44 refers to Cyrus. Cyrus was the Medio-Persian king that overthrew Babylon in Daniel 5. Look at Isa 44:28-45:6

**28 "It is I who says of Cyrus, 'He is My shepherd!And he will perform all My desire.'And he declares of Jerusalem, 'She will be built,'And of the temple, 'Your foundation will be laid.'"**

**Isaiah 45**

**45:1**

**Thus says the LORD to Cyrus His anointed,Whom I have taken by the right hand,To subdue nations before him,And to loose the loins of kings;To open doors before him so that gates will not be shut: 2 "I will go before you and make the rough places smooth;I will shatter the doors of bronze, and cut through their iron bars. 3 "And I will give you the treasures of darkness,And hidden wealth of secret places,In order that you may know that it is I, The LORD, the God of Israel, who calls you by your name. 4 "For the sake of Jacob My servant,And Israel My chosen one,I have also called you by your name; I have given you a title of honor Though you**

**have not known Me. 5 "I am the LORD, and there is no other; Besides Me there is no God. I will gird you, though you have not known Me; 6 That men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun That there is no one besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other, NASB**

Cyrus was a gentile called "anointed" by God Himself.

Alexander the Great (the Greeks) overthrew the Medio-Persian empire and conquered the world. He started his conquest at age 19. History tells us that by age 29 he fell on his bed and wept because there was no more world left to conquer. Zechariah 9:4 refers to Alexander conquering Tyre. Zech 9:3-4 tell us this was at God's direction and it was written long before it happened. Look ahead to Zech 9:3-4

**3 For Tyre built herself a fortress  
And piled up silver like dust,  
And gold like the mire of the streets.  
4 Behold, the Lord will dispossess her  
And cast her wealth into the sea;  
And she will be consumed with fire. NASB**

Zechariah is writing after the Babylonian empire and at the beginning of the Medio-Persian empire. It is about 200 years before the Greek empire finally conquers the Medio-Persian Empire. Rome follows Greece.

The second vision is an amplification of 1:15 when God says He is displeased with these nations because they destroyed Israel more than what God directed them.

## CHAPTER 2

Here is the vision of the surveyor. This is an amplification of what is hinted at in 1:16.

**Zech. 2:1-9 (ESV) And I lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, a man with a measuring line in his hand! [2] Then 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." [3] And behold, the angel who talked with me came forward, and another angel came forward to meet him**

**[4] and said to him, "Run, say to that young man, 'Jerusalem shall be inhabited as villages without walls, because of the multitude of people and livestock in it. [5] And I will be to her a wall of fire all around, declares the Lord, and I will be the glory in her midst.' "**

**[6] Up! Up! Flee from the land of the north, declares the Lord. For I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heavens, declares the Lord. [7] Up! Escape to Zion, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon. [8] For thus said the Lord of hosts, after his glory sent me to the nations who plundered you, for he who touches you touches the apple of his eye: [9] "Behold, I will shake my hand over them, and they shall become plunder for those who served them. Then you will know that the Lord of hosts has sent me.**

In verse 3 we see the angel who spoke to Zechariah. Apparently, Jesus was directing what was going on. Look back at Zech 1:16

**'Therefore, thus says the LORD, "I will return to Jerusalem with compassion; My house will be built in it," declares the LORD of hosts, "and a measuring line will be stretched over Jerusalem.'" NASB**

This angel (2:3) is sent to sort of help explain to Zechariah what is going on. In this passage (chapter 2) there are four people. There is Zechariah, then the man with the measuring tape, the angel that speaks to Zechariah and finally another angel that is sent to tell the angel speaking with Zechariah what to say. There are two "principles" and two "go-betweens."

Zechariah's prophecies are for the people then and they also go beyond the immediate time and they look to the coming age.

Who is this man? Ezekiel 40-48 describes the millennium. This is what Zechariah has in view and he will refer to these things later.

See Ezek 40:1-3

**1 In the twenty-fifth year of our exile, at the beginning of the year, on the tenth of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was taken, on that same day the hand of the LORD was upon me and He brought me there. 2 In the visions of God He brought me into the land of Israel, and set me on a very high mountain; and on it to the south there was a structure like a city. 3 So He brought me there; and behold, there was a man whose appearance was like the appearance of bronze, with a line of flax and a measuring rod in his hand; and he was standing in the gateway. NASB**

The emphasis in Ezekiel from here on is the holiness of God and this is also a sequel to the war described in Ezekiel 38 and 39. There is a parallel here between what Zechariah saw and what Ezekiel saw. In Ezekiel we have a clue as to His identity. In scripture, who has the appearance of one like bronze? Jesus - in Matt 17 at the transfiguration and in Revelation 1. Why bronze or brass? Brass or bronze is a symbol of judgment. It withstands fire. Ezekiel then continues with a fascinating description of the millennial temple. Look ahead at Zechariah 6:12.

**"Then say to him, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts,' Behold, a man whose name is Branch, for He will branch out from where He is; and He will build the temple of the LORD. NASB**

Who is the "Branch?" Jesus. Who will build the temple? Jesus. This is a different temple in view than the one on earth that was being rebuilt. Turn to Rev 11:1-2

**1 And there was given me a measuring rod like a staff; and someone said, "Rise and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and those who worship in it. 2 "And leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will tread under foot the holy city for forty-two months. NASB**

This temple is described and is on earth before the 2 witnesses come.

Back to Zechariah 2. In verse 3, it says "run." It is urgent. Verse 4 tells us there are no walls. This indicates prosperity. In times of war the people would stay inside the walls of the city. This implies here also rural developments.

Verse [5] **And I will be to her a wall of fire all around, declares the Lord, and I will be the glory in her midst.' "**

See Ex 13:21.

**And the LORD was going before them in a pillar of cloud by day to lead them on the way, and in a pillar of fire by night to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. NASB**

The wall of fire around it is the shekinah glory of God. The cloud is also a symbol of the Holy Spirit and the presence of God. Look at what David wrote in Ps 99:7

**He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;  
They kept His testimonies,  
And the statute that He gave them. NASB**

Ezekiel 43:1-7 also emphasized the fact God will dwell in the midst of the New Jerusalem. Ezek 43:1-7

**1 Then he led me to the gate, the gate facing toward the east; 2 and behold, the glory of the God of Israel was coming from the way of the east. And His voice was like the sound of many**

waters; and the earth shone with His glory. 3 And it was like the appearance of the vision which I saw, like the vision which I saw when He came to destroy the city. And the visions were like the vision which I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell on my face. 4 And the glory of the LORD came into the house by the way of the gate facing toward the east. 5 And the Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house.

6 Then I heard one speaking to me from the house, while a man was standing beside me. 7 And He said to me, "Son of man, this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, where I will dwell among the sons of Israel forever. NASB

Ez 43:2 is a description of Jesus that we find in Rev 1:12-15

12 And I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands; 13 and in the middle of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His breast with a golden girdle. 14 And His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire; 15 and His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been caused to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters. NASB

In Exodus 40 we find that the Glory of God entered the Tabernacle in the same way as what Ezekiel describes in verse 4 above. Look at Ex 40:34-35

34 Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. 35 And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. NASB

**Zech. 2:6 (ESV) Up! Up! Flee from the land of the north, declares the Lord. For I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heavens, declares the Lord.**

The "four winds" here can be linked to Rev 7:1 where it speaks of the 4 winds are held back. Rev 7:1

**After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, so that no wind should blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree. NASB**

The people were dispersed by an act of God but are told to return by their own free will. We see this happening today. Jewish people are returning to the land and specifically from the "land of the north" – Russia.

**Zech. 2:7 (ESV) Up! Escape to Zion, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon.**

Daughter of Babylon can be tied to Rev 18 where it speaks of "Mystery Babylon." The "land of the north" can also refer to Babylon. Babylon was actually Southeast of Israel, but the caravan route came from the North. Jer 1:13-15 and Ez 38-39 says their enemies come from the utter most parts of the North which refers to someone else. I believe that would specifically refer to Russia. Jer 1:13-15

**13 And the word of the LORD came to me a second time saying, "What do you see?" And I said, "I see a boiling pot, facing away from the north." 14 Then the LORD said to me, "Out of the north the evil will break forth on all the inhabitants of the land. 15 "For, behold, I am calling all the families of the kingdoms of the north," declares the LORD; "and they will come, and they will set each one his throne at the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all its walls round about, and against all the cities of Judah. NASB**

I would also encourage everyone to read and study Ezekiel 38 – 39. It describes a nuclear war that obviously hasn't taken place yet, however,

the stage is set for it to happen at any time.

**Zech. 2:8 (ESV) For thus said the Lord of hosts, after his glory sent me to the nations who plundered you, for he who touches you touches the apple of his eye:**

"After" what? The return of Jesus. The "apple of the eye" is the most sensitive part of the body. It refers to the pupil of the eye. God refers to Israel as the "apple of His eye" in several places. Deut 32:9-10

**9 For the LORD's portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance.**

**10 He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye. KJV**

Chuck Missler says that the phrase "the apple of His eye" is the English equivalent of "His very life."

Ps 17:8

**Keep me as the apple of the eye;  
Hide me in the shadow of Thy wings, NASB**

Prov 7:2

**Keep my commandments and live,  
And my teaching as the apple of your eye. NASB**

To harm Israel would be damage to which God would consider as damage to His own eye.

**Zech. 2:9-10 (ESV) "Behold, I will shake my hand over them, and they shall become plunder for those who served them. Then you will know that the Lord of hosts has sent me. [10] Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion, for behold, I come and I will dwell in your midst, declares the Lord.**

The second coming is in view here. Zech 2:11 In chapter 12, Zechariah will make reference to the second coming. God waving His hand over them is a threatening gesture. Look at Isa 11:15

**And the LORD will utterly destroy  
The tongue of the Sea of Egypt;  
And He will wave His hand over the River  
With His scorching wind;  
And He will strike it into seven streams,  
And make men walk over dry-shod. NASB**

In the original Hebrew, after the word LORD, there is inserted an Aleph Tav, which are the first and last letters of the Hebrew alphabet. It is the Greek equivalent of the Alpha and Omega, which is a direct reference to Jesus Himself. I would recommend reading my first book, The Mystery of the Alpha and Omega for a more in-depth study of this subject.

**Zech. 2:11-13 (ESV) And many nations shall join themselves to the Lord in that day, and shall be my people. And I will dwell in your midst, and you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you. [12] And the Lord will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land, and will again choose Jerusalem."**

**[13] Be silent, all flesh, before the Lord, for he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.**

This is the only place in scripture where the phrase "holy land" appears. The "holy land" is not that yet. Zechariah 3:9 indicates it won't be holy until iniquity is removed. That is also part of Daniel's prophecy. Look at Dan 9:24

**"Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy place. NASB**

These things have not taken place yet. They will at the end of the 70 week prophecy of Daniel, which will end at the Second Coming.

Ezekiel also mentions that God will again "choose" Jerusalem. Remember,

Ezekiel chapters 40 – 48 cover the millennium and that doesn't start until the second coming. Ezekiel ends his prophecy by declaring that God again chooses Jerusalem. Look at Ezek 48:30-35

**30 "And these are the exits of the city: on the north side, 4,500 cubits by measurement, 31 shall be the gates of the city, named for the tribes of Israel, three gates toward the north: the gate of Reuben, one; the gate of Judah, one; the gate of Levi, one. 32 "And on the east side, 4,500 cubits, shall be three gates: the gate of Joseph, one; the gate of Benjamin, one; the gate of Dan, one. 33 "And on the south side, 4,500 cubits by measurement, shall be three gates: the gate of Simeon, one; the gate of Issachar, one; the gate of Zebulun, one. 34 "On the west side, 4,500 cubits, shall be three gates: the gate of Gad, one; the gate of Asher, one; the gate of Naphtali, one. 35 "The city shall be 18,000 cubits round about; and the name of the city from that day shall be, 'The LORD is there.'" NASB**

### CHAPTER 3

Why did Jesus show up in chapter 1 as the "angel of the Lord" and as the man (surveyor) in chapter 2? The first one was the pre-incarnate Jesus in the mission of the vision. The second one is a millennial view which occurs after His incarnation.

Chapter 3 has the 4th vision. We could call this the Gospel according to Zechariah. This is Joshua the high priest, not Joshua the successor to Moses. This vision answers several questions. Up to now, we have seen 3 visions. These 3 dwell on the restoration and redemption of Israel.

1. The rider in the myrtle who was there protecting Israel from it's enemies.
2. The 4 horns who were going to come and crush it but the 4 craftsmen put to naught the work of the 4 horns. There was trouble coming, but God would protect them through all of this.
3. Comfort. The surveyor measuring Jerusalem to have it rebuilt for the millennial period.

How can a holy God, a God who requires righteousness, accomplish these plans, with a nation that is sinful and impregnated with every possible form of sin? The whole message of Haggai has called their attention to the fact they are not walking with the Lord. Zechariah's mission is, on one hand, to comfort them, but on the other hand, answers the question of how God can do this and still be righteous. The answer is in the Book of Romans and also Zechariah 3, the 4th vision. We will see the substitution of the self-righteousness of Israel with the righteousness of God.

Ezra 4-5 and Haggai deal with this period.

**Zech. 3:1-2 (ESV) 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] And the Lord said to Satan, "The Lord rebuke you, O Satan! The Lord who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this a brand plucked from the fire?"**

Joshua was before the "angel of the Lord" (Jesus). The "angel of the Lord" does a couple of interesting things. First, in verse 2 He is identified as "the Lord." In this chapter we will also see He forgives sin. (Verse 4) Satan was there accusing Joshua before the "angel of the Lord." Why? Recognize Joshua was the high priest. What does the high priest do on Yom Kippur? First, he was the representative of the nation Israel before God. This is what is happening here. Joshua is before the Lord representing Israel. The context of the visions made this clear. The context of these visions is the restoration of Israel. Second, the high priest's position is one of representation of the people before God. This is the whole concept of his role. Satan is rebuked in the accusation on the basis of God's Divine choice of Israel as a nation.

Who is standing accused? Israel. Whose mission is it to stand before God accusing Israel? Satan's. When we understand this issue, we can understand a great deal more of scripture and God's plan.

In verse 2 we have 2 different rebukes. What exposes us to the attacks of Satan? Sin. Look at Matt 12:43-45.

**43 "Now when the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places, seeking rest, and does not find it. 44 "Then it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came'; and when it comes, it finds it unoccupied, swept, and put in order. 45 "Then it goes, and takes along with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there; and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first.**

**That is the way it will also be with this evil generation."  
NASB**

Demons are looking for bodies to inhabit. The Christian solution to this is found in John 14:23

**Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him, and make Our abode with him. NASB**

The peace of Jesus is dependant upon His presence – not circumstances. Where Jesus is dwelling, Satan can't. Demons cannot inhabit the bodies of Christians because Jesus lives there.

Now look at I Cor 5:5

**I have decided to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. NASB**

and I John 5:16

**If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask and God will for him give life to those who commit sin not leading to death. There is a sin leading to death; I do not say that he should make request for this. NASB**

We see from what Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians that God uses Satan to chasten the saints who fall into sin. In the example Paul used, if you look ahead to 2 Cor 2:6-8 we find the man did repent. John, in his reference, is referring to Christians. We, as Christians, are to warn our brothers and sisters when we see them falling into sin.

Turn to Rev 12. Much of the gospel comes alive when we understand chapter 12 of Revelation.

Rev 12:1

**And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and**

**the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars; NASB**

This idiom comes from Jacob in Genesis 37 in reference to the dream Joseph had. Jacob recognized the 12 stars represented the 12 tribes and the sun and moon are Jacob and his wife. This clearly refers to Israel because she is also pregnant. The church is a virgin bride of Christ.

When Joseph had these dreams, his mother was already dead. Jacob made reference to the sun and moon as references to himself and Joseph's mother. Jacob understood the prophetic significance of these dreams. In that sense, the woman in Revelation 12 is Eve in the sense that Israel came from Eve.

Rev 12:2-3

**2 and she was with child; and she cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth. 3 And another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads were seven diadems. NASB**

An over simplification of this is that Eve was with child – Israel – from whom ultimately the Messiah would come. Verse 9 tells us who the dragon is: Satan.

Rev 12:4

**And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven, and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child. NASB**

This is the passage in scripture where we conclude a third of the angels rebelled with Satan. What is the dragon trying to do? Devour the child. By stating his intent was to "devour the child," Jesus is telling us through John that Satan was going to do all he could to prevent the Messiah from coming. Satan knows that if the Messiah (Jesus) would come to earth and fulfill His promise to be the sacrificial substitute for all men that his, Satan's, doom was sealed. Therefore, he would do all he could to prevent this from happening.

Rev 12:5-6

**5 And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.**

**6 And the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she might be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days. NASB**

There is a gap between verses 5-6 that is the same gap that appears in Dan 9:26-27 and Isaiah 61:1-2. This gap is the church period. Who is the male child? Jesus. Let's take a look at Dan 9:24-27

**24 "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy place. 25 "So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. 26 "Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. 27 "And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate." NASB**

The entire prophecy given to Daniel refers to 70 weeks. An in-depth study of this will show that each week refers to a period of 7 years. There are 69 weeks that take place from the issuing of a decree to rebuild and restore Jerusalem. Those 69 weeks were completed when Jesus rode into Jerusalem in what we celebrate as Palm Sunday. Then there is a gap – the church age – until the 70<sup>th</sup> week occurs. The 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel is understood to be the 7 year tribulation. We refer to the last three and a

half years of the tribulation as the “great” tribulation. The Biblical calendar has a 360 day year. One thousand two hundred and sixty days is three and a half years by the Biblical calendar, which is the last half of the tribulation period, the period that Jesus refers to as tribulation such as the world has never seen before or will ever see again. Look at Matt 24:15-21

**15 "Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), 16 then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains; 17 let him who is on the housetop not go down to get the things out that are in his house; 18 and let him who is in the field not turn back to get his cloak. 19 "But woe to those who are with child and to those who nurse babes in those days! 20 "But pray that your flight may not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath; 21 for then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall. NASB**

Rev 12:7 Michael appears. Rev 12:7

**And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. And the dragon and his angels waged war, NASB**

Michael appears several times in scripture and it's always in a role defending and representing Israel. Look at Dan 12:1 for example: Dan 12:1

**"Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued. NASB**

Once we understand this, we can go back through scripture and discover the role of Satan to accuse the brothers before God. Satan is attempting to prevent God's plan that was prophesied in Gen 3:15. When anything was revealed, Satan could focus his attack. This is evident all through the

Old Testament. This is still going on today.

Rev 12:9-10 Rev

**9 And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. 10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them before our God day and night. NASB**

This links right back to Zechariah 3. Satan is the accuser of Israel and in Zechariah 3 we understand Jesus is the defender of Israel. Why does Satan care now? If Satan can succeed in wiping Israel out, he has then thwarted the commitment of God.

Back to Zechariah. What kind of defense does Joshua make in his own behalf? None! He doesn't answer at all. And yet, not one charge is allowed. The trial judge and the defense council are the same person. Who replies on behalf of Joshua? The angel of the Lord. The basis of the defense of Joshua is the Divine selection of Israel by the Father. Joshua was the high priest. The high priest is the representative of the nation of Israel. Satan is accusing the people.

There is another issue here: The Lord said to Satan, "...the Lord rebuke you. This should remind us of Jude 9.

**But Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, did not dare pronounce against him a railing judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you." NASB**

Jude is trying to get his readers to understand they should not speak evil of "dignitaries" (KJV) or "celestial beings." (NIV) What

dignitary does Jude pick to show us as an example of this? Satan. Michael himself doesn't speak evil of Satan; he rebukes Satan in the Lord. It's very fashionable for us to sing songs that would be directed at Satan to, in a sense, rebuke him.

**Zech. 3:2 (ESV) And the Lord said to Satan, "The Lord rebuke you, O Satan! The Lord who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this a brand plucked from the fire?"**

We have a rebuke that is thorough, final and authoritative. It is absolute. It's given directly to Satan. He is rebuked twice. In scripture, twice is always used for emphasis.

What's the basis of the defense of Joshua the high priest? Divine selection. God steps in and dismisses the accusations of Satan on the basis that He has divinely chosen Jerusalem and that ends it.

The idiom of fire is also used throughout scripture. Remember the burning bush? The fire did not consume the bush. This was a model of grace. We, as sinners, can fall into the hands of the living God and not be consumed. That's grace! It is grace that draws one to God, not His righteousness. We can acknowledge the righteousness of God, but that frightens us, it doesn't draw us to God. It's His grace.

God used fire to lead Israel in the wilderness during the day hours as recorded in Exodus. Fire is also used as an idiom of tribulation. Look at the fiery furnace in Dan 3. An interesting thing in Dan 3 is what's not said. Where was Daniel? A speculation is he was away. If he is a representative typologically of the church, he was not there when the 3 others were sent into the furnace - tribulation.

**Zech. 3:3 (ESV) Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments.**

The Lord Himself defends Joshua. Now something else happens. The

first thing is he was forgiven. What do garments represent in scripture? Righteousness. We find frequently in scripture as our righteousness spoken of as filthy rags. Look at the following verses:

Isa 64:6

**For all of us have become like one who is unclean,  
And all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment;  
And all of us wither like a leaf,  
And our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. NASB**

Jude 23

**save others, snatching them out of the fire; and on some have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh. NASB**

The word Isaiah uses in 64:6 is literally "used menstrual cloths." This clearly shows how much appeal, prestige and attractiveness we have before God in our own righteousness.

The garments of Joshua who represented the people was a vile stench in the Lord's nostrils. That's exactly what is in view here and that's what Joshua comes prepared to offer for himself.

**Zech. 3:4 (ESV) And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments."**

Praise God! Who has caused this sin to pass? The angel of the Lord – Jesus!

Joshua is cleansed on one hand; the removal of the old garments and the putting on of the new garments is the imputation of God's righteousness. Romans 3:21-26 is the same idea. Rom 3:21-26

**21 But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,**

**22 even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; 25 whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; 26 for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. NASB**

Under the law, God required righteousness from men – under grace God gives righteousness to men through Jesus.

In Lev 8 and Ex 28 there is a description of the garments of the high priest. He had clothes of gold, blue, purple and scarlet made of fine linen. He had a coat of ephod and it was seamless. We remember the robe Jesus wore at the crucifixion because His robe was so unusual. Jesus Himself tells us this in Ps 22.

The high priest also wore a shoulder piece that had 12 stones engraved with the 12 tribes. He also wore a breast plate with 12 stones for the 12 tribes and he had a pouch with the Urim and Thummim. Urim means "lights" or "fire" and Thummim means "perfection." He also had a turban on which was written "Holiness to the Lord." At Yom Kippur, Lev 16, Aaron put on simple garments until atonement was complete, then he put on his clothes of glory. Prophetically, he had on clothes of humility until his glory and that is coming.

**Zech. 3:5 (ESV) And 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. And the angel of the Lord was standing by.**

Zechariah is seeing this vision. Zechariah is getting into the act. Who

is speaking? (A flavor of Peter is here.)

**Zech. 3:6-7 (ESV) And the angel of the Lord solemnly assured Joshua, [7] "Thus says the Lord of hosts: If you will walk in my ways and keep my charge, then 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.**

The main issue here is the reinstatement of the function of the high priest. See Rom 11:29.

**for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. NASB**  
Romans 11 pertains to Israel. Israel is not set aside - they will be reinstated. God's gift to Israel is irrevocable. The defense of Joshua in Zechariah 3 by the Lord is based on His Divine Sovereign election of Jerusalem.

Ex 19:6 calls Israel a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. Ex 19:5-6

**5 'Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; 6 and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel. " NASB**

What is the role of a priest? It is to mediate for the people. That is what Israel was called to do. Look at Hos 4:6

**My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.**

**Because you have rejected knowledge,**

**I also will reject you from being My priest.**

**Since you have forgotten the law of your God,**

**I also will forget your children. NASB**

Here (Zech 3:7) is a reinstatement of the priesthood.

**Zech. 3:8 (ESV) Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who sit before you, for they are men who are a sign: behold, I will bring my servant the Branch.**

This is not Joshua alone, but is the whole group. NIV is accurate as to men of symbolism. They are types and have prophetic significance. Notice He also says "I am going to bring." The Branch was yet future to the writer. "My servant" is Jesus. Zechariah uses the term "Branch" as a proper name. See also Isa 42:1

**"Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold;  
My chosen one in whom My soul delights.  
I have put My Spirit upon Him;  
He will bring forth justice to the nations. NASB**

Isa 49:3

**And He said to Me, "You are My Servant, Israel,  
In Whom I will show My glory." NASB**

Isa 52:13

**Behold, My servant will prosper,  
He will be high and lifted up, and greatly exalted. NASB**

This speaks of the crucifixion – Jesus being “lifted up.”

Isa 53:11

**As a result of the anguish of His soul,  
He will see it and be satisfied;  
By His knowledge the Righteous One,  
My Servant, will justify the many,  
As He will bear their iniquities. NASB**

Here is the result of His offering. The word “it” in this verse can also be translated “light.”

**Zech. 3:9 (ESV) For behold, on the stone that I have set before Joshua, on a single stone with seven eyes, I will engrave its inscription, declares the Lord**

**of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of this land in a single day.**

Now we have the "stone." In Dan 2, Nebuchadnezzar sees a stone cut without hands. There was the statue which represents Gentile dominion. This is recorded in Dan 2:34-35

**34 "You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay, and crushed them. 35 "Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth. NASB**

The stone cut without hands strikes it and crumbles it. The stone grows to be a mountain that covers the whole earth. Who or what is that stone? Jesus.

The meaning of the vision of the statue is this. The gold head referred to Nebuchadnezzar and he is called "king of kings." This phrase means he is a king with allies. He is a Gentile king doing God's will. God set him up in his kingdom. The time of the Gentiles began with Nebuchadnezzar. The shoulder and arms of silver replace Nebuchadnezzar and this refers to the Medio-Persian empire. The account of the over-throw of Babylon by the Medio-Persian empire is found in Daniel 5. Next comes the bronze belly and thighs. This refers to the Greek empire headed up by Alexander the Great. The Greek kingdom was overthrown by the Roman empire which was represented by the legs of iron and feet mixed with iron and clay. The Roman empire was never over-thrown, but just seemed to fade away. It will be re-built. The clay mixed with the toes represents weakness in that iron and clay do not adhere to each other. Could this also refer to the ten nation confederation based on world trade? Notice also what Daniel says in Dan 2:44

**"And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all**

**these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever. NASB**

The phrase, "in the days of those kings" indicates the prophecy will be fulfilled in the lifetime of the men who are re-creating the Roman Empire. This stone cut without hands will break all of the previous empires.

In Eph 2, Jesus is the corner stone to the believer. Eph 2:19-22

**19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, 20 having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; 22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit. NASB**

As Gentile believers, *we belong!* We are family. Notice also in verse 20 it is in the past tense. Jesus laid the foundation and until He comes again it is being built upon; this is on-going.

See also, Ps 118:22-23

**22 The stone which the builders rejected  
Has become the chief corner stone.  
23 This is the LORD'S doing;  
It is marvelous in our eyes. NASB**

and Matt 21:42-44

**42 Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures,  
'The stone which the builders rejected,  
This became the chief corner stone;  
This came about from the Lord,  
And it is marvelous in our eyes'?"**

**43 "Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you, and be given to a nation producing the fruit of it. 44 "And he who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; but on whomever it falls, it will scatter him like dust." NASB**

This parable tells of our accountability to God. Everyone will have to

answer to God. "You" is Israel and "a nation" is the church made up of people from every nation. "He who falls on the stone" is the one who dies to self and the one on whom the stone falls are those who reject Jesus.

The stone has 7 eyes (Zech 3:9). We recognize the 7 eyes from Rev 5, Ex 1 and Ez 10 referring to God as all-seeing and all-knowing. It is engraved. How? One concept is with thorn prints on its brow, nail prints in its hands and feet and a sword in its side. Those engravings are His glory and His splendor.

He also goes on to say the sin of the land will be removed in "that day." What day is that? The day of the Lord, the day of Israel's atonement. This will be described in Zechariah 12. It happens in a "single day" emphasizes the fact it never needs to be repeated. It is not an annual event. It is once and for all.

**Zech. 3:10 (ESV) In that day, declares the Lord of hosts, every one of you will invite his neighbor to come under his vine and under his fig tree."**

In I Kings 4:25 we have the same phrase which speaks of Solomon and his reign.  
1 Kings 4:25

**So Judah and Israel lived in safety, every man under his vine and his fig tree, from Dan even to Beersheba, all the days of Solomon. NASB**

It means real peace. Micah 4:1-5 points out one greater than Solomon is here and reigning and verse 4 points out we will all be under our own vine. Mic 4:1-5

**And it will come about in the last days  
That the mountain of the house of the LORD  
Will be established as the chief of the mountains.  
It will be raised above the hills,  
And the peoples will stream to it.  
2 And many nations will come and say,  
"Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD**

**And to the house of the God of Jacob,  
That He may teach us about His ways  
And that we may walk in His paths."  
For from Zion will go forth the law,  
Even the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.  
3 And He will judge between many peoples  
And render decisions for mighty, distant nations.  
Then they will hammer their swords into plowshares  
And their spears into pruning hooks;  
Nation will not lift up sword against nation,  
And never again will they train for war.  
4 And each of them will sit under his vine  
And under his fig tree,  
With no one to make them afraid,  
For the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.  
5 Though all the peoples walk  
Each in the name of his god,  
As for us, we will walk  
In the name of the LORD our God forever and ever. NASB**

In this period of the Lord's reign on earth there will be prosperity and there will be peace like never before experienced. Nations will still exist. This peace will last until the end of the millennium. There is enough residual evil in man that after the millennium of Jesus rule, Satan is set free for a short period and organizes a rebellion.

We need to keep in mind, just as God chose Israel, God also chose us before the foundation of the world to be His. Look at what Paul tells us in Rom 8:31-39

**31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? 33 Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; 34 who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right**

hand of God, who also intercedes for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 Just as it is written,

**"For Thy sake we are being put to death all day long;  
We were considered as sheep to be slaughtered."**

**37 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. NASB**

Our relationship with God is dependant upon God – not us!

Visualize yourself before God with Satan accusing us. Angels, principalities and powers refer to angels in their rank order, a hierarchy. They accuse us, but Jesus forgives us.

The first 3 of Zechariah's visions dealt with the outward deliverance of Israel. In each vision, there was a local application and it also had a millennial view in mind as well. Then we have 2 visions that deal with something more inward. Chapter 3 was a message of the gospel. These first 4 visions are a prerequisite for the next vision. As we get into this next vision, we must remember that there were 4 visions that preceded this, the last of which was a salvation message.

There appears to be a hint of an interval between the 4th and 5th vision because we'll see, Zechariah is awakened as out of sleep.

Before we start, it would be useful to recognize the calling of Israel. Look at Deut 32:8

**"When the Most High gave the nations their inheritance,**

**When He separated the sons of man,  
He set the boundaries of the peoples  
According to the number of the sons of Israel. NASB**

All national boundaries are set by God. The boundaries were set in Genesis 10 before Israel existed. Look also at Ezek 5:5-6

**5 "Thus says the Lord GOD, 'This is Jerusalem; I have set her at the center of the nations, with lands around her. 6'But she has rebelled against My ordinances more wickedly than the nations and against My statutes more than the lands which surround her; for they have rejected My ordinances and have not walked in My statutes.' NASB**

The center of the earth in God's view is Jerusalem. All boundaries are set according to the people of Israel. Ezekiel gives the great paradox of Israel as recorded in the Old and New Testaments. However, God has not set her aside, and that is part of what comes into view in this next vision.

## CHAPTER 4

**Zech. 4:1 (ESV) And the angel who talked with me came again and woke me, like a man who is awakened out of his sleep.**

We have a lot of angels in this book, but this one is like a guide. The view here seems to be that somehow Zechariah drifted off to sleep after chapter 3. These are visions and not dreams. This indicates a possible pause between the dreams. Some language specialists speculate that the wording here indicates instead, a much greater level of consciousness or alertness that Zechariah is speaking in an analogy.

In Daniel 8 and 10 Daniel also speaks of falling into a deep sleep. Adam had the same experience. Peter also speaks of this in the transfiguration in Luke 9:32.

**Zech. 4:2-5 (ESV) And he said to me, "What do you see?" I said, "I see, and behold, a lampstand all of gold, with a bowl on the top of it, and seven lamps on it, with seven lips on each of the lamps that are on the top of it. [3] And there are two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left." [4] And I said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these, my lord?" [5] Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" I said, "No, my lord."**

The point here seems to be the angel expected Zechariah to know what this vision meant. This suggests to us that if we are going to try and understand what's here, we ought to start by looking back and seeing what access Zechariah had to the foundation.

What would be the first thing that would come to mind as Zechariah saw this lampstand? The menorah in the tabernacle.

In the Hebrew, menorah means "light bearer." See Ex 25:31-40.

Ex 25:31-40

**31 "Then you shall make a lampstand of pure gold. The lampstand and its base and its shaft are to be made of hammered work; its cups, its bulbs and its flowers shall be of one piece with it. 32 And six branches shall go out from its sides; three branches of the lampstand from its one side, and three branches of the lampstand from its other side. 33 Three cups shall be shaped like almond blossoms in the one branch, a bulb and a flower, and three cups shaped like almond blossoms in the other branch, a bulb and a flower — so for six branches going out from the lampstand; 34 and in the lampstand four cups shaped like almond blossoms, its bulbs and its flowers. 35 And a bulb shall be under the first pair of branches coming out of it, and a bulb under the second pair of branches coming out of it, and a bulb under the third pair of branches coming out of it, for the six branches coming out of the lampstand. 36 Their bulbs and their branches shall be of one piece with it; all of it shall be one piece of hammered work of pure gold. 37 Then you shall make its lamps seven in number; and they shall mount its lamps so as to shed light on the space in front of it. 38 And its snuffers and their trays shall be of pure gold. 39 It shall be made from a talent of pure gold, with all these utensils. 40 And see that you make them after the pattern for them, which was shown to you on the mountain. NASB**

Remember, when Moses received the 10 commandments, he was also given a set of blueprints by God for the tabernacle and everything in it, which includes the lampstand. This was the only source of light inside the tabernacle. Interesting that the menorah has 6 branches. What is 6 the number of? Man. Jesus said He was the vine and we are the branches. (Jn 15) We have here the main "vine" and 6 branches giving us the 7 lamps.

The almond buds suggest resurrection. The Almond was the first tree to blossom in Israel each spring. What type of wood was Aaron's rod? Almond.

This idea of 7 lights is seen throughout scripture and suggests the Holy Spirit. Turn to Isa 11:1-2

**Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse,  
And a branch from his roots will bear fruit.  
2 And the Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him,  
The spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
The spirit of counsel and strength,  
The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. NASB**

Here we have the main branch of the lamp stand (Menorah) and six words that describe the Holy Spirit and His ministry.

The lampstand is also a broadly used term in Revelation (Chap 1:4 and all through chapters 2 and 3). Interesting that Israel's lamp (Israel's witness) went out at the rejection of the Messiah and the church now bears the burden of witness but the church isn't represented by a 7 branch lampstand, but 7 lamp stands. In the 7 churches, there is a reference to removing their lampstand if they (the people in the church) fail to repent. Look at Rev 2:5

**Remember therefore from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you, and will remove your lampstand out of its place — unless you repent. NASB**

Israel's lampstand will be reinstated. See Rom 11:25-27

**25 For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery, lest you be wise in your own estimation, that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fulness of the Gentiles has come in; 26 and thus all Israel will be saved; just as it is written,**

**"The Deliverer will come from Zion,**

**He will remove ungodliness from Jacob."  
27 "And this is My covenant with them,  
When I take away their sins." NASB**

We will see more of this in chapter 12, but the point is that Israel's lampstand will be reinstated. Israel is spiritually blind for a period of time but their eyes will be opened when the fullness of the Gentiles comes in.

This lampstand is the source of light in the tabernacle. It is also the official symbol of Israel. It's not the Star of David. The Star of David may be the symbol of Israel's government, but it's not the symbol of Israel.

Turn to John 8:12

**Again therefore Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life." NASB**

and John 9:5

**"While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." NASB**

Jesus alone banishes spiritual darkness. He is the illuminator. Is Jesus in the world now? In a sense He left at the ascension. Who bears the light now? We do. We, the church, are His representatives on this earth. It pleases the Lord to work through His disciples, so He depends upon us to bear that light. How is that light fed? By the Holy Spirit. What's one symbol of the Holy Spirit? Oil. Because of this phrase, we can tie this to John 15. He is the vine, we are the branches.

What possibly caused Zechariah not to understand this vision was the bowl and the 2 olive trees. If he would have just seen the lampstand, as a priest, he would have known what it was. This bowl was an oil reservoir and it has 7 channels or pipes coming from it supplying each light. That's a total of 49 channels. The bowl is fed by 2 olive trees. What Zechariah saw was this reservoir of oil being fed by these 2 olive trees and this bowl has 7

pipes to each of the 7 lights. Seven lights is complete illumination; seven pipes is complete supply. Notice there is no human intervention. The whole vision suggests the spontaneous, continuous, unlimited supply of oil that is in no way dependant on human involvement.

**Zech. 4:6 (ESV) Then he said to me, "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts.**

This is an encouragement to Joshua and Zerubbabel.

The concept of oil in scripture is one of the clearest defined things in scripture. The idiom is clearly of the Holy Spirit.

1. Oil abolishes friction and smoothes over.
2. Oil heals.
3. Oil lights (as the example here).
4. Oil warms.
5. Oil invigorates.
6. Oil adorns - it is used as an emblem of adornment in feasts.
7. Oil polishes.

The Holy Spirit does all of these things for us.

Zechariah here describes 2 olive trees in the vision. Later on he refers to them as olive branches. These are going to be described as "anointed ones."

This is one of the most quoted verses in scriptures. This sounds like a New Testament idea. It also has the highest authority you can give a verse, "says the Lord Almighty." This is the Lord's way and it also applies to us.

**Zech. 4:7 (ESV) Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain. And he shall bring forward the top stone amid shouts of 'Grace, grace to it!' "**

In scripture, mountains are usually references to governments. The king usually lays the foundation and he supplies the "capstone." He turns over the first shovel of dirt symbolically starting the foundation and he puts in the last stone signifying its completion – the beginning and the end of the project. Jesus is spoken of this way of the church.

The word translated "shouts" (ESV) or "shouting" (KJV) does not mean shouting as in jubilation, but noise as in a storm.

**Zech. 4:8-9 (ESV) Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying, [9] "The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also complete it. Then you will know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you.**

This was literally true. Zerubbabel did complete the house in the 6th year of Darius the Meade.

**Zech. 4:10 (ESV) For whoever has despised the day of small things shall rejoice, and shall see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel.**

**"These seven are the eyes of the Lord, which range through the whole earth."**

The Holy Spirit sees all that is going on in the entire earth.

**Zech. 4:11-13 (ESV) Then I said to him, "What are these two olive trees on the right and the left of the lampstand?" [12] And a second time I answered and said to him, "What are these two branches of the olive trees, which are beside the two golden pipes from which the golden oil is poured out?" [13] He said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" I said, "No, my lord."**

The two anointed ones, in a local sense, were clearly Zerubbabel and Joshua. Zerubbabel was the king and Joshua was the high priest. This also

points to the offices they held which are that of a king and a priest. These point prophetically to the ultimate King and Priest, Jesus.

Turn to Rev 11:1-13

**1** And there was given me a measuring rod like a staff; and someone said, "Rise and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and those who worship in it. **2** "And leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will tread under foot the holy city for forty-two months. **3** "And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth." **4** These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. **5** And if anyone desires to harm them, fire proceeds out of their mouth and devours their enemies; and if anyone would desire to harm them, in this manner he must be killed. **6** These have the power to shut up the sky, in order that rain may not fall during the days of their prophesying; and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood, and to smite the earth with every plague, as often as they desire. **7** And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them. **8** And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. **9** And those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations will look at their dead bodies for three and a half days, and will not permit their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb. **10** And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and make merry; and they will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth. **11** And after the three and a half days the breath of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet; and great fear

**fell upon those who were beholding them. 12 And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they went up into heaven in the cloud, and their enemies beheld them. 13 And in that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell; and seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven. NASB**

From verses 3-14 of Rev 11 there are two characters that show up. Notice verse 4. This verse clearly links to Zech 4.

These two have quite a ministry (vss 5-6 of Rev 11). In verse 10 is the only place in the Book of Revelation where there is rejoicing. Rev 11:8 identifies this event happens in Jerusalem. Who are the two witnesses? Notice the two ministries. Moses and Elijah had exactly the same ministries while they were on the earth.

Turn to John 1:19-21

**19 And this is the witness of John, when the Jews sent to him priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" 20 And he confessed, and did not deny, and he confessed, "I am not the Christ." 21 And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." NASB**

The people were expecting three people: The Messiah, Elijah (because of Mal 4:5) and Moses (because of Deut 18:15-19). Mal 4:5

**"Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the LORD. NASB**

Deut 18:15-19

**The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your countrymen, you shall listen to him. 16 This is according to all that you asked of the LORD your God in Horeb on the day of the assembly, saying, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, let me not see this great fire**

anymore, lest I die.' 17 "And the LORD said to me, 'They have spoken well. 18'I will raise up a prophet from among their countrymen like you, and I will put My words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. 19'And it shall come about that whoever will not listen to My words which he shall speak in My name, I Myself will require it of him. NASB

In Matt 17 and Luke 9 is the transfiguration. Jesus spoke with Moses and Elijah. Peter wrote of this in II Peter 1:16-18.

**16 For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. 17 For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, such an utterance as this was made to Him by the Majestic Glory, "This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased" — 18 and we ourselves heard this utterance made from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. NASB**

Elijah didn't die. He was caught up into heaven. What about Moses? He did die. See Jude 9

**But Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, did not dare pronounce against him a railing judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you." NASB**

This is the only place in scripture where we find what happened to the body of Moses. Why would God be concerned about his body? I believe there are two reasons. First, if the people knew where God buried him, they would have made his grave into a place of worship. Second, perhaps God isn't done with it yet!

**Zech. 4:14 (ESV) Then he said, "These are the two anointed ones who stand by the Lord of the whole earth."**

The phrase "Lord of the whole earth" is a peculiar phrase and it only occurs one other place in scripture. It can be found in Micah 4:1-13.

And it will come about in the last days That the mountain of the house of the LORD Will be established as the chief of the mountains. It will be raised above the hills, And the peoples will stream to it. 2 And many nations will come and say, "Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD And to the house of the God of Jacob, That He may teach us about His ways And that we may walk in His paths." For from Zion will go forth the law, Even the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. 3 And He will judge between many peoples And render decisions for mighty, distant nations. Then they will hammer their swords into plowshares And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation will not lift up sword against nation, And never again will they train for war. 4 And each of them will sit under his vine And under his fig tree, With no one to make them afraid, For the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken. 5 Though all the peoples walk Each in the name of his god, As for us, we will walk In the name of the LORD our God forever and ever.

6 "In that day," declares the LORD, "I will assemble the lame, And gather the outcasts, Even those whom I have afflicted. 7 "I will make the lame a remnant, And the outcasts a strong nation, And the LORD will reign over them in Mount Zion From now on and forever. 8 "And as for you, tower of the flock, Hill of the daughter of Zion, To you it will come — Even the former dominion will come, The kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem. 9 "Now, why do you cry out loudly? Is there no king among you, Or has your counselor perished, That agony has gripped you like a woman in childbirth? 10 "Writhe and labor to give birth, Daughter of Zion, Like a woman in childbirth, For now you will go out of the city, Dwell in the field, And go to Babylon. There you will be rescued; There the LORD will redeem you From the hand of your enemies. 11 "And now many nations have been assembled against you Who say, 'Let her be polluted, And let our eyes gloat over Zion.' 12 "But they do not know the thoughts of the LORD, And they do not understand His purpose; For He has

**gathered them like sheaves to the threshing floor. 13 "Arise and thresh, daughter of Zion, For your horn I will make iron And your hoofs I will make bronze, That you may pulverize many peoples, That you may devote to the LORD their unjust gain And their wealth to the Lord of all the earth. NASB**

Next is probably the most difficult part of the Book of Zechariah. We shift now to a very stern warning for the next two visions. The first vision had to do with the enlargement of Israel and the enemies of Israel becoming subject to Israel. The main emphasis is comfort to Israel in the sense the warnings were against Israel's enemies. They dealt with the internal cleansing of Israel and its' reconstruction as a nation in chapter 3. In chapter 4 we saw Israel's' constitution and ministry. In chapter 5 we have two visions that are clearly very heavy. These are stern warnings. We will discover something also that is frustrating. Unlike the previous five visions that were somewhat explained, we'll find these visions do not have a clear explanation. This may be reminiscent of Matt 13 where Jesus gave the disciples seven kingdom parables. The first two parables Jesus explains. The rest He does not. That fact is our authority to recognize the symbols in the seven parables are uniform. The "field" is always the world, the "sower" is the Lord and the "seed" is His word. All of those parables have these in common. This is the reason He could explain a couple of them and leave the rest for us and the Holy Spirit. Zechariah is sort of the same way. We have been set on a course and He will leave it to us to seek His guidance and unravel these remaining visions.

## CHAPTER 5

**Zech. 5:1-4 (ESV) Again I lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, a flying scroll! [2] And he said to me, "What do you see?" I answered, "I see a flying scroll. Its length is twenty cubits, and its width ten cubits." [3] Then he said to me, "This is the curse that goes out over the face of the whole land. For everyone who steals shall be cleaned out according to what is on one side, and everyone who swears falsely shall be cleaned out according to what is on the other side. [4] I will send it out, declares the Lord of hosts, and it shall enter the house of the thief, and the house of him who swears falsely by my name. And it shall remain in his house and consume it, both timber and stones."**

This "flying scroll" has roots in Ezekiel 2, Rev 4 and Rev 10. Verse 3 identifies that there are two sides to this scroll. This scroll symbolizes a curse and the curse will indwell those that sin.

Scrolls were originally done on the hides of sheep or goats. Generally, they were written on only one side. From about 2800 BC man began to write on papyrus. This scroll is "written." It is irrevocable. There is no repeal or escape. It is "flying." It is written on both sides. This occurs only on a couple of occasions in scripture. The tables of the law were written on both sides in Ex 32:15-16.

**15 Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand, tablets which were written on both sides; they were written on one side and the other. 16 And the tablets were God's work, and the writing was God's writing engraved on the tablets.**  
NASB

This gives us a clue that this scroll has something to do with the law.

The first thing mentioned about the scroll is its size. This same size dimension occurs twice in scripture. It is the size of the Holy Place in the tabernacle. Look at Ex 26:15-25

**15 "Then you shall make the boards for the tabernacle of acacia wood, standing upright. 16 Ten cubits shall be the length of each board, and one and a half cubits the width of each board. 17 There shall be two tenons for each board, fitted to one another; thus you shall do for all the boards of the tabernacle. 18 And you shall make the boards for the tabernacle: twenty boards for the south side. 19 And you shall make forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards, two sockets under one board for its two tenons and two sockets under another board for its two tenons; 20 and for the second side of the tabernacle, on the north side, twenty boards, 21 and their forty sockets of silver; two sockets under one board and two sockets under another board. 22 And for the rear of the tabernacle, to the west, you shall make six boards. 23 And you shall make two boards for the corners of the tabernacle at the rear. 24 And they shall be double beneath, and together they shall be complete to its top to the first ring; thus it shall be with both of them: they shall form the two corners. 25 And there shall be eight boards with their sockets of silver, sixteen sockets; two sockets under one board and two sockets under another board. NASB**

It is not the Holy of Holies, but the Holy Place - the place of service. Remember, Zechariah was a priest so that detail he would have known. This is also the size of Solomon's porch. See 1 Kings 6:3

**And the porch in front of the nave of the house was twenty cubits in length, corresponding to the width of the house, and its depth along the front of the house was ten cubits. NASB**

Zechariah is seeing a vision of a scroll that he would associate with the law. By being given the dimensions he would also associate it with the temple. Verse 3 tells us that judgment is also associated with this scroll and this judgment is going to begin within the house of God. Look at Ezek 9:4-6

**4 And the LORD said to him, "Go through the midst of the city,**

even through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and groan over all the abominations which are being committed in its midst." 5 But to the others He said in my hearing, "Go through the city after him and strike; do not let your eye have pity, and do not spare. 6 "Utterly slay old men, young men, maidens, little children, and women, but do not touch any man on whom is the mark; and you shall start from My sanctuary." So they started with the elders who were before the temple. NASB

Peter also mentions the same idea. Look at 1 Peter 4:17-18

**17 For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? 18 And if it is with difficulty that the righteous is saved, what will become of the godless man and the sinner? NASB**

Here is a New Testament perspective of the same thought. The theme of the scroll is a curse.

Solomon's porch was the outer most portion of the temple. This was where the law was read. The last vision - the lampstand - and the scroll are both idioms taken from the sanctuary. We will also see shortly two women carry off a woman in a basket. In Rev 11, the first few verses, John measures the temple and then two witnesses are introduced. Here, we have the temple, in a sense, introduced and then have two women with the wings of a stork which carries off a woman in a basket.

In verse 5:3, the angel interprets what the scroll is. It is a curse that goes out over Israel - "the whole land." The term curse is used as a collective noun for "the law." See Deut 27:15-26

**15 'Cursed is the man who makes an idol or a molten image, an abomination to the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and sets it up in secret.' And all the people shall answer and say, ' Amen.'**

**16 'Cursed is he who dishonors his father or mother.' And all the people shall say,' Amen.'**

**17 'Cursed is he who moves his neighbor's boundary mark.' And all the people shall say,' Amen.'**

**18 'Cursed is he who misleads a blind person on the road.' And all the people shall say,' Amen.'**

**19 'Cursed is he who distorts the justice due an alien, orphan, and widow.' And all the people shall say,' Amen.'**

**20 'Cursed is he who lies with his father's wife, because he has uncovered his father's skirt.' And all the people shall say,' Amen.'**

**21 'Cursed is he who lies with any animal.' And all the people shall say,' Amen.'**

**22 'Cursed is he who lies with his sister, the daughter of his father or of his mother.' And all the people shall say,' Amen.'**

**23 'Cursed is he who lies with his mother-in-law.' And all the people shall say,' Amen.'**

**24 'Cursed is he who strikes his neighbor in secret.' And all the people shall say,' Amen.'**

**25 'Cursed is he who accepts a bribe to strike down an innocent person.' And all the people shall say,' Amen.'**

**26 'Cursed is he who does not confirm the words of this law by doing them.' And all the people shall say,' Amen.' NASB**

According to the Jerusalem Publication Society, the Hebrew word for "cursed" means, "destined for Divinely imposed misfortune." The word "amen" also means a commitment by the one speaking. "Amen" comes from the word "Emunah" which means, "to be faithful." When people reply "amen" to something they are saying they are committed to be faithful. It's not "so be it" – it's "so shall I be – so shall I do." The word contains three kinds of solemn declarations – "oath, consent, and confirmation."

For additional study on what God says He will do if the people disobey, read Deut 28. If we study Deut 27 and 28, we find the concept of the term "curse" is a synonym for the law idiomatically. This can be tied to Gal 3:13

**Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us – for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree" NASB**

In Ezek 2:8-10 this scroll was also rolled out and written on both sides, just like the one Zechariah saw. Ezek 2:8-10

**8 "Now you, son of man, listen to what I am speaking to you; do not be rebellious like that rebellious house. Open your mouth and eat what I am giving you." 9 Then I looked, behold, a hand was extended to me; and lo, a scroll was in it. 10 When He spread it out before me, it was written on the front and back; and written on it were lamentations, mourning and woe. NASB**

If you will, Ezekiel was instructed to digest a heavy lesson: the law of the curse and the requirements of that curse. In Ezek 3 it goes on to have the same experience John has in Revelation. Ezek 3:1-3

**1 Then He said to me, "Son of man, eat what you find; eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel." 2 So I opened my mouth, and He fed me this scroll. 3 And He said to me, "Son of man, feed your stomach, and fill your body with this scroll which I am giving you." Then I ate it, and it was sweet as honey in my mouth. NASB**

Now turn to Rev 5:1-5

**1 And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a book written inside and on the back, sealed up with seven seals. 2 And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the book and to break its seals?" 3 And no one in heaven, or on the earth, or under the earth, was able to open the book, or to look into it. 4 And I began to weep greatly, because no one was found worthy to open the book, or to look into it; 5 and one of the elders said to me, "Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the book and its seven seals." NASB**

It had to be a "man" who could open this - a kinsman-redeemer - and John understood this. In verse 4 the Greek says John "sobbed convulsively" over this because he recognized what was at stake. It is a curse. Verse 5 identifies who is qualified to open the seals on the scroll and in chapter 6 they are opened. These are not "fun" things. The opening of this scroll is the preparation for the repossession of the earth.

See Rev 10

**1 And I saw another strong angel coming down out of heaven, clothed with a cloud; and the rainbow was upon his head, and his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire; 2 and he had in his hand a little book which was open. And he placed his right foot on the sea and his left on the land; 3 and he cried out with a loud voice, as when a lion roars; and when he had cried out, the seven peals of thunder uttered their voices. 4 And when the seven peals of thunder had spoken, I was about to write; and I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Seal up the things which the seven peals of thunder have spoken, and do not write them." 5 And the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land lifted up his right hand to heaven, 6 and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things in it, and the earth and the things in it, and the sea and the things in it, that there shall be delay no longer, 7 but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, then the mystery of God is**

finished, as He preached to His servants the prophets. 8 And the voice which I heard from heaven, I heard again speaking with me, and saying, "Go, take the book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the land." 9 And I went to the angel, telling him to give me the little book. And he said to me, "Take it, and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey." 10 And I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it, and it was in my mouth sweet as honey; and when I had eaten it, my stomach was made bitter. 11 And they said to me, "You must prophesy again concerning many peoples and nations and tongues and kings." NASB

Verses 9-10 are similar to Ezekiel 2. The real key to understanding the scroll is in Deut 30:1-10.

1 "So it shall be when all of these things have come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and you call them to mind in all nations where the LORD your God has banished you, 2 and you return to the LORD your God and obey Him with all your heart and soul according to all that I command you today, you and your sons, 3 then the LORD your God will restore you from captivity, and have compassion on you, and will gather you again from all the peoples where the LORD your God has scattered you. 4 If your outcasts are at the ends of the earth, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there He will bring you back. 5 And the LORD your God will bring you into the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it; and He will prosper you and multiply you more than your fathers. 6 Moreover the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, in order that you may live. 7 And the LORD your God will inflict all these curses on your enemies and on those who hate you, who persecuted you. 8 And you shall again obey the LORD, and

**observe all His commandments which I command you today. 9 Then the LORD your God will prosper you abundantly in all the work of your hand, in the offspring of your body and in the offspring of your cattle and in the produce of your ground, for the LORD will again rejoice over you for good, just as He rejoiced over your fathers; 10 if you obey the LORD your God to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this book of the law, if you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and soul. NASB**

These curses are linked to the obedience of Israel. It is prophetic. This is a prophecy that Israel will be obedient (Deut 30:8). This is the Palestinian covenant. There are seven things we should note from this:

1. Verse 1 is a prophecy of dispersion because of disobedience to the covenant.
2. Verse 2 – the future repentance of Israel while they are dispersed.
3. The restoration of their fortunes (verse 3).
4. The re-gathering of the people (verse 3).
5. Verse 6 – the national conversion.
6. Verse 7 – judgment of Israel's enemies.
7. Verse 9 – obedience and millennial blessing.

This curse is against Israel for her disobedience, but verse 7 tells us it also applies to Gentile nations. Compare this with Matt 25 where there is judgment. There are three groups of people: sheep nations, goat nations and the brethren, which is Israel. The nations are amazed at the judgment because they are judged by how they treated Jesus' brethren - Israel.

Back to Zechariah 5:3. We have mentioned two types of sinners - one who steals and one who swears. It also mentions two sides to this scroll which might be suggestive of the two tables of the law. The middle commandment of one side was stealing which involves our being false to our fellow

man. The other commandment - swearing - is off of the first table of the law and involves being false to God. When the law was summarized, what are the two great commandments? Matt 22:36-40

**36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" 37 And He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 "This is the great and foremost commandment. 39 "The second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 "On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets." NASB**

**Zech. 5:4 (ESV) I will send it out, declares the Lord of hosts, and it shall enter the house of the thief, and the house of him who swears falsely by my name. And it shall remain in his house and consume it, both timber and stones."**

It - the curse - will enter and remain or abide in that house. It is permanent. The phrase "its timbers and its stones" occurs only one other place in scripture. See Lev 14:45

**And he shall break down the house, the stones of it, and the timber thereof, and all the mortar of the house; and he shall carry them forth out of the city into an unclean place. KJV**

This refers to the cleansing of the dwelling of a house with mildew. This mildew represents sin.

**Zech. 5:5-8 (ESV) Then the angel who talked with me came forward and said to me, "Lift your eyes and see what this is that is going out." [6] And I said, "What is it?" He said, "This is the basket that is going out." And he said, "This is their iniquity in all the land." [7] And behold, the leaden cover was lifted, and there was a woman sitting in the basket! [8] And he said, "This is Wickedness." And he thrust her back into the basket, and thrust down the leaden weight on its opening.**

We had the curse on one hand (verses 1-4) and now comes the removal of iniquity on the other hand.

In verse 6 Zechariah looks up but doesn't recognize the ephah. The angel had to tell Zechariah it was an Ephah, which is a measuring basket. It is the largest practical unit of measurement they knew. The lid is made of lead, which in the Song of Moses, Israel's enemies were said to have sunk in the mighty waters as lead. Idiomatically, it is the weight that causes the disadvantage on Israel's enemies.

In verse 7 The Hebrew translation means she (the woman) sat or dwelt in contentment. She doesn't just happen to be there, she is content where she is. Where is she? She is in the midst of the measuring basket.

In verse 8 the woman had to be sealed in the measuring basket because it is about to be carried away. The imagery suggest this woman is content, but when they put this lid on it, she tries to escape but can't.

**Zech. 5:9-11 (ESV) Then I lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, two women coming forward! The wind was in their wings. They had wings like the wings of a stork, and they lifted up the basket between earth and heaven. [10] Then I said to the angel who talked with me, "Where are they taking the basket?" [11] He said to me, "To the land of Shinar, to build a house for it. And when this is prepared, they will set the basket down there on its base."**

In scripture, frequently the reference to a woman is used for wickedness. In the Hebrew language, feminine nouns are frequently used as abstractions. The word "wickedness" is an abstraction. Israel is often referred to as the unfaithful wife of Jehovah. There are three women in Revelation. The woman in chapter, 12, which is Eve in the sense that she represents Israel. There is the virgin bride of the child which the woman in chapter 12 brought forth and this woman is the church. Then there is the woman in Revelation 17-18. Chuck Missler says he believes this

woman in Zechariah 5 is the same one John saw in Rev. 17 and 18. We'll see this in a little bit. In Matt 13:33 there was the woman and the leaven. Matt 13:33

**He spoke another parable to them, "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three pecks of meal, until it was all leavened." NASB**

Leaven is sin that corrupts by "puffing up." The KJV refers to this as "three measures," which represents the fellowship offering.

In Zech 5:6, who are "the people" seen in this vision? It links back to the previous vision which speaks of the sinners; the ones who steal and the ones who swear falsely. This is their appearance or resemblance. In other words, they are symbolically represented here in another way.

The woman is identified in verse 8. She is wickedness. Wickedness is synonymous with lawlessness. This should link with II Thes 2:3 with the man of lawlessness. 2 Thess 2:3

**Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, NASB**

All of II Thes 2 deals with him. We'll see more of him later.

Notice who carries off this woman in the basket: two women. If the woman in the basket is representative of evil there is no reason to believe these other two represent anything else. When God refers to angels, He doesn't identify them by sex. In Lev 11:19 and Deut 14:18 a stork is listed as an unclean bird. Lev 11:13-19

**13 "These, moreover, you shall detest among the birds; they are abhorrent, not to be eaten: the eagle and the vulture and the buzzard, 14 and the kite and the falcon in its kind, 15 every raven in its kind, 16 and the ostrich and the owl and the sea gull and the hawk in its kind, 17 and the little owl and the cormorant and the great owl, 18 and the white owl and the pelican and the carrion vulture, 19 and the stork, the heron in its kinds, and the hoopoe, and the bat. NASB**

Zech was a priest and he would have known this. This begins to give us a picture of these two women. Six things about these 2 women:

1. They are associated with the woman in the basket.
2. They are protective of her because they carry her away.
3. They take her to Shinar or Babylon.
4. They establish an abode in Shinar.
5. They have stork like wings.
6. They symbolize the final apostasy.

In Zech 2:7 and Rev 2:20 we are called as a church out of "her" – that is the woman Jezebel. We know Babylon is not to be rebuilt, so it is used here symbolically. Rev 17 & 18 are two chapters about mystery Babylon. Look at Rev 17:1-5

**1 And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I shall show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, 2 with whom the kings of the earth committed acts of immorality, and those who dwell on the earth were made drunk with the wine of her immorality. " 3 And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness; and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast, full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns. 4 And the woman was clothed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a gold cup full of abominations and of the unclean things of her immorality, 5 and upon her forehead a name was written, a mystery, "BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." NASB**

"Waters" here represents humanity at large. It also mentions in verse 6 "Mother of harlots" or "prostitutes." Not "A" prostitute, but mother of all of them. All false doctrine and all false religion had it's origin in Babylon. In Rev 18:1-8 Babylon is destroyed. Rev 18:1-8

**1 After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illumined with his glory. 2 And he cried out with a mighty voice, saying,**

**"Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! And she has become a dwelling place of demons and a prison of every unclean spirit, and a prison of every unclean and hateful bird. 3 "For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality."**

**4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, "Come out of her, my people, that you may not participate in her sins and that you may not receive of her plagues; 5 for her sins have piled up as high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. 6 "Pay her back even as she has paid, and give back to her double according to her deeds; in the cup which she has mixed, mix twice as much for her. 7 "To the degree that she glorified herself and lived sensuously, to the same degree give her torment and mourning; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as a queen and I am not a widow, and will never see mourning.' 8 "For this reason in one day her plagues will come, pestilence and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for the Lord God who judges her is strong. NASB**

There are three groups of people who are amazed at Babylon's destruction. The first group are the kings of the earth. Rev 18:9-10

**9 "And the kings of the earth, who committed acts of immorality and lived sensuously with her, will weep and lament over her when they see the smoke of her burning, 10 standing at a distance because of the fear of her torment, saying, ' Woe, woe, the great city, Babylon, the strong city! For in one hour your judgment has come.' NASB**

The next group are the merchants of the earth. Rev 18:11-13

**11 "And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn over her, because no one buys their cargoes any more; 12 cargoes of gold and silver and precious stones and pearls and fine linen and purple and silk and scarlet, and every kind of citron wood and every article of ivory and every article made from**

**very costly wood and bronze and iron and marble, 13 and cinnamon and spice and incense and perfume and frankincense and wine and olive oil and fine flour and wheat and cattle and sheep, and cargoes of horses and chariots and slaves and human lives. NASB**

There is a list of twenty-eight items they trafficked in and notice the last one in verse 13.

In verses 15-18 the next group are the sea merchants. Rev 18:15-18

**15 "The merchants of these things, who became rich from her, will stand at a distance because of the fear of her torment, weeping and mourning, 16 saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, she who was clothed in fine linen and purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls; 17 for in one hour such great wealth has been laid waste!' And every shipmaster and every passenger and sailor, and as many as make their living by the sea, stood at a distance, 18 and were crying out as they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, 'What city is like the great city?' NASB**

Why do these three groups of people bewail the loss of Babylon? In these three groups that mourn its collapse we see the identity of its origin: kings, merchants, and ship captains. From Daniel we know we are watching for a western European confederacy consisting of ten nations to rise up into power. Then they will then be taken over by a dictator. That confederacy is built on world trade from kings, merchants and ship captains. Rev 18:7 speaks of the woman. Rev 18:7

**"To the degree that she glorified herself and lived sensuously, to the same degree give her torment and mourning; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as a queen and I am not a widow, and will never see mourning.' NASB**

Rev 18:7a - why? Rev 18:7b because she says she is no widow. Israel is a widow. Isa 54:4

**"Fear not, for you will not be put to shame;  
Neither feel humiliated, for you will not be disgraced;  
But you will forget the shame of your youth,**

**And the reproach of your widowhood you will remember no more. NASB**

Babylon makes a boast that she is not a widow. She is Satan's answer to what God would have Israel be.

The woman we saw in Rev 12 is in heaven. That's Israel. The woman in Rev 17 is a prostitute. Her offspring are other prostitutes. Look at their clothing. The woman in Rev 12 is clothed with the sun. The woman in Rev 17 is clothed with purple, scarlet and gold - material empire. The woman in Rev 12 influences the sun, moon and the stars. The woman in Rev 17 influences the kingdoms of the earth. The enemy of this woman in chapter 12 is the dragon. The enemy of the woman in chapter 17 is initially her support, but ultimately is the 10 kings which bring about her destruction. They are counter parts. One is hated by the earth and the other is caressed by them; one is pure, the other is a prostitute; one is heavenly, one is in the wilderness; one involves the Son on God's throne, the other receives God's wrath; one has a crown of 12 stars and the other has on her forehead a title of an oppressor of Gods' people; one ends up in the New Jerusalem in heaven, the other ends up in the habitation of demons.

Question: Can you reform a condemned world? Is there any place in scripture to support this? No! What God is going to do is call out a people for His name and reveal the rest of it for what it really is.

Satan is the head of this mystery Babylon. Look at the following verses:

John 12:31

**"Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world shall be cast out. NASB**

John 14:30-31

**"I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me; NASB**

John 16:11

**and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. NASB**

1 John 5:19

**We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. NASB**

Satan is the god of this world. In 1 John 4:4 we see this world system is limited and temporary. It's doomed to destruction at the second coming of Jesus. Rev 20:1-3

**1 And I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. 2 And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, 3 and threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he should not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time. NASB**

This current world system is characterized by pride, greed and war. These are satanic attributes from his origin. I recommend you read Is 14 and Ezekiel 28. God hates pride because it was through pride all of this started. The world system is perilous to the child of God. It offers a trap. Our only hope is to be guided through this world by the Holy Spirit.

Back to Zechariah. We have two visions here. Chuck Missler submits that they are reminiscent of Lev 16. Lev 16 is a Mosaic ritual where they took two goats. One's blood was shed for sin and the other was released into the desert: the "scapegoat." The scroll bears the curse and the second vision we have the removal of iniquity for the land.

## CHAPTER 6

Perhaps the horses in this vision are the same ones in the first vision, only now, they are pulling war chariots. The focus of attention in the Hebrew grammar are the chariots, not the horses. Chariots speak of war and implies this vision speaks of judgment.

**Zech. 6:1 (ESV) Again I lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, four chariots came out from between two mountains. And the mountains were mountains of bronze.**

Most scholars see these two mountains as the Mount of Olives and Mt. Zion. The valley between the two is the valley of Kedron. Several centuries before Jesus, this was linked to the Valley of Jeshospat. This is really a symbolical place. It comes up again in Zech 14:4 and also in Joel 3 and 4. It is the valley of judgment. Joel 3 and 4 are examples of judgment coming from here. Bronze or brass in scripture is usually used in reference to judgment upon sin. In scripture, mountains are usually references to governments and are made of granite, or rock - not bronze. Perhaps there is more to this vision than what we fully understand.

Numbers 21 is an example of brass or bronze being used in reference to sin. In John 3, Jesus also identifies with this incident. John 3:14

**"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; NASB**

Jesus identifies Himself with a serpent. What is the serpent a symbol of? Sin. The incident with Israel and Moses putting the brass serpent on the pole represents sin being judged. Jesus, where He identified Himself with this act in Numbers 21, is telling us He was made sin for us. It is beyond our ability to comprehend exactly what it means that God Himself was made sin on our behalf.

The brazen altar is another concept of brass being used in the tabernacle. It was the altar for sacrifice. (Ex 27) Here we have two

mountains of bronze. We also have four chariots to bring judgment and they are going to go all over.

Verse 5 identifies these four chariots and their occupants. See also Jer 49:36

**And I shall bring upon Elam the four winds  
From the four ends of heaven,  
And shall scatter them to all these winds;  
And there will be no nation  
To which the outcasts of Elam will not go. NASB**

Rev 6:1-2

**1 And I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, "Come." 2 And I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him; and he went out conquering, and to conquer. NASB**

The symbol of a "bow" is that of a hunter which goes back to Nimrod. Nimrod was a hunter and also the founder of the city of Babel. Babel was the seat of all idolatry which began in Babylon. When Jesus returns in Rev 19 and 21, what weapon does He carry? A sword, not a bow. Rev 19:15

**And from His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may smite the nations; and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. NASB**

Rev 13:7 tells us Satan will conquer some of the saints, but Matt 16:18 tells us he will not prevail over the church. Rev 13:7

**And it was given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them; and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him. NASB**

Matt 16:18

**"And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I**

**will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it. NASB**

This is one indication of a pre-tribulation rapture.

Matt 24:4-5 is the first seal. Matt 24:4-5

**4 And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you. 5 "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many. NASB**

This person on the white horse is **NOT** Jesus. (Rev 6:1-2)

Rev 6:3-4

**3 And when He broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come." 4 And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, it was granted to take peace from the earth, and that men should slay one another; and a great sword was given to him. NASB**

This refers to war and persecution. This may be the same red horse we see in Zechariah. (See also Dan 11:30 to the end of Daniel.) In Zechariah we will see after he is introduced, it is not mentioned what he does. The one in Rev is sent to take peace from the earth and to cause men to kill each other.

Rev 6:5-6

**5 And when He broke the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, "Come." And I looked, and behold, a black horse; and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. 6 And I heard as it were a voice in the center of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine." NASB**

There is a black horse also in Zechariah. This speaks probably of famine. This horseman brings famine on the earth. Look at Lev 26:26

**'When I break your staff of bread, ten women will bake your bread in one oven, and they will bring back your bread in rationed amounts, so that you will eat and not be satisfied. NASB**

and Ez 4:16-17

**16 Moreover, He said to me, "Son of man, behold, I am going to break the staff of bread in Jerusalem, and they will eat bread by weight and with anxiety, and drink water by measure and in horror, 17 because bread and water will be scarce; and they will be appalled with one another and waste away in their iniquity. NASB**

The message here is to let the people know there will be a famine and they will be under siege.

Rev 6:7-8

**7 And when He broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come." 8 And I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. And authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth. NASB**

The fourth seal is the fourth horseman. White is death or pestilence. "They" or "them" could refer to the other three horsemen or those from Hades.

The other seals in Rev 6 do not involve horsemen.

Rev 7:1

**After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, so that no wind should blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree. NASB**

Chapter 7 is a break between the first six seals and the seventh seal. Before God allows the things to happen that are recorded in the seventh seal, God seals 144,000 Israelites. These four winds possibly are the four chariots or spirits in view in Zech 6.

Back to Zechariah.

**Zech. 6:2-3 (ESV) The first chariot had red horses, the second black horses, [3] the third white horses, and the fourth chariot dappled horses – all of them strong.**

The fourth horse's color, no one is really sure of. There does seem to be a possible link here to the first vision that had "speckled" or "white" (NIV) horses. It is a different word, however.

**Zech. 6:4-5 (ESV) Then I answered and said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these, my lord?" [5] And the angel answered and said to me, "These are going out to the four winds of heaven, after presenting themselves before the Lord of all the earth.**

It's interesting that these four spirits stand before God. I Kings 22, Dan 7, Luke 1:19 also record visions and angels that "stand before the Lord." Remember also Job 1 and 2. Satan roams the earth and also comes before the throne of God. These angels have a zeal to do Gods' work as is described in Ps 103:20-21

**20 Bless the LORD, you His angels,  
Mighty in strength, who perform His word,  
Obeying the voice of His word!**

**21 Bless the LORD, all you His hosts,  
You who serve Him, doing His will. NASB**

And Ps 104:4

**Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire:  
KJV**

They are clearly Gods' agency and they are for judgment. Verse 5 has an interesting expression in the Old Testament. The Lord is called the "Lord of the whole world," not just the Lord of Israel. This is the last vision of the series of visions. It is clear that the scope of this vision goes far beyond just encouraging Joshua the high priest and Zerubbabel the king. Part of

Zechariah's ministry is to encourage Israel, but on the other hand, the scope of the prophecies go far beyond that. This vision is one of the clues to this. Look at Josh 3:11-13

**11 Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is crossing over ahead of you into the Jordan. 12 Now then, take for yourselves twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one man for each tribe. 13 And it shall come about when the soles of the feet of the priests who carry the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off, and the waters which are flowing down from above shall stand in one heap." NASB**

Who's ark is it? It's the ark of the Lord of the whole earth. Also, Gen 14:17-24 Melchizedek shows up. Gen 14:17-24

**17 Then after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). 18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; now he was a priest of God Most High. 19 And he blessed him and said,**

**"Blessed be Abram of God Most High,  
Possessor of heaven and earth;  
20 And blessed be God Most High,  
Who has delivered your enemies into your hand."**

**And he gave him a tenth of all. 21 And the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give the people to me and take the goods for yourself." 22 And Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have sworn to the LORD God Most High, possessor of heaven and earth, 23 that I will not take a thread or a sandal thong or anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich.' 24 "I will take nothing except what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their share." NASB**

In the book of Hebrews, we saw the writer of the book makes a big

deal of this fact. Melchizedek has no origin and no destiny. He is the King of Salem and also a priest of God. He is the only example in scripture, aside from Jesus, where God allows the priesthood and kingship to be combined. This will give us a better understanding of what else comes in the last part of Zech 6, but for now, notice Gen 14:19. "Possessor" (NASB) of "Creator" (NIV) of heaven and the earth. God "possesses" the heavens and the earth after the "day of Jehovah."

**Zech. 6:6-7 (ESV) The chariot with the black horses goes toward the north country, the white ones go after them, and the dappled ones go toward the south country." [7] When the strong horses came out, they were impatient to go and patrol the earth. And he said, "Go, patrol the earth." So they patrolled the earth.**

After the black horse goes North and the white horses to the West and the dapple horses to the South, they are all released to do their specific purpose. This isn't confined to just Israel, it involves the whole earth.

**Zech. 6:8 (ESV) Then he cried to me, "Behold, those who go toward the north country have set my Spirit at rest in the north country."**

There is something special about the North country. Babylon is actually southeast of Jerusalem but is spoken of as from the North country because the caravan routes from Babylon came from the North. All of Israel's enemies came from either the North or South such as Babylon from the North and Egypt from the South. Verse 6 refers to the white horses going after the black horses and they also went to the north, not to the west. The Amplified Version adds that the black and the white horses went North because there were two enemies from the North. Iraq is also Israel's enemy from the North.

**Zech. 6:9-15 (ESV) And the word of the Lord came to me:**

[10] "Take from the exiles Heldai, Tobijah, and Jedaiah, who have arrived from Babylon, and go the same day to the house of Josiah, the son of Zephaniah. [11] Take from them silver and gold, and make a crown, and set it on the head of Joshua, the son of Jehozadak, the high priest. [12] And say to him, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, "Behold, the man whose name is the Branch: for he shall branch out from his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord. [13] It is he who shall build the temple of the Lord and shall bear royal honor, and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both." ' [14] And the crown shall be in the temple of the Lord as a reminder to Helem, Tobijah, Jedaiah, and Hen the son of Zephaniah.

[15] "And those who are far off shall come and help to build the temple of the Lord. And you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you. And this shall come to pass, if you will diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God."

This might be viewed as the consummation of all scripture. This incident is not a vision - it is an actual event. This crowning is also symbolic. Joshua is not to be crowned like a king because that would contradict his role as a priest, but instead this is a token idea. Throughout scripture we always have the following pattern: judgments occur that relate to the day of the Lord followed by the kingdom blessing. This is a judgment of the Gentile world at large and then Israel comes into its full kingdom blessing. See also Ps 2:5-6

**5 Then He will speak to them in His anger**

**And terrify them in His fury:**

**6 "But as for Me, I have installed My King**

**Upon Zion, My holy mountain." NASB**

Isa 4

**1 For seven women will take hold of one man in that day,**

saying, "We will eat our own bread and wear our own clothes, only let us be called by your name; take away our reproach!"

2 In that day the Branch of the LORD will be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth will be the pride and the adornment of the survivors of Israel. 3 And it will come about that he who is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy — everyone who is recorded for life in Jerusalem. 4 When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and purged the bloodshed of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and the spirit of burning, 5 then the LORD will create over the whole area of Mount Zion and over her assemblies a cloud by day, even smoke, and the brightness of a flaming fire by night; for over all the glory will be a canopy. 6 And there will be a shelter to give shade from the heat by day, and refuge and protection from the storm and the rain. NASB

Isa 10:33-34

33 Behold, the Lord, the GOD of hosts, will lop off the boughs with a terrible crash;

Those also who are tall in stature will be cut down,

And those who are lofty will be abased.

34 And He will cut down the thickets of the forest with an iron axe,

And Lebanon will fall by the Mighty One. NASB

Compare these verses with Isa 11:1-10

Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, And a branch from his roots will bear fruit. 2 And the Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. 3 And He will delight in the fear of the LORD, And He will not judge by what His eyes see, Nor make a decision by what His ears hear; 4 But with righteousness He will judge the poor, And decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth; And He will strike the earth with the rod of His

mouth, And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked. 5 Also righteousness will be the belt about His loins, And faithfulness the belt about His waist.

6 And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, And the leopard will lie down with the kid, And the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little boy will lead them. 7 Also the cow and the bear will graze; Their young will lie down together; And the lion will eat straw like the ox. 8 And the nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, And the weaned child will put his hand on the viper's den. 9 They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea.

10 Then it will come about in that day That the nations will resort to the root of Jesse, Who will stand as a signal for the peoples; And His resting place will be glorious. NASB

Rev 20:4-6

4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of the testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark upon their forehead and upon their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. 5 The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years. NASB

We have seen the visions where the earth is purged. What follows is Israel's kingdom blessing.

Verse 11 the word "Crown" is technically in the plural, but is used grammatically here as singular. Because of this, most commentators believe this is a multiple crown made by the weaving of silver and gold. KJV says to set "them" on Joshua. The Amplified Version refers to crowns (plural) and says to set one of

them on Joshua.

Zechariah is being told that these three men are going to bring gifts of gold and silver. Zechariah is to take these gifts and make crowns out of them. He is also directed to go crown the high priest and also in verse 14 crown these three as well as Hen, son of Zephaniah. After they are crowned, the crown will be used as a memorial.

Heldai means "the Lord's will."

Tobijah means "good is Jehovah."

Jedaiah means "Jehovah knows."

(It is interesting that these three don't appear any place else in scripture.)

Hen means "graciousness" and is probably a nickname for Josiah which means "the Lord supports."

Zephaniah means "the Lord conceals."

The crowns are made of silver and gold. Gold speaks of deity and silver speaks of blood. Look at Ex 13:1-3

**1 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 2 "Sanctify to Me every first-born, the first offspring of every womb among the sons of Israel, both of man and beast; it belongs to Me."**

**3 And Moses said to the people, "Remember this day in which you went out from Egypt, from the house of slavery; for by a powerful hand the LORD brought you out from this place. And nothing leavened shall be eaten. NASB**

and Ex 13:11-18

**11 "Now it shall come about when the LORD brings you to the land of the Canaanite, as He swore to you and to your fathers, and gives it to you, 12 that you shall devote to the LORD the first offspring of every womb, and the first offspring of every beast that you own; the males belong to the LORD. 13 But every first offspring of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, but if you do not redeem it, then**

you shall break its neck; and every first-born of man among your sons you shall redeem. 14 And it shall be when your son asks you in time to come, saying, 'What is this?' then you shall say to him, 'With a powerful hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. 15'And it came about, when Pharaoh was stubborn about letting us go, that the LORD killed every first-born in the land of Egypt, both the first-born of man and the first-born of beast. Therefore, I sacrifice to the LORD the males, the first offspring of every womb, but every first-born of my sons I redeem.' 16 "So it shall serve as a sign on your hand, and as phylacteries on your forehead, for with a powerful hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt."

17 Now it came about when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God did not lead them by the way of the land of the Philistines, even though it was near; for God said, "Lest the people change their minds when they see war, and they return to Egypt." 18 Hence God led the people around by the way of the wilderness to the Red Sea; and the sons of Israel went up in martial array from the land of Egypt.  
NASB

The firstborn are set apart. They just came out of Egypt where the firstborn of the Egyptians were slain. They are to offer the firstborn male animal and redeem the firstborn male child. The instructions are found in Ex 30:11-13.

11 The LORD also spoke to Moses, saying, 12 "When you take a census of the sons of Israel to number them, then each one of them shall give a ransom for himself to the LORD, when you number them, that there may be no plague among them when you number them. 13 This is what everyone who is numbered shall give: half a shekel according to the shekel of the sanctuary (the shekel is twenty gerahs), half a shekel as a contribution to

**the LORD. NASB**

The half shekel of the sanctuary was silver. The concept of silver in Ex and Lev is silver is a synonym for blood in a levitical sense. Look also at Matt 26:14-16

**14 Then one of the twelve, named Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests, 15 and said, "What are you willing to give me to deliver Him up to you?" And they weighed out to him thirty pieces of silver. 16 And from then on he began looking for a good opportunity to betray Him. NASB**

and Matt 27:3-8

**3 Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had been condemned, he felt remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, 4 saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See to that yourself!" 5 And he threw the pieces of silver into the sanctuary and departed; and he went away and hanged himself. 6 And the chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the temple treasury, since it is the price of blood." 7 And they counseled together and with the money bought the Potter's Field as a burial place for strangers. 8 For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. NASB**

Satan himself had incarnated Judas at this time and in a sense, Satan himself is saying Jesus was innocent. The passage also shows us the consistency of the use of silver in scripture in a levitical sense, as silver being associated with blood. If you were Zechariah the high priest, what does silver mean to you? Blood. You are to make a crown of silver and put it on Joshua the high priest, whose name in the Greek would be Jesus, and say, "behold, the man," (NASB) or "here is the man." (NIV) See John 19:1-5

**1 Then Pilate therefore took Jesus, and scourged Him. 2 And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and arrayed Him in a purple robe; 3 and they began to come up to Him, and say, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and to give Him blows in the face. 4 And Pilate came out again, and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know that I find no guilt in Him." 5 Jesus therefore came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them,**

**"Behold, the Man!" NASB**

How does Pilate refer here to Jesus? If you were a priest raised in the levitical system, would you not associate what Pilate said here with Zechariah 6? Probably.

Look ahead in Zechariah to chap 11:12-13.

**12 And I said to them, "If it is good in your sight, give me my wages; but if not, never mind!" So they weighed out thirty shekels of silver as my wages. 13 Then the LORD said to me, "Throw it to the potter, that magnificent price at which I was valued by them." So I took the thirty shekels of silver and threw them to the potter in the house of the LORD. NASB**

This occurred in the temple. The money was used to buy the Potter's Field. The price was 30 pieces of silver. This was written about 487 years before it happened!

Back to Zechariah 6. The crown is made of silver and gold. It is a singular crown, but the Hebrew word is plural. Turn to Rev 19:11-12a.

**11 And I saw heaven opened; and behold, a white horse, and He who sat upon it is called Faithful and True; and in righteousness He judges and wages war. 12 And His eyes are a flame of fire, and upon His head are many diadems; NASB**

The enactment of Zechariah in 6:9-15 was an enactment of Rev 19:12a when Jesus comes to claim what He has paid for with His blood.

In Zechariah 6, the crowns are of silver and gold. Gold is for His Deity and the silver for His offering for us - the shedding of His blood. The temple shekel in Exodus anticipated this - namely that Jesus would have to shed His blood to redeem us. What is in view here in Zechariah is the climax of all scripture. It is when the King-Priest Jehovah is crowned.

**Zech. 6:12 (ESV) And say to him, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, "Behold, the man whose name is the Branch: for he**

**shall branch out from his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord.**

God is instructing Zechariah what to say when He is crowned. He is also called the Branch. This title of Jesus is also found in Isa 11:1

**Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse,  
And a branch from his roots will bear fruit. NASB**

And Jer 33:15

**'In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch of David to spring forth; and He shall execute justice and righteousness on the earth. NASB**

**Zech. 6:13 (ESV) It is he who shall build the temple of the Lord and shall bear royal honor, and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.' '**

This verse does not talk about Zerubbabel rebuilding the temple. This speaks of the temple that the anti-christ will profane half way through the tribulation. It is yet to be built. This is also the millennial temple.

The king should not be a priest. In II Chron 26:16-21 there is an example of how God viewed crossing these two offices. 2 Chron 26:16-21

**16 But when he became strong, his heart was so proud that he acted corruptly, and he was unfaithful to the LORD his God, for he entered the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense. 17 Then Azariah the priest entered after him and with him eighty priests of the LORD, valiant men. 18 And they opposed Uzziah the king and said to him, "It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the LORD, but for the priests, the sons of Aaron who are consecrated to burn incense. Get out of the sanctuary, for you have been unfaithful, and will have no honor from the LORD God." 19 But Uzziah, with a censer in his hand for burning incense, was enraged; and while he was enraged with the priests, the**

leprosy broke out on his forehead before the priests in the house of the LORD, beside the altar of incense. 20 And Azariah the chief priest and all the priests looked at him, and behold, he was leprous on his forehead; and they hurried him out of there, and he himself also hastened to get out because the LORD had smitten him. 21 And King Uzziah was a leper to the day of his death; and he lived in a separate house, being a leper, for he was cut off from the house of the LORD. And Jotham his son was over the king's house judging the people of the land. NASB

Also, Jesus will sit and rule. His work as a priest is finished, He now rules as a King sitting on His throne.

**Zech. 6:14-15 (ESV) And the crown shall be in the temple of the Lord as a reminder to Helem, Tobijah, Jedaiah, and Hen the son of Zephaniah.**

**[15] "And those who are far off shall come and help to build the temple of the Lord. And you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you. And this shall come to pass, if you will diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God."**

Who are "they that are far away?" Other nations. Gentiles will help build the temple. Look at Isa 2:2-3

**2 Now it will come about that  
In the last days,  
The mountain of the house of the LORD  
Will be established as the chief of the mountains,  
And will be raised above the hills;  
And all the nations will stream to it.  
3 And many peoples will come and say,  
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
To the house of the God of Jacob;  
That He may teach us concerning His ways,  
And that we may walk in His paths."  
For the law will go forth from Zion,**

**And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. NASB**

**Isa 56:6-7**

**6 "Also the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,  
To minister to Him, and to love the name of the LORD,  
To be His servants, every one who keeps from profaning the  
sabbath,  
And holds fast My covenant;  
7 Even those I will bring to My holy mountain,  
And make them joyful in My house of prayer.  
Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable on  
My altar;  
For My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.  
" NASB**

**Isa 60:1-7**

**"Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
And the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.  
2 "For behold, darkness will cover the earth,  
And deep darkness the peoples;  
But the LORD will rise upon you,  
And His glory will appear upon you.  
3 "And nations will come to your light,  
And kings to the brightness of your rising.  
  
4 "Lift up your eyes round about, and see;  
They all gather together, they come to you.  
Your sons will come from afar,  
And your daughters will be carried in the arms.  
5 "Then you will see and be radiant,  
And your heart will thrill and rejoice;  
Because the abundance of the sea will be turned to you,  
The wealth of the nations will come to you.  
6 "A multitude of camels will cover you,**

**The young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
All those from Sheba will come;  
They will bring gold and frankincense,  
And will bear good news of the praises of the LORD.**

**7 "All the flocks of Kedar will be gathered together to you,  
The rams of Nebaioth will minister to you;  
They will go up with acceptance on My altar,  
And I shall glorify My glorious house. NASB**

And also Mic 4:1-2

**And it will come about in the last days  
That the mountain of the house of the LORD  
Will be established as the chief of the mountains.  
It will be raised above the hills,  
And the peoples will stream to it.**

**2 And many nations will come and say,  
"Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD  
And to the house of the God of Jacob,  
That He may teach us about His ways  
And that we may walk in His paths."  
For from Zion will go forth the law,  
Even the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. NASB**

Now turn to I Peter 2:4-6

**4 And coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected by men, but  
choice and precious in the sight of God, 5 you also, as living  
stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy  
priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God  
through Jesus Christ. 6 For this is contained in Scripture:**

**"Behold I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious corner stone,  
And he who believes in Him shall not be disappointed."  
NASB**

Verse 4 speaks of Jesus. Verse 5 speaks of us as living stones and we are a priesthood. See also verse 9. 1 Peter 2:9

**But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; NASB**

Turn now to Rev 1:5b-6.

**To Him who loves us, and released us from our sins by His blood, 6 and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father; to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. NASB**

KJV in Rev 1:6, says we are made kings and priests. Rev 1:6

**And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. KJV**

Look also at Rev 5:10

**And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth. KJV**

KJV says we are "kings and priests." We are to inherit two things: We are to inherit our role as a priest in the kingdom of God and we are destined to be a co-heir with Him, i.e. we will reign with Him as a king. We are both kings and priests.

## CHAPTER 7

Zech 7-8 go together. We will be here reminded that Zechariah is also a priest. Chapter 7 is parallel with Chapter 1:1-6. This was a "pre-amble" to the visions that calls for repentance. Chapter 7 is also a call for repentance. Chapter 7 is about two years after the visions recorded in chapters 1-6. There, men were sent to Zechariah to ask him specific questions and we'll discover Zechariah's answers go way beyond what was asked.

**Zech. 7:1-3 (ESV) In the fourth year of King Darius, the word of the Lord came to Zechariah on the fourth day of the ninth month, which is Chisleu. [2] Now the people of Bethel had sent Sharezer and Regem-melech and their men to entreat the favor of the Lord, [3] saying to the priests of the house of the Lord of hosts and the prophets, "Should I weep and abstain in the fifth month, as I have done for so many years?"**

"Bethel" means house of God, but nowhere in scripture is it translated to mean the temple. Some of the people were originally in Bethel before the captivity and they re-settled there after the captivity. Bethel becomes a major religious center. It's interesting that as important a religious center as it is, they send messengers to Zechariah and Haggai.

Sharezer means, "protect the king" and Regem-Melech means, "friend of the king."

Verse 3 is a question posed to Zechariah. This fast in the fifth month is one of four fasts that they have observed for several years. On the tenth day of the fifth month was a fast in remembrance of the burning of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar. This is recorded in 2 Kings 25:8-9

**8 Now on the seventh day of the fifth month, which was the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem. 9 And he burned the house of the LORD, the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem; even every great house he burned with fire. NASB**

We'll see later (chapter 8) that this is just a typical question, and they asked a lot more than this.

In the fourth month they had a fast remembering the breach of the wall which was in the final siege described in II Kings 25:13 and Jer 39:2-4.

2 Kings 25:13

**Now the bronze pillars which were in the house of the LORD, and the stands and the bronze sea which were in the house of the LORD, the Chaldeans broke in pieces and carried the bronze to Babylon. NASB**

Jer 39:2-4

**2 in the eleventh year of Zedekiah, in the fourth month, in the ninth day of the month, the city wall was breached. 3 Then all the officials of the king of Babylon came in and sat down at the Middle Gate: Nergal-sar-ezer, Samgar-nebu, Sar-sekim the Rab-saris, Nergal-sar-ezer the Rab-mag, and all the rest of the officials of the king of Babylon. 4 And it came about, when Zedekiah the king of Judah and all the men of war saw them, that they fled and went out of the city at night by way of the king's garden through the gate between the two walls; and he went out toward the Arabah. NASB**

There was a fast in the tenth month remembering the beginning of the siege of Nebuchadnezzar that ended in the fourth month of the following year. II Kings 25:1

**Now it came about in the ninth year of his reign, on the tenth day of the tenth month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he and all his army, against Jerusalem, camped against it, and built a siege wall all around it. NASB**

There was another fast in the seventh month remembering the murder of the governor of Jerusalem that was established after Israel was restored to the

land. Jer 41:1-2

**1 Now it came about in the seventh month that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, the son of Elishama, of the royal family and one of the chief officers of the king, along with ten men, came to Mizpah to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam. While they were eating bread together there in Mizpah, 2 Ishmael the son of Nethaniah and the ten men who were with him arose and struck down Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, with the sword and put to death the one whom the king of Babylon had appointed over the land. NASB**

The significance of the fast isn't the issue. Notice the lack of enthusiasm in their question. What is the point in what they are doing? Nothing. There was no point to it. This was a ritual they set up that was not God-ordained.

These fasts are not ordained in the Torah. The only day where it was directed to fast is in Lev 16:29 - the day of atonement. Lev 16:29

**"And this shall be a permanent statute for you: in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you shall humble your souls, and not do any work, whether the native, or the alien who sojourns among you; NASB**

The NASB says, "you shall humble your souls." The original Hebrew should be translated, "You shall afflict yourselves." The commentary from the Chumash says, "The Sages expound that the expression afflict refers only to abstention from food and drink. Wherever Scripture associates self with affliction, it refers to fasting."

The people made a ritual of these other four days of fasting. We see from this that man put himself under this law - not God. God covers this issue.

**Zech. 7:4-5 (ESV) Then the word of the Lord of hosts came to me: [5] "Say to all the people of the land and the priests, When you fasted and mourned in the fifth month and in the seventh, for**

**these seventy years, was it for me that you fasted?**

A fast should be unto the Lord. That's not what they were doing. In 1 Cor 10:31 is the purpose of what Zechariah gets into. 1 Cor 10:31

**Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. NASB**

**Zech. 7:6-7 (ESV) And when you eat and when you drink, do you not eat for yourselves and drink for yourselves? [7] Were not these the words that the Lord proclaimed by the former prophets, when Jerusalem was inhabited and prosperous, with her cities around her, and the South and the lowland were inhabited?"**

There was a time when they were very prosperous. What was the reason they were judged and sent into the captivity in the first place? Disobedience. Their forefathers failed to obey the word of the Lord and Zechariah is bringing to light the fact they are guilty of the same sin that brought their forefathers to ruin.

The issue here is their relationship to God, but it shows up in their relationship to one another.

**Zech. 7:8-14 (ESV) And the word of the Lord came to Zechariah, saying, [9] "Thus says the Lord of hosts, Render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another, [10] do not oppress the widow, the fatherless, the sojourner, or the poor, and let none of you devise evil against another in your heart." [11] But they refused to pay attention and turned a stubborn shoulder and stopped their ears that they might not hear. [12] 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. [13] "As I called, and they would not hear, so they called, and I would not hear," says the Lord of hosts, [14] "and I**

**scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations that they had not known. Thus the land they left was desolate, so that no one went to and fro, and the pleasant land was made desolate."**

Here is essentially a description of their whole problem. Verses 9-10 are a summary of what God desires. See also Mic 6:6-8

**6 With what shall I come to the LORD**

**And bow myself before the God on high?**

**Shall I come to Him with burnt offerings,**

**With yearling calves?**

**7 Does the LORD take delight in thousands of rams,**

**In ten thousand rivers of oil?**

**Shall I present my first-born for my rebellious acts,**

**The fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?**

**8 He has told you, O man, what is good;**

**And what does the LORD require of you**

**But to do justice, to love kindness,**

**And to walk humbly with your God? NASB**

Micah is bringing up a rhetorical question highlighting the ignorance of Israel in how to please God. In verse 10 Micah tells us three things that please God. This is the whole law. God wants all men of all ages to know what pleases Him. This also corresponds with what Paul says in 1 Cor 13 – the great “love” chapter.

There are four points here (Zech 6:8-9)

1. Administer true judgment.
2. Practice kindness.
3. Show mercy.
4. Have compassion.

These ideas are expounded in chapter 8.

**Zech. 7:10 (ESV) do not oppress the widow, the fatherless, the sojourner, or the poor, and let none of you devise evil against another in your heart."**

Sin begins in the heart. This is where the first sin ever committed began. Look at Isa 14:13-14

**13 "But you said in your heart,  
'I will ascend to heaven;  
I will raise my throne above the stars of God,  
And I will sit on the mount of assembly  
In the recesses of the north.  
14'I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;  
I will make myself like the Most High.' NASB**

Here is the sin of Satan and it was the sin of pride that began in his heart. He set his mind to overthrow God's government and to replace God on the throne.

**Zech. 7:11 (ESV) But they refused to pay attention and turned a stubborn shoulder and stopped their ears that they might not hear.**

This is a "status report." They wouldn't listen. In the KJV it is worded to imply an animal that refuses to take the yoke.

**Zech. 7:12 (ESV) 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.**

The concept here of an "adamant stone" (KJV) or "hard as flint" (N(V) or "diamond-hard" (NASB) is that it cannot be engraved. Where does God write His laws? In the heart. God sent His Spirit and they made their hearts hard. The word "heart" in the Hebrew is singular. It is intended to mean the "inner man." See Deut 4:29-30

**29 But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him if you search for Him with all your heart and all your soul. 30 When you are in distress and all these things have come upon you, in the latter days, you will return to the LORD your God and listen to His voice. NASB**

In the KJV the word "distress" is translated "tribulation." Verses 29-30 refers to the tribulation and this is the occasion for some in Israel to turn to the Lord and this constitutes a Divine preparation for the kingdom that will follow – the millennium.

Continue on with Deut 6:5

**"And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. NASB**

In Mark 12:30 Jesus quotes this and He adds the word "mind." A half-hearted commitment isn't enough.

See also Deut 10:12-13

**12 "And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require from you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and love Him, and to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, 13 and to keep the LORD'S commandments and His statutes which I am commanding you today for your good? NASB**

This is all God requires. Paul speaks of this in Rom 12:1-2

**1 I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to**

**God, which is your spiritual service of worship. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. NASB**

We are to submit to God – He will do the rest.

See 1 Kings 2:3-4

**3 And keep the charge of the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His ordinances, and His testimonies, according to what is written in the law of Moses, that you may succeed in all that you do and wherever you turn, 4 so that the LORD may carry out His promise which He spoke concerning me, saying,' If your sons are careful of their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.' NASB**

This idea was also a prayer of David. It is recorded in Ps 86:11-13

**11 Teach me Thy way, O LORD;**

**I will walk in Thy truth;**

**Unite my heart to fear Thy name.**

**12 I will give thanks to Thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart,  
And will glorify Thy name forever.**

**13 For Thy lovingkindness toward me is great,**

**And Thou hast delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.  
NASB**

**Zech. 7:13-14 (ESV) "As I called, and they would not hear, so they called, and I would not hear," says the Lord of hosts, [14] "and I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations that they had not known. Thus the land they left was desolate, so that no one went to and fro, and the pleasant land was made desolate."**

There is a shift here where God speaks in the first person.

Jer 3 and Psalm 106 also has the term "pleasant land." It refers to Jerusalem or Israel. Ps 106:24

**Then they despised the pleasant land;**

**They did not believe in His word, NASB**

Jer 3:19

**"Then I said,**

**'How I would set you among My sons,**

**And give you a pleasant land,**

**The most beautiful inheritance of the nations!'**

**And I said, 'You shall call Me, My Father,**

**And not turn away from following Me.' NASB**

## CHAPTER 8

**Zech 8:1-2**

**1 Then the word of the LORD of hosts came saying, 2 "Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'I am exceedingly jealous for Zion, yes, with great wrath I am jealous for her.' NASB**

God doesn't change. Heb 13:8

**Jesus Christ is the same yesterday  
and today, yes and forever. NASB**

**Zech. 8:3 (ESV) Thus says the Lord: I have returned to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem, and Jerusalem shall be called the faithful city, and the mountain of the Lord of hosts, the holy mountain.**

When the tabernacle was in the wilderness, did God dwell within it? Yes! Smoke by day and fire by night showed His presence. Under Solomon they built the temple. God dwelt there. One of the saddest days in scripture is when Gods presence leaves the temple. Ezekiel describes this. Look at Ezek 10:18-19

**18 Then the glory of the LORD departed from the threshold of the temple and stood over the cherubim. 19 When the cherubim departed, they lifted their wings and rose up from the earth in my sight with the wheels beside them; and they stood still at the entrance of the east gate of the LORD'S house. And the glory of the God of Israel hovered over them. NASB**

The glory is departing from Israel, but God is leaving reluctantly. He lingers over the temple. God's glory leaves the temple to the east. The Mount of Olives is to the east of the temple. Jesus leaves this earth to return to heaven from the Mount of Olives. At

the second coming, Jesus will return here. Look also at 1 Kings 6:12-13

**12 "Concerning this house which you are building, if you will walk in My statutes and execute My ordinances and keep all My commandments by walking in them, then I will carry out My word with you which I spoke to David your father. 13 And I will dwell among the sons of Israel, and will not forsake My people Israel." NASB**

The condition for God's presence is that Solomon (and the kings to follow) were to be Torah observant.

Question - they went into captivity and after returning, they rebuilt the temple. Where is it recorded about the Shekinah Glory is coming back to the temple? There aren't any references to this that I am aware of where the temple Nehemiah rebuilt was ordained in the same sense the tabernacle or the temple of Solomon was. How did God come back and dwell among them? Turn to John 1:14

**And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. NASB**

The word "dwelt" can also be translated "tabernacled." In the sense of Zechariah 8, it hasn't happened yet.

In the Hebrew grammar it speaks of two mountains.

Turn to Matt 23:37-39

**37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. 38 "Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! 39 "For I say to you, from now on you shall not see Me until you say, ' Blessed is He who comes in**

**the name of the Lord!" NASB**

Here is the purpose of all history by the author of all history: that is, to gather His children together. The tragedy of history is that they would not be gathered. Jesus starts at His house and leaves only after being rejected.

**Zech. 8:4-8 (ESV) Thus says the Lord of hosts: Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of great age. [5] And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets. [6] Thus says the Lord of hosts: If it is marvelous in the sight of the remnant of this people in those days, should it also be marvelous in my sight, declares the Lord of hosts? [7] Thus says the Lord of hosts: behold, I will save my people from the east country and from the west country, [8] and I will bring them to dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in faithfulness and in righteousness."**

Was this fulfilled in the regathering from Babylon? No. They are being regathered from all over the world. This officially started May 14, 1948. Any future and millennial blessing for Israel is dependent on her restoration and return to the land. Their return also marks spiritual restoration as well. See Isa 11:11

**Then it will happen on that day that the Lord  
Will again recover the second time with His hand  
The remnant of His people, who will remain,  
From Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath,  
And from the islands of the sea. NASB (Is 11:11)**

This "second time" started May 14, 1948.

**Zech. 8:9-13 (ESV) Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Let your hands be strong, you who in these days have been hearing these words from the mouth of the prophets who were present on the day that the foundation of the house of the Lord of hosts was laid, that the**

temple might be built. [10] For before those days there was no wage for man or any wage for beast, neither was there any safety from the foe for him who went out or came in, for I set every man against his neighbor. [11] But now I will not deal with the remnant of this people as in the former days, declares the Lord of hosts. [12] For there shall be a sowing of peace. The vine shall give its fruit, and the ground shall give its produce, and the heavens shall give their dew. And I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things. [13] And as you have been a byword of cursing among the nations, O house of Judah and house of Israel, so will I save you, and you shall be a blessing. Fear not, but let your hands be strong."

When God's affairs are not cared for, people don't fare well. Verse 11 tells us that God will shower His material blessings upon the remnant just as He withheld His blessings in their time of disobedience.

It isn't said they were a curse to the nations; their name was used by nations to utter a curse. Look at Isa 65:15-16

**15 "And you will leave your name for a curse to My chosen ones,**

**And the Lord GOD will slay you.**

**But My servants will be called by another name.**

**16 "Because he who is blessed in the earth**

**Shall be blessed by the God of truth;**

**And he who swears in the earth**

**Shall swear by the God of truth;**

**Because the former troubles are forgotten,**

**And because they are hidden from My sight! NASB**  
Perhaps the phrase "another name" refers to Christians.

**Zech. 8:14-17 (ESV)**

**[14] For thus says the Lord of hosts: "As I purposed to bring disaster to you when your fathers provoked me to wrath, and I did not relent, says the Lord of hosts, [15] so again have I purposed in these days to bring good to Jerusalem and to the house of Judah; fear not. [16] These are the things that you shall do: Speak the truth to one another; render in your gates judgments that are true and make for peace; [17] do not devise evil in your hearts against one another, and love no false oath, for all these things I hate, declares the Lord."**

Notice in verses 16-17 the four statements of what we should do. This is the same thing James talks about by being "doers" of the word (James 1:22):

1. Speak the truth.
2. Render true and sound judgment in our courts or at the gates. The gate in a town was a place of public witness. (Example: Ruth 4:1) This is the place where the elders of the city met to make decisions.
3. Do not plot evil against your neighbor. The KJV says also in your hearts. Where does sin occur? As we saw before, it occurs In the heart. (Is 14:13)
4. Love no false oath.

God says He hates these things.

**Zech. 8:18-19 (ESV) And the word of the Lord of hosts came to me, saying, [19] "Thus says the Lord of hosts: The fast of the fourth month and the fast of the fifth and the fast of the seventh and the fast of the tenth shall be to the house of Judah seasons of joy and gladness and cheerful feasts. Therefore love truth and peace.**

We must remember these were not feast days, they were fast days. Their question was in 7:3, do they still have to go on observing these heavy fasts? They were tired of it. Zechariah was saying to them no, they had missed the point. It is what's in the heart; their actions are what counted. That's what the Lord would want of them. Zechariah doesn't get into the legal aspects of this. He addresses them where they were at in their spiritual walk.

He turns it around and the Lord points out these days will become joyful feasts to the House of Judah.

Remember when Jesus opened His ministry in Luke 4 at the synagogue. He read from Is 61:1-2a. Read Luke 4:16-21

**16 And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read. 17 And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book, and found the place where it was written,**

**18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me,  
Because He anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor.  
He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives,  
And recovery of sight to the blind,  
To set free those who are downtrodden,  
19 To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord."**

**20 And He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed upon Him. 21 And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." NASB**

Jesus look specifically for this section of Isaiah. Jesus said this was fulfilled in their ears and then began His ministry. He did not read the rest of the passage - the rest of Is 61:2-3.

**2 To proclaim the favorable year of the LORD,  
And the day of vengeance of our God;**

To comfort all who mourn,  
3 To grant those who mourn in Zion,  
Giving them a garland instead of ashes,  
The oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
The mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting.  
So they will be called oaks of righteousness,

The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified. NASB

When Jesus read this prophecy in Luke 4, He stopped at the end of the first line of verse 2. This verse is not completely fulfilled yet and it could be the seventh seal in Revelation 8.

Look again at Is 65:15-17.

15 "And you will leave your name for a curse to My chosen ones,  
And the Lord GOD will slay you.

But My servants will be called by another name.

16 "Because he who is blessed in the earth  
Shall be blessed by the God of truth;

And he who swears in the earth  
Shall swear by the God of truth;

Because the former troubles are forgotten,  
And because they are hidden from My sight!

17 "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth;

And the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. NASB

Notice the redemption of the heavens as well as the earth. Is 2:2-4 Isa 2:2-4

2 Now it will come about that

In the last days,

The mountain of the house of the LORD

Will be established as the chief of the mountains,

And will be raised above the hills;

And all the nations will stream to it.

3 And many peoples will come and say,

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,

To the house of the God of Jacob;

That He may teach us concerning His ways,  
And that we may walk in His paths."  
For the law will go forth from Zion,  
And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.  
4 And He will judge between the nations,  
And will render decisions for many peoples;  
And they will hammer their swords into plowshares, and their  
spears into pruning hooks.  
Nation will not lift up sword against nation,  
And never again will they learn war. NASB

This occurs in the millennium. "He" is the Messiah. He will judge disputes between nations and they will accept His decisions and no long will resort to war to settle their differences.

Look now at Ps 122

**A Song of Ascents, of David.**

I was glad when they said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."  
2 Our feet are standing  
Within your gates, O Jerusalem,  
3 Jerusalem, that is built  
As a city that is compact together;  
4 To which the tribes go up, even the tribes of the LORD —  
An ordinance for Israel —  
To give thanks to the name of the LORD.  
5 For there thrones were set for judgment,  
The thrones of the house of David.

6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:  
"May they prosper who love you.  
7 "May peace be within your walls,  
And prosperity within your palaces."

**8 For the sake of my brothers and my friends,  
I will now say, "May peace be within you."**

**9 For the sake of the house of the LORD our God  
I will seek your good. NASB**

Verses 1-2 are the ultimate conclusion for a deliverance of the Jewish people. In verse 3, the word "compact" is a Hebrew word that means "to join." Verse 6 shows this Psalm is prophetically relevant today. The Lord loves Jerusalem. We should probably love what the Lord loves. What Zechariah is saying in verse 19 is this is yet future for even us.

**Zech. 8:20-22 (ESV) "Thus says the Lord of hosts: Peoples shall yet come, even the inhabitants of many cities. [21] The inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, 'Let us go at once to entreat the favor of the Lord and to seek the Lord of hosts; I myself am going.' [22] Many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem and to entreat the favor of the Lord.**

God is speaking through Zechariah to all peoples, not just Israel. All people will come seeking God in Jerusalem. This is looking beyond just the days that this was written and is looking to the years to come.

**Zech. 8:23 (ESV) Thus says the Lord of hosts: In those days ten men from the nations of every tongue shall take hold of the robe of a Jew, saying, 'Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.' "**

Ten men speaking all languages refers to the number of witness. Taking hold of the edge of his robe implies seeking protection. Ruth did this at the threshing floor seeking the protection of Boaz in Ruth chapter 3.

The words used here translated "of him who is a Jew" would be more accurately translated, "they would lay hold of a man, a Jew." This gives a different idea. What man? Jesus.

Look ahead to Zechariah 9:9.

**Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!  
Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem!  
Behold, your king is coming to you;  
He is just and endowed with salvation,  
Humble, and mounted on a donkey,  
Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey. NASB**

Jesus not only allowed Himself to be worshiped as a King on Palm Sunday, He organized it!

Now turn to Ez 4:1-8. Ezek 4:1-8

**1 "Now you son of man, get yourself a brick, place it before you, and inscribe a city on it, Jerusalem. 2 "Then lay siege against it, build a siege wall, raise up a ramp, pitch camps, and place battering rams against it all around. 3 "Then get yourself an iron plate and set it up as an iron wall between you and the city, and set your face toward it so that it is under siege, and besiege it. This is a sign to the house of Israel.**

**4 "As for you, lie down on your left side, and lay the iniquity of the house of Israel on it; you shall bear their iniquity for the number of days that you lie on it. 5 "For I have assigned you a number of days corresponding to the years of their iniquity, three hundred and ninety days; thus you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Israel. 6 "When you have completed these, you shall lie down a second time, but on your right side, and bear the iniquity of the house of Judah; I have assigned it to you for forty days, a day for each year. 7 "Then you shall set your face toward the siege of Jerusalem with your arm bared, and prophesy against it. 8 "Now behold, I will put ropes on you so that you cannot turn from one side to the other, until you have completed the days of your siege. NASB**

This was a total of 430 years. After the 70 years of captivity in Babylon, it left 360 more years. In Lev 26:18, God refers to compounding Israel's problems by seven-fold if they don't obey Him. Lev 26:18

**'If also after these things, you do not obey Me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins. NASB**

Chuck Missler found that if you take the 360 years, multiply it by 7 and start counting from the first siege against Jerusalem by Babylon using the Babylonian calendar, which is what they were using, it comes out to May 14, 1948. If you used the same figures and started counting from the third siege, it comes out to the summer of 1967. Remember the six day war in June of 1967? What a coincidence!

Now we begin the last section of the book which is divided into two oracles - Chapters 9-11 and 12-14.

## CHAPTER 9

Zech. 9:1-8 (ESV)

The burden of the word of the Lord is against the land of Hadrach  
and Damascus is its resting place.

For the Lord has an eye on mankind  
and on all the tribes of Israel,

[2] and on Hamath also, which borders on it,  
Tyre and Sidon, though they are very wise.

[3] Tyre has built herself a rampart  
and heaped up silver like dust,  
and fine gold like the mud of the streets.

[4] But behold, the Lord will strip her of her possessions  
and strike down her power on the sea,  
and she shall be devoured by fire.

[5] Ashkelon shall see it, and be afraid;  
Gaza too, and shall writhe in anguish;  
Ekron also, because its hopes are confounded.

The king shall perish from Gaza;  
Ashkelon shall be uninhabited;

[6] a mixed people shall dwell in Ashdod,  
and I will cut off the pride of Philistia.

[7] I will take away its blood from its mouth,  
and its abominations from between its teeth;  
it too shall be a remnant for our God;  
it shall be like a clan in Judah,  
and Ekron shall be like the Jebusites.

[8] Then I will encamp at my house as a guard,  
so that none shall march to and fro;  
no oppressor shall again march over them,  
for now I see with my own eyes.

Most commentators see in these eight verses the career of an interesting guy – Alexander the Great. In Dan 2, Nebuchadnezzar had a dream and saw a

metallic statue. Dan 2:31-35

**31 "You, O king, were looking and behold, there was a single great statue; that statue, which was large and of extraordinary splendor, was standing in front of you, and its appearance was awesome. 32 "The head of that statue was made of fine gold, its breast and its arms of silver, its belly and its thighs of bronze, 33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. 34 "You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay, and crushed them. 35 "Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth. NASB**

As this dream was interpreted by God through Daniel, God showed Daniel all of Gentile dominion of the earth as man sees it. We go from precious metals to less precious, but it likewise goes from weaker to stronger, except for the iron mixed with clay. Later on in Daniel's life, Daniel ends up number three in the power structure of Babylon. In Daniel 7, God gives Daniel a set of "night visions." The content of Dan 7 is the same as Daniel 2, except it's from God's perspective. The same sequence of empires as seen by God as a series of beasts.

Dan 7:1-4

**1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel saw a dream and visions in his mind as he lay on his bed; then he wrote the dream down and related the following summary of it. 2 Daniel said, "I was looking in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the great sea. 3 "And four great beasts were coming up from the sea, different from one another. 4 "The first was like a lion and had the wings of an eagle. I kept looking until its wings were plucked, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man; a human mind also was given to it. NASB**

The four beasts represent four empires – all of which are bordered on the Mediterranean Sea. Verse 4 speaks of Babylon.

Dan 7:5

**"And behold, another beast, a second one, resembling a bear. And it was raised up on one side, and three ribs were in its mouth between its teeth; and thus they said to it, 'Arise, devour much meat!' NASB**

This speaks of the Persian Empire. The three ribs are considered to be three major battles that established the Persian Empire. The three battles were against Babylon, Egypt and Lydia. Rising up on one side is felt by many commentators that this refers to the Medes who originally were the dominant power. It was originally the Medeo-Persian Empire, but the Persians became the dominant power.

Dan 7:6

**"After this I kept looking, and behold, another one, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird; the beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it. NASB**

See also Hosea 13: 5-8

**5 I cared for you in the wilderness,  
In the land of drought.  
6 As they had their pasture, they became satisfied,  
And being satisfied, their heart became proud;  
Therefore, they forgot Me.  
7 So I will be like a lion to them;  
Like a leopard I will lie in wait by the wayside.  
8 I will encounter them like a bear robbed of her cubs,  
And I will tear open their chests;  
There I will also devour them like a lioness,  
As a wild beast would tear them. NASB**

The beasts in Hosea are the same as in Daniel 7. The leopard has on its back, four wings. This is the third empire – Greece. This ushers in the

career of Alexander the Great. He was born in about 356 B.C. He was enthroned as the successor of Philip of Masadon when he was 19 years old. Within eleven years, he conquered the entire known world. When he died, he had four key generals. These four key generals asked Alexander on his deathbed to whom would the empire go? The empire was divided into four parts and these generals fought over themselves.

Dan 8:1-4

**1 In the third year of the reign of Belshazzar the king a vision appeared to me, Daniel, subsequent to the one which appeared to me previously. 2 And I looked in the vision, and it came about while I was looking, that I was in the citadel of Susa, which is in the province of Elam; and I looked in the vision, and I myself was beside the Ulai Canal. 3 Then I lifted my gaze and looked, and behold, a ram which had two horns was standing in front of the canal. Now the two horns were long, but one was longer than the other, with the longer one coming up last. 4 I saw the ram butting westward, northward, and southward, and no other beasts could stand before him, nor was there anyone to rescue from his power; but he did as he pleased and magnified himself. NASB**

This is one Ram - Persia. The two horns are the Medes and Persians.

Dan 8:5-8

**5 While I was observing, behold, a male goat was coming from the west over the surface of the whole earth without touching the ground; and the goat had a conspicuous horn between his eyes. 6 And he came up to the ram that had the two horns, which I had seen standing in front of the canal, and rushed at him in his mighty wrath. 7 And I saw him come beside the ram, and he was enraged at him; and he struck the ram and shattered his two horns, and the ram had no strength to withstand him. So he hurled him to the ground and trampled on him, and there was none to rescue the ram from his power. 8 Then the male goat**

**magnified himself exceedingly. But as soon as he was mighty, the large horn was broken; and in its place there came up four conspicuous horns toward the four winds of heaven. NASB**

What's West of Persia? Greece. A goat with one horn speaks of Alexander the Great.

In Zechariah 9:1-8 we have the local affairs of Alexander the Great. There is a very important battle - the Battle of Iceus (phonetic). This occurred in October of 333 B.C. where Alexander defeats the Persians. He eventually ends up at Jerusalem. In verse 1 is the name Hadrach. This is the only place this word shows up in the Old Testament. Hadrach is a province near Damascus. From 900 - 721 B.C. Damascus was one of Israel's most formidable enemies. This burden is going to "rest upon," not in the sense of rest as in peace, but it will land there.

In chapter 9:2-3 Tyre and Sidon were very wealthy. Tyre was a very strong city built on an island. One of the commanders of the Persian Army laid siege against Tyre for five years and finally gave up. Nebuchadnezzar and Babylon laid siege for thirteen years and gave up. Alexander took Tyre in seven months. He build a walkway to the island and also allied himself to a nation that had a navy. This act built quite a reputation for himself. Also notice in verse 4 that the Lord was the one who used Alexander to overthrow Tyre.

See Ez 28:1-10

**1 The word of the LORD came again to me saying, 2 "Son of man, say to the leader of Tyre, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Because your heart is lifted up And you have said, 'I am a god, I sit in the seat of gods, In the heart of the seas'; Yet you are a man and not God, Although you make your heart like the heart of God — 3 Behold, you are wiser than Daniel; There is no secret that is a match for you. 4 "By your wisdom and understanding You have acquired**

riches for yourself, And have acquired gold and silver for your treasuries. 5 "By your great wisdom, by your trade You have increased your riches, And your heart is lifted up because of your riches — 6 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, 'Because you have made your heart Like the heart of God, 7 Therefore, behold, I will bring strangers upon you, The most ruthless of the nations. And they will draw their swords Against the beauty of your wisdom And defile your splendor. 8 'They will bring you down to the pit, And you will die the death of those who are slain In the heart of the seas. 9'Will you still say, "I am a god," In the presence of your slayer, Although you are a man and not God, In the hands of those who wound you? 10 'You will die the death of the uncircumcised By the hand of strangers, For I have spoken!' declares the Lord GOD! "" NASB

Tyre and Sidon are seaport nations. We know them as Phoenicians. Here, Ezekiel shifts from the city of Tyre to the king of Tyre.

In Ezekiel 28:11-12, Ezekiel changes direction as to whom he addresses here. Ezek 28:11-12

**11 Again the word of the LORD came to me saying, 12 "Son of man, take up a lamentation over the king of Tyre, and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "You had the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. NASB**

What we see here and continuing on through verse 19 we find the power behind the king – Satan.

In Ez 28:12-19

**13 "You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The ruby, the topaz, and the diamond; The beryl, the onyx, and the jasper; The lapis lazuli, the turquoise, and the emerald; And the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, Was in you. On the day that you were created They were prepared. 14 "You were the anointed cherub who covers, And I placed you there. You were on the holy mountain of God;**

**You walked in the midst of the stones of fire. 15 "You were blameless in your ways From the day you were created, Until unrighteousness was found in you. 16 "By the abundance of your trade You were internally filled with violence, And you sinned; Therefore I have cast you as profane From the mountain of God. And I have destroyed you, O covering cherub, From the midst of the stones of fire. 17 "Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor. I cast you to the ground; I put you before kings, That they may see you. 18 "By the multitude of your iniquities, In the unrighteousness of your trade, You profaned your sanctuaries. Therefore I have brought fire from the midst of you; It has consumed you, And I have turned you to ashes on the earth In the eyes of all who see you. 19 "All who know you among the peoples Are appalled at you; You have become terrified, And you will be no more." " NASB**

He now speaks to the power behind the king of Tyre. He addresses the head Cherub. Who is the power behind the king of Tyre and the head Cherub? Satan. Has verse 16 happened yet? No. This happens in Revelation.

Back to Zechariah.

**Zech. 9:5-6 (ESV)**

**Ashkelon shall see it, and be afraid;  
Gaza too, and shall writhe in anguish;  
Ekron also, because its hopes are confounded.  
The king shall perish from Gaza;  
Ashkelon shall be uninhabited;  
[6] a mixed people shall dwell in Ashdod,  
and I will cut off the pride of Philistia.**

After Alexander conquers Tyre, he goes South and conquers five major cities of Philistia. Gath was also conquered, but isn't mentioned here. I don't know why, because it was conquered.

**Zech. 9:7 (ESV)**

**I will take away its blood from its mouth,  
and its abominations from between its teeth;  
it too shall be a remnant for our God;  
it shall be like a clan in Judah,  
and Ekron shall be like the Jebusites.**

Ekron and the Jebusites become integrated with Israel.

**Zech. 9:8 (ESV)**

**Then I will encamp at my house as a guard,  
so that none shall march to and fro;  
no oppressor shall again march over them,  
for now I see with my own eyes.**

We now have an idea in our minds of Alexander. Alexander went by Jerusalem and demanded tribute. The high priest told him they were loyal to the Persians. Jerusalem refused to help Alexander when he needed it. Alexander pronounced doom on Jerusalem. He told them after he took care of Tyre he was coming back to Jerusalem. (Josephus mentions this in the Antiquities, Vol 11, Chap 8) Jaddua was the high priest and God told him in a dream to have a procession go out and meet Alexander. Jaddua led this procession. What they didn't know was that back in Macedonia before he took off on this whole adventure, he had a dream. In this dream he dreamt this would happen. Because of this, he pardoned them. Joddua showed Alexander the Book of Daniel and explained Alexander's part in the Book. Because of this, Alexander spared Jerusalem.

**Zech. 9:9 (ESV)**

**Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!  
behold, your king is coming to you;  
righteous and having salvation is he,  
humble and mounted on a donkey,**

**on a colt, the foal of a donkey.**

In Judges 5:10, 10:4, 12:14, II Sam 17:23, 19:26 we find nobility did ride on donkeys until Solomon came along. He cultivated horse trade, which violated Deut 17:16. From Solomon on, nobility rode horses.

In Daniel 9 we find the reinstatement of the Roman Empire. Rome overthrew the Greeks and they were in power when Jesus came the first time. No one ever overthrew the Roman Empire, they just seemed to fade away. Verse 20 is where Gabriel comes and gives one of the most amazing prophecies in scripture, but what I want to focus on is found in Dan 9:24-27

**24 "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy place. 25 "So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. 26 "Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. 27 "And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate." NASB**

In Luke 19:28 we find the Triumphal Entry. This was all set up by God (pre-meditated). This is the only place in scripture where Jesus allows Himself to be worshipped as a King. Luke 19:38 tells us the Pharisees understood what was going on.

Luke 19:44 is the key to this. Luke 19:41-44

**41 And when He approached, He saw the city and wept over it, 42 saying, "If you had known in this day, even you, the things which make for peace! But now they have been hidden from your eyes. 43 "For the days shall come upon you when your enemies will throw up a bank before you, and surround you, and hem you in on every side, 44 and will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation." NASB**

This all happened **BECAUSE** they didn't understand Daniel 9.

In Dan 9:26 there is a gap that is still going on, which separates the 69<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel. In verse 26 the word "cut off" refers to the Messiah. The word means executed. The word is KARATH and it means to be destroyed or consumed. Dan 9:26 says that not only will the Messiah show up, but He will be "cut off." They will execute Him as for a capital crime.

Who is this "prince" or "ruler" that will come? The anti-christ. He is yet to come. Who destroyed Jerusalem and the sanctuary? The Romans. The prince who is yet to come will, in some sense, be a Roman.

Dan 9:27 "He" refers to the prince that will come. The word "conform" is GABAR. It means to be strong, or by implication, to prevail. In other words, he will enforce this covenant. "With many" refers to Israel and this covenant lasts one week - which is the last of the 70 weeks. The covenant includes the right of Israel to have sacrifices. In the middle of the covenant, he violates it and stops the sacrifice. Matt 24:15 Jesus speaks of this verse. Matt 24:15

**"Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), NASB**

Jesus was asked by His disciples what the signs of the end would be and

Matt 24 covers this. Verse 15 refers to a specific event that will occur in the middle of the tribulation and Jesus said that Daniel spoke of this. The anti-christ is going to make a covenant with Israel for a period of seven years. This will be the beginning of the tribulation. In the middle of this seven year period, he will break the treaty by doing something that Israel will understand to be “the abomination of desolation.” Jesus made reference to this to give Israel a “heads up” to what will be the beginning of the last three and a half years of the treaty, or what we understand as “the great tribulation.” Previously in Israel’s history, an evil king named Antiochus Epiphanies IV (a Roman king) slaughtered a pig and put the blood on the altar in the holy of holies. This was something the Israelites called “the abomination of desolation.” Jesus is telling the people when they see this again, get out of Jerusalem. This will be the beginning of the great tribulation. In Revelation we find that the anti-christ will erect a statue in the holy of holies and force the entire world to worship it. To Israel, this event will be “an abomination that causes desolation.”

Back to Zechariah.

**Zech. 9:10-13 (ESV)**

**I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the war horse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle bow shall be cut off,  
and he shall speak peace to the nations;  
his rule shall be from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.**

**[11] As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with  
you,**

**I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.**

**[12] Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;  
today I declare that I will restore to you double.**

**[13] For I have bent Judah as my bow;  
I have made Ephraim its arrow.**

**I will stir up your sons, O Zion,  
against your sons, O Greece,**

**and wield you like a warrior's sword.**

In verse 11 this waterless pit. This is a covenant between the Father and the Son. Cisterns without water were used as prisons. An example of this involved Joseph and his brothers. They put Joseph in a waterless pit (cistern without water) to keep him in confinement until they sold him to the passing caravan (Gen 37).

In verse 12, we find the phrase "restore twice" or "render double." This phrase occurs several times in scripture. Deut 21:15-17 a double portion is promised to the first born and in Ex 4:22 Israel is spoken of as Jehovah's firstborn.

Deut 21:15-17

**15 "If a man has two wives, the one loved and the other unloved, and both the loved and the unloved have borne him sons, if the first-born son belongs to the unloved, 16 then it shall be in the day he wills what he has to his sons, he cannot make the son of the loved the first-born before the son of the unloved, who is the first-born. 17 But he shall acknowledge the first-born, the son of the unloved, by giving him a double portion of all that he has, for he is the beginning of his strength; to him belongs the right of the first-born. NASB**

Ex 4:22-23

**Then you shall say to Pharaoh, "Thus says the LORD," Israel is My son, My first-born. NASB**

In verse 13 Zechariah identifies that he has been speaking of Greece as one of Israel's enemies. This was written 200 years before the Greek Empire took over. Alexander was born in 356 B.C. and this was written about 500 B.C.

**Zech. 9:14 (ESV)**

**Then the Lord will appear over them,  
and his arrow will go forth like lightning;**

**the Lord God will sound the trumpet  
and will march forth in the whirlwinds of the south.**

Storms from the South were the most violent storms. The Rabbi's teach that God will blow the shofar at the "Advent of Messiah." This is taught at Rosh Hashanah – the Feast of Trumpets.

**Zech. 9:15-17 (ESV)**

**The Lord of hosts will protect them,  
and they shall devour, and tread down the sling stones,  
and they shall drink and roar as if drunk with wine,  
and be full like a bowl,  
drenched like the corners of the altar.**

**[16] On that day the Lord their God will save them,  
as the flock of his people;  
for like the jewels of a crown  
they shall shine on his land.**

**[17] For how great is his goodness, and how great his beauty!  
Grain shall make the young men flourish,  
and new wine the young women.**

Notice the word "flock" in verse 16. We are building up to the concept of a shepherd. These stones will be "crown jewels" of the Lord. "On that day" in verse 16 or "in that day" possibly refers to a double meaning. One idea is this is yet to come. The ultimate benefit to Israel will be spiritual deliverance after physical victory. Israel will be the flock of the Lord and the "crown jewels" of Messiah. This is the result of Israel looking to the Messiah.

## CHAPTER 10

Chapter 10 could be considered a continuation of chapter 9.

**Zech. 10:1 (ESV)**

**Ask rain from the Lord in the season of the spring rain,  
from the Lord who makes the storm clouds,  
and he will give them showers of rain,  
to everyone the vegetation in the field.**

This is literal rain. Deut 11:13-15. Rain is promised for obedience.  
Lev 26:3-4

**3 'If you walk in My statutes and keep My commandments so as  
to carry them out, 4 then I shall give you rains in their season,  
so that the land will yield its produce and the trees of the field  
will bear their fruit. NASB**

and Deut 11:13-14

**13 "And it shall come about, if you listen obediently to my  
commandments which I am commanding you today, to love the  
LORD your God and to serve Him with all your heart and all  
your soul, 14 that He will give the rain for your land in its  
season, the early and late rain, that you may gather in your  
grain and your new wine and your oil. NASB**

Israel's blessings are conditional. On the other hand, a drought is  
promised for disobedience. Deut 11:16-17

**16 Beware, lest your hearts be deceived and you turn away and  
serve other gods and worship them. 17 Or the anger of the LORD  
will be kindled against you, and He will shut up the heavens so  
that there will be no rain and the ground will not yield its fruit;  
and you will perish quickly from the good land which the LORD  
is giving you. NASB**

"Beware" means to guard. We are to be actively involved in watching our  
own hearts and minds and our desires so we will not give in to  
temptation.

**Zech. 10:2 (ESV)**

**For the household gods utter nonsense,  
and the diviners see lies;  
they tell false dreams  
and give empty consolation.  
Therefore the people wander like sheep;  
they are afflicted for lack of a shepherd.**

The word "idol" here is **TERAPHIYM** and it comes from the word **RAPHA**, which means to "...cure, heal, repair, make whole." Teraphiym is simply a family idol. In Gen 31:19, Rachael stole Laban's Teraphiym. Gen 31:19

**When Laban had gone to shear his flock, then Rachel stole the household idols that were her father's. NASB**

Laban chased after Jacob and Rachel looking for them. Possession of these implied leadership of the family. They also assured the husband of a married daughter of the right to the father's property. They implied conveyance of a title. By stealing these idols Rachel was taking her brother's birthright and seeking to make Jacob legal heir to Laban's wealth.

Diviners foretell the future. As far as scripture is concerned, there are two kinds of foretelling of the future: Biblical prophecy and the rest. All the rest are capitol crimes. Lev 20:27

**'Now a man or a woman who is a medium or a spiritist shall surely be put to death. They shall be stoned with stones, their bloodguiltiness is upon them.' " NASB**

The reason is because all these forms of divination are the occultic counterfeit of Biblical prophecy.

These diviners see a lie and give false teaching. They comfort in vain and because of them the people, Israel, wander as if they have no shepherd. This is in contrast to what God wants to do to with Israel.

Here also is an idea introduced that will be amplified in chapter 11 and that is the idea of a shepherd. What happens to a flock with no shepherd? Look at Isa 53:6

**All of us like sheep have gone astray,  
Each of us has turned to his own way;  
But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all  
To fall on Him. NASB**

The word here used for "gone astray" implies a deliberate departure from one place to another. Why? Because there was no shepherd.

**Zech. 10:3 (ESV)**

**"My anger is hot against the shepherds,  
and I will punish the leaders;  
for the Lord of hosts cares for his flock, the house of  
Judah,  
and will make them like his majestic steed in battle.**

Who are the shepherds here? Israel's leaders. Israel has leaders, but not the right ones. The KJV refers to goats while the NASB calls them leaders. The word is ATTUWD and is spoken only in the plural of "he goats, or (fig.) leaders of the people..." Is 14:9 mentions them as leaders on the earth. Isa 14:9

**"Sheol from beneath is excited over you to meet you when  
you come;  
It arouses for you the spirits of the dead, all the leaders of  
the earth;  
It raises all the kings of the nations from their thrones.  
NASB**

The word translated "leaders" can also be translated "male goats." Here is a goat in contrast to the sheep. Remember Matt 25 – the sheep and the goat judgment. In Ez 34:17 goats are distinct from the Lord's sheep and in Jer 50:8 they are spoken of as the leaders. Ezek 34:17

**"And as for you, My flock, thus says the Lord GOD, 'Behold, I  
will judge between one sheep and another, between the rams and**

**the male goats. NASB**

Jer 50:8

**"Wander away from the midst of Babylon,  
And go forth from the land of the Chaldeans;  
Be also like male goats at the head of the flock. NASB**

The idea of God making the people like a majestic steed in battle comes up later. Some commentators believe this is a connection with Rev 19:11. We'll talk more of this later (Chap 12 & 14).

**Zech. 10:4 (ESV)**

**From him shall come the cornerstone,  
from him the tent peg,  
from him the battle bow,  
from him every ruler— all of them together.**

The "cornerstone" is a title. See Is 28:15-16

**15 Because you have said, "We have made a covenant with death,  
And with Sheol we have made a pact.  
The overwhelming scourge will not reach us when it passes by,  
For we have made falsehood our refuge and we have concealed  
ourselves with deception."  
16 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD,  
"Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a tested stone,  
A costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed.  
He who believes in it will not be disturbed. NASB**

In verse 15, Isaiah tells them they will make a deal with the anti-christ. In verse 16, Isaiah speaks of Jesus as the cornerstone because of verse 15. We know this speaks of Jesus because of I Peter 2:4-8 (esp verse 6). 1 Peter 2:4-8

**4 And coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected by men, but  
choice and precious in the sight of God, 5 you also, as living  
stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy  
priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God**

through Jesus Christ. **6 For this is contained in Scripture:  
"Behold I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious corner stone,  
And he who believes in Him shall not be disappointed."  
7 This precious value, then, is for you who believe. But for those  
who disbelieve,  
"The stone which the builders rejected,  
This became the very corner stone,"  
8 and,  
"A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense";  
for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to  
this doom they were also appointed. NASB**

Jesus is the cornerstone, but also is a stumbling block or rock of offense. See Rom 9:32-33

**32 Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as though it were by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone, 33 just as it is written,  
"Behold, I lay in Zion a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense,  
And he who believes in Him will not be disappointed."  
NASB**

And 1 Cor 1:23-24

**but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block,  
and to Gentiles foolishness, NASB**

Israel, as a nation, followed the righteousness of the law: faith verses works. What is an offense to others is our foundation. Eph 2:19-22 speaks of the foundation and cornerstone. Eph 2:19-22

**19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, 20 having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; 22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit. NASB**

In Zech 4:7 we saw this. Also, in Dan 2 we saw the image representing Gentile dominion. It was destroyed by a stone cut without hands. Out of that stone comes a mountain that covers the whole earth.

We next have the term "nail" (KJV) or "tent peg" (NASB) which is like a principle post. Judges 4:21-22 uses the same word. Judg 4:21-22

**21 But Jael, Heber's wife, took a tent peg and seized a hammer in her hand, and went secretly to him and drove the peg into his temple, and it went through into the ground; for he was sound asleep and exhausted. So he died. 22 And behold, as Barak pursued Sisera, Jael came out to meet him and said to him, "Come, and I will show you the man whom you are seeking." And he entered with her, and behold Sisera was lying dead with the tent peg in his temple. NASB**

Also, in a tent one put a "nail" in a post to hang on it things of value. Ez 15:1-3 uses it this way. Ezek 15:1-3

**1 Then the word of the LORD came to me saying, 2 "Son of man, how is the wood of the vine better than any wood of a branch which is among the trees of the forest? 3 "Can wood be taken from it to make anything, or can men take a peg from it on which to hang any vessel? NASB**

The vines only purpose is to bear fruit. See also Is 22:15-25.

**15 Thus says the Lord GOD of hosts, "Come, go to this steward, To Shebna, who is in charge of the royal household, 16'What right do you have here, And whom do you have here, That you have hewn a tomb for yourself here, You who hew a tomb on the height, You who carve a resting place for yourself in the rock? 17'Behold, the LORD is about to hurl you headlong, O man. And He is about to grasp you firmly, 18 And roll you tightly like a ball, To be cast into a vast country; There you will die, And there your splendid chariots will be, You shame of your master's house.' 19 "And I will depose you from your office, And I will pull you down from your**

station. 20 "Then it will come about in that day, That I will summon My servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiyah 21 And I will clothe him with your tunic, And tie your sash securely about him, I will entrust him with your authority, And he will become a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. 22 "Then I will set the key of the house of David on his shoulder, When he opens no one will shut, When he shuts no one will open. 23 "And I will drive him like a peg in a firm place, And he will become a throne of glory to his father's house. 24 "So they will hang on him all the glory of his father's house, offspring and issue, all the least of vessels, from bowls to all the jars. 25 "In that day," declares the LORD of hosts, "the peg driven in a firm place will give way; it will even break off and fall, and the load hanging on it will be cut off, for the LORD has spoken." NASB

Shebna was carving out an elaborate tomb for himself, which was something for the high ranking – not for him. He is building a tomb of pride. The ball would keep rolling endlessly with nothing to stop it. Eliakim replaces Shebna and he, Eliakim, is a type of Christ. The affairs of the royal house will be arranged through him. See also Rev 3:7.

**"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:  
He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this: NASB**

Messiah has the key of David.

Now we have the "battle bow." Ex 15:3 we see Jehovah is a man of war.  
Ex 15:3

**"The LORD is a warrior;  
The LORD is His name. NASB**

Also look at Ps 45:5

**Thine arrows are sharp;**

**The peoples fall under Thee;  
Thine arrows are in the heart of the King's enemies. NASB**  
and Ps 110:5-7 Ps 110:5-7

**5 The Lord is at Thy right hand;  
He will shatter kings in the day of His wrath.  
6 He will judge among the nations,  
He will fill them with corpses,  
He will shatter the chief men over a broad country.  
7 He will drink from the brook by the wayside;  
Therefore He will lift up His head. NASB**

This is a picture of Armageddon.

**Zech. 10:5 (ESV)**

**They shall be like mighty men in battle,  
trampling the foe in the mud of the streets;  
they shall fight because the Lord is with them,  
and they shall put to shame the riders on horses.**

"Mighty men" actually means prevailing ones. Remember the promises to the ones who overcome, the prevailing ones, in Rev 2 and 3.

**Zech. 10:6-7 (ESV)**

**"I will strengthen the house of Judah,  
and I will save the house of Joseph.  
I will bring them back because I have compassion on them,  
and they shall be as though I had not rejected them,  
for I am the Lord their God and I will answer them.  
[7] Then Ephraim shall become like a mighty warrior,  
and their hearts shall be glad as with wine.  
Their children shall see it and be glad;  
their hearts shall rejoice in the Lord.**

Ephriam was a Northern tribe. Often it is used generically to represent the ten Northern tribes. Judah is used generically to represent the two Southern tribes.

This looks forward to the last days. What is the significance of Ephriam being there? There is a concept of ten lost tribes. In 721 B.C. the Assyrians conquered the ten Northern tribes and took them into captivity. Judah - the Southern group - survived until Nebuchadnezzar. Babylon overthrew Jerusalem in 606 B.C. Babylon also conquered the Assyrians. The ten tribes were united with the Southern tribes at that time. There are no lost tribes. See 2 Chron 11:13-17

**13 Moreover, the priests and the Levites who were in all Israel stood with him from all their districts. 14 For the Levites left their pasture lands and their property and came to Judah and Jerusalem, for Jeroboam and his sons had excluded them from serving as priests to the LORD. 15 And he set up priests of his own for the high places, for the satyrs, and for the calves which he had made. 16 And those from all the tribes of Israel who set their hearts on seeking the LORD God of Israel, followed them to Jerusalem to sacrifice to the LORD God of their fathers. 17 And they strengthened the kingdom of Judah and supported Rehoboam the son of Solomon for three years, for they walked in the way of David and Solomon for three years. NASB**

Rehoboam is at civil war with Jeroboam. Notice verse 16 - ALL of the faithful from all of the tribes went to Judah. They were never totally separated.

**Zech. 10:8 (ESV)**

**"I will whistle for them and gather them in,  
for I have redeemed them,  
and they shall be as many as they were before.**

The word "signal" (NIV) or "hiss" (KJV) for them is actually to whistle for

them. The word is SHARAQ and means, "...to whistle..."

We've covered at length the gathering of Israel. To "redeem" them is to free someone from the ownership of another by paying an agreed upon price.

**Zech. 10:9-10 (ESV)**

**Though I scattered them among the nations,  
yet in far countries they shall remember me,  
and with their children they shall live and return.**

**[10] I will bring them home from the land of Egypt,  
and gather them from Assyria,  
and I will bring them to the land of Gilead and to Lebanon,  
till there is no room for them.**

Notice, "they will remember me." There is a pun here. What does the name Zechariah mean? God remembers. Gilead and Lebanon speak of both sides of the Jordan. Deut 30:1-5

**1 "So it shall be when all of these things have come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and you call them to mind in all nations where the LORD your God has banished you, 2 and you return to the LORD your God and obey Him with all your heart and soul according to all that I command you today, you and your sons, 3 then the LORD your God will restore you from captivity, and have compassion on you, and will gather you again from all the peoples where the LORD your God has scattered you. 4 If your outcasts are at the ends of the earth, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there He will bring you back. 5 And the LORD your God will bring you into the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it; and He will prosper you and multiply you more than your fathers. NASB**

This tells us God scattered the people and He will bring the people together in the end times. Israel will be gathered from the whole world – not just Babylon. The word “compassion” is the common Hebrew word for “love.” It is related to the Hebrew word for womb. It speaks of God’s tender compassionate motherly care of His children.

Today we would call this the Golan Heights. There will not be room for them. Look at Isa 49:20

**The children of whom you were bereaved will yet say in your ears,  
'The place is too cramped for me;  
Make room for me that I may live here. NASB**

And Isa 54:1-3

**1 "Shout for joy, O barren one, you who have borne no child;  
Break forth into joyful shouting and cry aloud, you who have not travailed;  
For the sons of the desolate one will be more numerous  
Than the sons of the married woman," says the LORD.  
2 "Enlarge the place of your tent;  
Stretch out the curtains of your dwellings, spare not;  
Lengthen your cords,  
And strengthen your pegs.  
3 "For you will spread abroad to the right and to the left.  
And your descendants will possess nations,  
And they will resettle the desolate cities. NASB**

These verses could refer to both Israel and the church. More Gentiles will be saved in the church than will the children of Israel.

**Zech. 10:11-12 (ESV)**

**He shall pass through the sea of troubles  
and strike down the waves of the sea,  
and all the depths of the Nile shall be dried up.**

**The pride of Assyria shall be laid low,  
and the scepter of Egypt shall depart.  
[12] I will make them strong in the Lord,  
and they shall walk in his name,"  
declares the Lord.**

God is saying He will remove every problem. The phrase "declares the Lord" is the Divine seal of authority. Look at Isa 11:11-16

**11 Then it will happen on that day that the Lord  
Will again recover the second time with His hand  
The remnant of His people, who will remain,  
From Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath,  
And from the islands of the sea.**

**12 And He will lift up a standard for the nations,  
And will assemble the banished ones of Israel,  
And will gather the dispersed of Judah  
From the four corners of the earth.**

**13 Then the jealousy of Ephraim will depart,  
And those who harass Judah will be cut off;  
Ephraim will not be jealous of Judah,  
And Judah will not harass Ephraim.**

**14 And they will swoop down on the slopes of the Philistines on  
the west;**

**Together they will plunder the sons of the east;  
They will possess Edom and Moab;  
And the sons of Ammon will be subject to them.**

**15 And the LORD will utterly destroy  
The tongue of the Sea of Egypt;  
And He will wave His hand over the River  
With His scorching wind;  
And He will strike it into seven streams,  
And make men walk over dry-shod.**

**16 And there will be a highway from Assyria  
For the remnant of His people who will be left,**

**Just as there was for Israel**

**In the day that they came up out of the land of Egypt. NASB**

The "second time" started on May 14, 1948.

For a short side trip, see Matt 12. This is a milestone. Jesus is the Savior of Israel also and we must remember this. Matt 12:22-24

**22 Then there was brought to Him a demon-possessed man who was blind and dumb, and He healed him, so that the dumb man spoke and saw. 23 And all the multitudes were amazed, and began to say, "This man cannot be the Son of David, can he?" 24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "This man casts out demons only by Beelzebul the ruler of the demons." NASB**

Verse 24 is a key. They acknowledge the miracle but ascribe its' origin to Satan. This turns out to constitute a major event in Israel. Here is where the nation of Israel rejected Jesus. Jewish theology taught that to cast out a demon you first had to establish communication with it. Because of this, they believed only the Messiah could cast out a dumb demon. Thus the reaction of the people is in verse 23 and the reaction of the Pharisees is in verse 24. Continue with Matt 12:25-37

**25 And knowing their thoughts He said to them, "Any kingdom divided against itself is laid waste; and any city or house divided against itself shall not stand. 26 "And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself; how then shall his kingdom stand? 27 "And if I by Beelzebul cast out demons, by whom do your sons cast them out? Consequently they shall be your judges. 28 "But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. 29 "Or how can anyone enter the strong man's house and carry off his property, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house. 30 "He who is not with Me is against Me; and he who does not gather with Me scatters. 31 "Therefore I say to you, any sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven men, but blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven. 32 "And whoever shall speak a word against the Son of Man, it shall be**

forgiven him; but whoever shall speak against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, either in this age, or in the age to come. 33 "Either make the tree good, and its fruit good; or make the tree bad, and its fruit bad; for the tree is known by its fruit. 34 "You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart. 35 "The good man out of his good treasure brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of his evil treasure brings forth what is evil. 36 "And I say to you, that every careless word that men shall speak, they shall render account for it in the day of judgment. 37 "For by your words you shall be justified, and by your words you shall be condemned." NASB

Did the Jews cast out demons before Jesus came? Yes. Jesus makes allusion to this in verse 27. In this story Satan is the strong man and Jesus is the intruder. In this section Jesus also testifies that the power He used was that of the Holy Spirit – not His. The answer to the question Jesus asks in verse 34 is they can't.

What is the response of the Pharisees? Look at verses Matt 12:38-42

38 Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered Him, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You." 39 But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign; and yet no sign shall be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet; 40 for just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. 41 "The men of Nineveh shall stand up with this generation at the judgment, and shall condemn it because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, something greater than Jonah is here. 42 "The Queen of the South shall rise up with this generation at the judgment and shall condemn it, because she came from the ends of the

**earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, something greater than Solomon is here. NASB**

Notice Jesus takes two Gentile examples - Nineveh and the Queen of Sheba. Who is He condemning here? This generation. Also in Matt 12:43-45 we see the demon was not cast out, he just left and nothing took its place like the Holy Spirit. Matt 12:43-45

**43 "Now when the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places, seeking rest, and does not find it. 44 "Then it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came'; and when it comes, it finds it unoccupied, swept, and put in order. 45 "Then it goes, and takes along with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there; and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first. That is the way it will also be with this evil generation." NASB**

Jesus tells them they will get worse and worse. In A.D. 70 they were so bad, Rome destroyed them and scattered them to the ends of the world and Jesus says they will stay that way until the time of the end. This was collective to that generation.

See Matt 16:1-4

**1 And the Pharisees and Sadducees came up, and testing Him asked Him to show them a sign from heaven. 2 But He answered and said to them, "When it is evening, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' 3 "And in the morning, 'There will be a storm today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Do you know how to discern the appearance of the sky, but cannot discern the signs of the times? 4 "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign; and a sign will not be given it, except the sign of Jonah." And He left them, and went away. NASB**

The sign is, of course, Jesus spending three days and three nights in the earth.

Look also at John 11:45-53 John 11:45-53

45 Many therefore of the Jews, who had come to Mary and beheld what He had done, believed in Him. 46 But some of them went away to the Pharisees, and told them the things which Jesus had done.

47 Therefore the chief priests and the Pharisees convened a council, and were saying, "What are we doing? For this man is performing many signs. 48 "If we let Him go on like this, all men will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." 49 But a certain one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all, 50 nor do you take into account that it is expedient for you that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation should not perish." 51 Now this he did not say on his own initiative; but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation, 52 and not for the nation only, but that He might also gather together into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. 53 So from that day on they planned together to kill Him. NASB

The people get three signs. Here is the raising of Lazarus. Notice their response. Verse 48 is exactly what happened. The official result of the raising of Lazarus was the official sentence of death upon Jesus.

See Luke 19:39-44

39 And some of the Pharisees in the multitude said to Him, "Teacher, rebuke Your disciples." 40 And He answered and said, "I tell you, if these become silent, the stones will cry out!"

41 And when He approached, He saw the city and wept over it, 42 saying, "If you had known in this day, even you, the things which make for peace! But now they have been hidden from your eyes. 43 "For the days shall come upon you when your enemies will throw up a bank before you, and surround you, and hem you in on every side, 44 and will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the

**time of your visitation." NASB**

Could Jesus have spared them the destruction of A.D. 70? Probably not because they had committed the unpardonable sin.

Turn now to Matt 23:29-36.

**29 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, 30 and say, ' If we had been living in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in shedding the blood of the prophets. ' 31 "Consequently you bear witness against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. 32 "Fill up then the measure of the guilt of your fathers. 33 "You serpents, you brood of vipers, how shall you escape the sentence of hell? 34 "Therefore, behold, I am sending you prophets and wise men and scribes; some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city, 35 that upon you may fall the guilt of all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. 36 "Truly I say to you, all these things shall come upon this generation. NASB**

Here we have the "woes" to the Scribes and Pharisees. This burden is upon "this generation" which is the generation that rejected Jesus. The Christian Jews were forbidden to go back to Judaism because they would be going back to a condemned generation. The Book of Hebrews addressed this issue at length. Continue on with verses 37-39.  
Matt 23:37-39

**37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. 38 "Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! 39 "For I say to you, from now on you shall not see Me until you say, ' Blessed is He who comes in the name**

**of the Lord!" NASB**

All history is summarized here by the author of all history. The purpose is to gather together His people. The tragedy of all history is they would not. The triumph of all history comes in verse 39. When does He come back? When they say, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord."

Look now at Lev 26:39-42

**39 'So those of you who may be left will rot away because of their iniquity in the lands of your enemies; and also because of the iniquities of their forefathers they will rot away with them.**

**40 'If they confess their iniquity and the iniquity of their forefathers, in their unfaithfulness which they committed against Me, and also in their acting with hostility against Me — 41 I also was acting with hostility against them, to bring them into the land of their enemies — or if their uncircumcised heart becomes humbled so that they then make amends for their iniquity, 42 then I will remember My covenant with Jacob, and I will remember also My covenant with Isaac, and My covenant with Abraham as well, and I will remember the land. NASB**

When will God remember His covenant? When they confess their iniquity. In verse 40, the iniquity they must confess as a nation is singular.

Look at Jer 3:12-15

**12 "Go, and proclaim these words toward the north and say,  
'Return, faithless Israel,' declares the LORD;  
'I will not look upon you in anger.  
For I am gracious,' declares the LORD;  
'I will not be angry forever.  
13'Only acknowledge your iniquity,  
That you have transgressed against the LORD your God**

**And have scattered your favors to the strangers under every green tree,**

**And you have not obeyed My voice,' declares the LORD.**

**14'Return, O faithless sons,' declares the LORD;'**

**For I am a master to you,**

**And I will take you one from a city and two from a family,**

**And I will bring you to Zion.'**

**15 "Then I will give you shepherds after My own heart, who will feed you on knowledge and understanding. NASB**

Verse 13 speaks of a singular iniquity to be confessed.

Now read Hos 5:15

**I will go away and return to My place**

**Until they acknowledge their guilt and seek My face;**

**In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me. NASB**

Jesus is speaking. In order to return to His place, He has to have left it. He left His place, there was an offense, He returned and there is an affliction. There will be a confession and then He will return. What was their offense? Killing Jesus? No! The Romans did that. Their offense was rejecting Him. What is the purpose of the tribulation? Hos 6:1-3

**"Come, let us return to the LORD.**

**For He has torn us, but He will heal us;**

**He has wounded us, but He will bandage us.**

**2 "He will revive us after two days;**

**He will raise us up on the third day**

**That we may live before Him.**

**3 "So let us know, let us press on to know the LORD.**

**His going forth is as certain as the dawn;**

**And He will come to us like the rain,**

**Like the spring rain watering the earth." NASB**

There is a view that Israel will call for Jesus to return and the tribulation will bring them to this point. They will nationally repent and nationally call for the return of Jesus.

Dan 11:41 tells us Edom, Moab and Ammon will not be under the rule of the anti-christ. Dan 11:41

**"He will also enter the Beautiful Land, and many countries will fall; but these will be rescued out of his hand: Edom, Moab and the foremost of the sons of Ammon. NASB**

This is known today as Jordan.

Satan's career is over when Israel repents as a nation. When Jesus returns, where will He come? Isa 63:1-4

**Who is this who comes from Edom,  
With garments of glowing colors from Bozrah,  
This One who is majestic in His apparel,  
Marching in the greatness of His strength?  
"It is I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save."**

**2 Why is Your apparel red,  
And Your garments like the one who treads in the wine press?**

**3 "I have trodden the wine trough alone,  
And from the peoples there was no man with Me.  
I also trod them in My anger,  
And trampled them in My wrath;  
And their lifeblood is sprinkled on My garments,  
And I stained all My raiment.**

**4 "For the day of vengeance was in My heart,  
And My year of redemption has come. NASB**

Commentary in the Jerusalem Publication Society's Tanach says, in

reference to verse 4, "For I had planned the day of vengeance..."

## CHAPTER 11

**Zech. 11:1-3 (ESV)**

**Open your doors, O Lebanon,  
that the fire may devour your cedars!  
[2] Wail, O cypress, for the cedar has fallen,  
for the glorious trees are ruined!  
Wail, oaks of Bashan,  
for the thick forest has been felled!  
[3] The sound of the wail of the shepherds,  
for their glory is ruined!  
The sound of the roar of the lions,  
for the thicket of the Jordan is ruined!**

These three verses address the impending devastation that is coming. It starts in Lebanon and goes down through Bashan to Jordan. This was the path the Romans took when they came and destroyed Jerusalem in 70 A.D.

**Zech. 11:4 (ESV) Thus said the Lord my God: "Become shepherd of the flock doomed to slaughter.**

This is to feed the flock which is to be butchered. Verses 4 – 14 focus on the rejection of the Good Shepherd.

**Zech. 11:5-7 (ESV) Those who buy them slaughter them and go unpunished, and those who sell them say, 'Blessed be the Lord, I have become rich,' and their own shepherds have no pity on them. [6] For I will no longer have pity on the inhabitants of this land, declares the Lord. Behold, I will cause each of them to fall into the hand of his neighbor, and each into the hand of his king, and they shall crush the land, and I will deliver none from their hand."**

**[7] So I became the shepherd of the flock doomed to be slaughtered by the sheep traders. And I took two staves, one I**

**named Favor, the other I named Union. And I tended the sheep.**

Zechariah is going to be asked to act out a parable. Who are these two shepherds? They could be unprincipled or undisciplined rulers. They are the rulers of Israel and they are unprincipled. Notice verse 5. They are traffickers in the sense they sell the sheep. Who are the sheep? Israel. Notice what those who trafficked Israel say: "Praise the Lord,..." What seems to be implied is that the unprincipled rulers are Jewish. In Jesus day, these were the Scribes and Pharisees. They organized the rejection of the Messiah.

In verse 6, notice the people will be delivered into the hands of "his" king in contrast to "My" King who was presented to Jerusalem on a donkey as in Zechariah 9:9. In John 19:15 the people claim they have no king but Caesar. The Lord took them at their word. Caesar took over and a few years later Rome destroyed the Jewish state. Josephus records also that the people resorted to cannibalism to survive under this Roman assault. In this sense, they were delivered into the hands of their neighbors.

In verse 7, we have two staffs. Remember, we are talking about shepherds. Also remember from Ps 23:4, it says His rod and "His staff comfort me." Two different instruments for two different purposes. These two staffs Zechariah takes, and he names. One is named "NOAM," which could be translated "beauty," "pleasantness" or "graciousness." The other is called "CROBLIM" which means "tying," or "tightening bands." It signifies unity. So we have Graciousness and Unity. In John 10:16 we see one fold and one shepherd. John 10:16

**"And I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they shall hear My voice; and they shall become one flock with one shepherd. NASB**

We (Gentiles) are united with Israel.

**Zech. 11:8 (ESV) In one month I destroyed the three shepherds. But I became impatient with them, and they also**

**detested me.**

Who are these three shepherds? There are over forty different suggestions given by many commentators and they don't agree. We will continue with this in verses 15-17.

**Zech. 11:9-11 (ESV) So I said, "I will not be your shepherd. What is to die, let it die. What is to be destroyed, let it be destroyed. And let those who are left devour the flesh of one another." [10] And I took my staff Favor, and I broke it, annulling the covenant that I had made with all the peoples. [11] So it was annulled on that day, and the sheep traders, who were watching me, knew that it was the word of the Lord.**

Many scholars regard this as God removing His covering over Israel.

**Zech. 11:12-13 (ESV) Then I said to them, "If it seems good to you, give me my wages; but if not, keep them." And they weighed out as my wages thirty pieces of silver. [13] Then the Lord said to me, "Throw it to the potter"— the lordly price at which I was priced by them. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the Lord, to the potter.**

These two verses are acted out by Zechariah. In Ex 21:32 we find thirty pieces of silver was the worth of a slave that had been gored by a bull or an ox. Ex 21:32

**If the ox gores a male or female slave, the owner shall give his or her master thirty shekels of silver, and the ox shall be stoned.  
NASB**

It was less than a freed man. A potter dealt with common clay and this phrase "throw it to the potter" was similar to throwing it to the dogs in effect.

Turn to Matt 27:1-10

**1 Now when morning had come, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put Him to death; 2 and they bound Him, and led Him away, and delivered Him up to Pilate the governor.**

**3 Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had been condemned, he felt remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, 4 saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See to that yourself!" 5 And he threw the pieces of silver into the sanctuary and departed; and he went away and hanged himself. 6 And the chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the temple treasury, since it is the price of blood." 7 And they counseled together and with the money bought the Potter's Field as a burial place for strangers. 8 For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. 9 Then that which was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one whose price had been set by the sons of Israel; 10 and they gave them for the Potter's Field, as the Lord directed me." NASB**

We know the priests couldn't put blood money into the treasury, but they did have an obligation to bury strangers and, obviously, this cost money. They used this money to pre-pay an expense and didn't have to take the money out of the temple treasury.

Look back now at exactly what Zechariah said. A lot of interesting details are mentioned here. The price of the betrayed; what was done with the thirty pieces of silver; the location of the transaction; where the money was thrown; who ends up with the money (the potter).

**Zech. 11:14 (ESV) Then I broke my second staff Union, annulling the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.**

It is here implied a breaking of unity between Judah and Israel. This

occurs after the first coming of Jesus. Notice the order of events here. This is *after* the incident with Judas.

**Zech. 11:15-17 (ESV) Then the Lord said to me, "Take once more the equipment of a foolish shepherd. [16] For behold, I am raising up in the land a shepherd who does not care for those being destroyed, or seek the young or heal the maimed or nourish the healthy, but devours the flesh of the fat ones, tearing off even their hoofs.**

**[17] "Woe to my worthless shepherd,  
who deserts the flock!  
May the sword strike his arm  
and his right eye!  
Let his arm be wholly withered,  
his right eye utterly blinded!"**

The word "foolish" in verse 15 can also be translated "worthless." There is a gap between verses 14 and 15 that has lasted about 2,000 years. This same gap occurs between verses 5 and 6 of Rev 12, and also in Daniel 9:26 and 27. Rev 12:5-6

**5 And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne. 6 And the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she might be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days. NASB**

Dan 9:26-27

**26 "Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. 27 "And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will**

**come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."  
NASB**

In verse 15 the word "again" (NASB) or "yet" (KJV) says to take once more these instruments of a foolish or worthless shepherd.

Verse 16 is in contrast to what a good shepherd would do. In contrast to a good shepherd, this one is going to be a foolish or worthless shepherd. Also notice that it is God that is going to raise him up. This worthless or foolish shepherd is a reference to the anti-christ. This shows us that no matter what happens and how bad things seem to be, God is still in control. The anti-christ is obviously Satan's man, however, Satan can't bring him into a position of power without God's permission. The way Zechariah words this verse it also implies that Satan may think he is the one in control, but in reality, he isn't – God is.

Turn to Rev 13:1-9

**1 And he stood on the sand of the seashore. And I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names. 2 And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority. 3 And I saw one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed and followed after the beast; 4 and they worshiped the dragon, because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?" 5 And there was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies; and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him. 6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name**

and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven. 7 And it was given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them; and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him. 8 And all who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain. 9 If anyone has an ear, let him hear. NASB

Why are there three less heads than horns? Turn to Dan 7:7-8

7 "After this I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrifying and extremely strong; and it had large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed, and trampled down the remainder with its feet; and it was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. 8 "While I was contemplating the horns, behold, another horn, a little one, came up among them, and three of the first horns were pulled out by the roots before it; and behold, this horn possessed eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth uttering great boasts. NASB

This is the fourth beast. Daniel has nothing to compare it with by physical description. The iron teeth link it back to the vision in Daniel 2. In verse 8, recognize this "little horn" is an eleventh horn – it is not one of the ten. Notice what he does! He uproots three horns. This is why in Rev 13 there are seven heads left.

Dan 7:9

**I kept looking Until thrones were set up,  
And the Ancient of Days took His seat;  
His vesture was like white snow,  
And the hair of His head like pure wool.  
His throne was ablaze with flames,  
Its wheels were a burning fire. NASB**

Notice "thrones" is plural. This is a vision of heaven at the final

judgment of the nations. Fire is a symbol of judgment.

Dan 7:20

**and the meaning of the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn which came up, and before which three of them fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth uttering great boasts, and which was larger in appearance than its associates. NASB**

He is the little horn, but he is the stronger of the bunch.

Dan 7:21

**"I kept looking, and that horn was waging war with the saints and overpowering them NASB**

Again he overcomes the saints. If we contrast this with Matt 16:18 we see this speaks of a time different than the church age. Notice also back in Zechariah 11:7 this person overcomes the saints. This does not refer to the church. Remember that Jesus said the gates of hell will not overcome the church. Look at Matt 16:18

**"And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it. NASB**

Looking back at our section in Zechariah and see he has been asked to role-play. Zechariah 11:12

**And I said to them, "If it is good in your sight, give me my wages; but if not, never mind!" So they weighed out thirty shekels of silver as my wages. NASB**

Who is the "me" in this verse? Judas! Jesus didn't get the silver, Judas did! Zechariah is in the role of Judas. He is acting out a circumstance.

Look back at verses 4-8 now.

**4 Thus says the LORD my God, "Pasture the flock doomed to slaughter. 5 "Those who buy them slay them and go**

unpunished, and each of those who sell them says, 'Blessed be the LORD, for I have become rich!' And their own shepherds have no pity on them. 6 "For I shall no longer have pity on the inhabitants of the land," declares the LORD; "but behold, I shall cause the men to fall, each into another's power and into the power of his king; and they will strike the land, and I shall not deliver them from their power." 7 So I pastured the flock doomed to slaughter, hence the afflicted of the flock. And I took for myself two staves: the one I called Favor, and the other I called Union; so I pastured the flock. 8 Then I annihilated the three shepherds in one month, for my soul was impatient with them, and their soul also was weary of me. NASB

Chuck Missler feels these three shepherds link to Dan 7. Remember three horns are uprooted. In Zech 11:15, Zechariah is told to take "again" the equipment of a foolish shepherd. In other words, they did it once, now they are going to do it again. They did it once when Jesus was on this earth and they will do it again with the anti-christ.

From verse 17 comes also the idea that possibly this anti-christ is Jewish. He is a shepherd and he deserts the flock. I believe this implies that he has to be Jewish if he is accepted as the Messiah. Remember John 5:43. John 5:43

**"I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another shall come in his own name, you will receive him. NASB**

Israel today is expecting a messiah. Perhaps the physical injuries described in Zech 11:17 are the result of this head wound the anti-christ recovers from. Rev 13:3

**And I saw one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed and followed after the beast; NASB**

## CHAPTER 12

The focus of chapter 12 is the time of Jacob's Trouble. In Matt 24:15-21 Jesus calls this time a tribulation. Matt 24:15-21

**15 "Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), 16 then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains; 17 let him who is on the housetop not go down to get the things out that are in his house; 18 and let him who is in the field not turn back to get his cloak. 19 "But woe to those who are with child and to those who nurse babes in those days! 20 "But pray that your flight may not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath; 21 for then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall. NASB**

It is yet future. See Dan 12:1

**"Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued. NASB**

This is the last half of the tribulation. Jer 30:5-7 calls this the time of Jacob's Trouble - Israel in the flesh. Jer 30:4-7

**5 "For thus says the LORD,  
'I have heard a sound of terror,  
Of dread, and there is no peace.  
6 'Ask now, and see,  
If a male can give birth.  
Why do I see every man  
With his hands on his loins, as a woman in childbirth?  
And why have all faces turned pale?  
7 'Alas! for that day is great,  
There is none like it;  
And it is the time of Jacob's distress,**

**But he will be saved from it. NASB**

Chapter 12 begins the second oracle. The first oracle was chapters 9-11. The first oracle has two sub-parts: the first advent (chapters 9-10) and His rejection (chapter 11). This second oracle is contained in chapters 12 through 14. It also contains two major sections: chapters 12-13 deal with the future deliverance and conversion of the nation Israel while chapter 14 is His second advent in glory and power on the planet earth.

**Zech. 12:1 (ESV) The burden of the word of the Lord concerning Israel: Thus declares the Lord, who stretched out the heavens and founded the earth and formed the spirit of man within him:**

This verse is written in the present tense. The NIV is a little more clear as to the original Hebrew. Zech 12:1

**An Oracle**

**This is the word of the LORD concerning Israel. The LORD, who stretches out the heavens, who lays the foundation of the earth, and who forms the spirit of man within him, declares: NIV**

God is continually doing this. Isaiah chapters 42 and 44 parallel this. God continues to hold things in order continually. There is order in the universe, held together by God. See Heb 1:3

**And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. NASB**

and Col 1:17

**And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. NASB**

**Zech. 12:2-3 (ESV) "Behold, I am about to make Jerusalem a cup of staggering to all the surrounding peoples. The siege of Jerusalem will also be against Judah. [3] On that day I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples. All who lift it will**

**surely hurt themselves. And all the nations of the earth will gather against it.**

This goes out to ALL people. This is a Global event. All the nations of the earth will gather against Jerusalem. This also includes the U.S. We support Israel now, but the time is coming when we won't.

What is the focus of all that is coming? Jerusalem. The survival of the free world will depend on Jerusalem. The word "cup" is sometimes translated "basin." In Ex 12:22 the same word is used in reference to the basin that held the Passover blood. In Rev we have seven angels with a sealed book or scroll, seven angels with trumpets and then seven angels with seven bowls of judgment. Here Jerusalem is compared to a cup of "trembling" or "staggering" (ESV). This siege will be against Judah and Jerusalem. The word Judah is used to identify the entire nation of Israel. Zech 14:3 is the climax of this. This is going to be a global event with all nations focused against Israel. This can be broken into basically four groups of power or forces. First, there is the "revived" Roman Empire as spoken of in Dan 2 and 7. This is the power from the West.

The second power is Assyrian power described in Daniel 11.

A third group is the Northern Confederacy, which is described in part in Ezekiel 38 and 39 – Russia and her allies.

The fourth group consists of the Kings of the East. Rev 16 hints of this fourth power.

**Zech. 12:4 (ESV) On that day, declares the Lord, I will strike every horse with panic, and its rider with madness. But for the sake of the house of Judah I will keep my eyes open, when I strike every horse of the peoples with blindness.**

Here are three plagues: terror, madness and blindness. These three plagues

are pronounced in Deut 28:28.

**The LORD will smite you with madness and with blindness and with bewilderment of heart; NASB**

Deuteronomy 28 deals with Israel and what happens if she obeys God and conversely, what happens if she doesn't.

**Zech. 12:5-8 (ESV) Then the clans of Judah shall say to themselves, 'The inhabitants of Jerusalem have strength through the Lord of hosts, their God.'**

**[6] "On that day I will make the clans of Judah like a blazing pot in the midst of wood, like a flaming torch among sheaves. And they shall devour to the right and to the left all the surrounding peoples, while Jerusalem shall again be inhabited in its place, in Jerusalem.**

**[7] "And the Lord will give salvation to the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem may not surpass that of Judah. [8] On that day the Lord will protect the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the feeblest among them on that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like God, like the angel of the Lord, going before them.**

The phrase the "torch and the sheaves" is an interesting phrase. See Judges 15:1-5

**1 But after a while, in the time of wheat harvest, it came about that Samson visited his wife with a young goat, and said, "I will go in to my wife in her room." But her father did not let him enter. 2 And her father said, "I really thought that you hated her intensely; so I gave her to your companion. Is not her younger sister more beautiful than she? Please let her be yours instead." 3 Samson then said to them, "This time I shall be blameless in regard to the Philistines when I do them harm." 4 And Samson went and caught three hundred foxes, and took torches, and turned the foxes tail to tail, and put one torch in the middle between two tails. 5 When he had set fire to the torches, he released the foxes into the**

**standing grain of the Philistines, thus burning up both the shocks and the standing grain, along with the vineyards and groves. NASB**

and II Sam 14:28-30

**28 Now Absalom lived two full years in Jerusalem, and did not see the king's face. 29 Then Absalom sent for Joab, to send him to the king, but he would not come to him. So he sent again a second time, but he would not come. 30 Therefore he said to his servants, "See, Joab's field is next to mine, and he has barley there; go and set it on fire." So Absalom's servants set the field on fire. NASB**

In Gen 37 sheaves are in Joseph's dream. Look at Gen 37:5-8

**5 Then Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more. 6 And he said to them, "Please listen to this dream which I have had; 7 for behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and lo, my sheaf rose up and also stood erect; and behold, your sheaves gathered around and bowed down to my sheaf. " 8 Then his brothers said to him, "Are you actually going to reign over us? Or are you really going to rule over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words. NASB**

These sheaves represent the twelve tribes of Israel. Ezek 38:10-12 identifies Israel as the heart of the world, Jerusalem in particular. Ezek 38:10-12

**10'Thus says the Lord GOD, "It will come about on that day, that thoughts will come into your mind, and you will devise an evil plan, 11 and you will say,' I will go up against the land of unwalled villages. I will go against those who are at rest, that live securely, all of them living without walls, and having no bars or gates, 12 to capture spoil and to seize plunder, to turn your hand against the waste places which are now inhabited, and against the people who are gathered from the nations, who have acquired cattle and goods, who live at the center of the world.' NASB**

Ezekiel chapter 38 deals with the whole world coming against Israel, specifically at Jerusalem.

The phrase "the day of the Lord" is also in Joel 1 and 2 and Zeph 1. We'll see this when we get to Zech 14.

**Zech. 12:9 (ESV) And on that day I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.**

"I" is the Lord and it is the Lord speaking. This is an awesome verse. In the mean time, we are to help Israel and pray for peace in Jerusalem.

**Zech. 12:10 (ESV) "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.**

The Lord is still speaking. Here, 800 years before Jesus came to this earth, He Himself said that He will be incarnate and that He will be pierced. They won't have their enemies destroyed as in verse 9, and when verse 9 is fulfilled, where will they look? Upon Him who they pierced. They will turn to Jesus. Capitol punishment at that time was stoning - not being pierced. They will look unto Jesus the same way as in Num 21:9.

**And Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on the standard; and it came about, that if a serpent bit any man, when he looked to the bronze serpent, he lived. NASB**

Jesus also explained this in John 3:14

**"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; 15 that whoever believes may in Him have eternal life. NASB**

The word "pour" occurs also in Is 44:3

**For I will pour out water on the thirsty land**

**And streams on the dry ground;  
I will pour out My Spirit on your offspring,  
And My blessing on your descendants; NASB**

Ezek 39:29

**"And I will not hide My face from them any longer, for I shall have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel," declares the Lord GOD. NASB**

The Lord is the one who does this pouring. Rom 9-11 tie in with this. The key starts in Rom 11:25-27

**25 For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery, lest you be wise in your own estimation, that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; 26 and thus all Israel will be saved; just as it is written,**

**"The Deliverer will come from Zion,  
He will remove ungodliness from Jacob."**

**27 "And this is My covenant with them,  
When I take away their sins." NASB**

Back to Zech. Where does Jesus do all of this? Jerusalem – the place where He was rejected. Another interesting note in this verse that we don't pick up in the English. Zechariah 12:10 has the Hebrew letters Aleph and Tav right after the word "Me". That is the Hebrew equivalent of the Greek Alpha and Omega – the first and the last. In Revelation 1:8 Jesus is identified as the Alpha and Omega (or Aleph and Tav). Zechariah is identifying for us that Jesus is the one being spoken of in this prophecy. In Revelation 1:8 Jesus said that was Him. The Aleph Tav in Zechariah 12:10 is clearly a title of the Messiah. (For more on this subject, read my book *The Mystery of the Alpha and Omega*.)

**Zech. 12:11 (ESV) On that day the mourning in Jerusalem will be as great as the mourning for Hadad-rimmon in the plain of Megiddo.**

This is probably a reference to the heaviest, most wide-spread mourning that Israel ever did. There was a king named Josiah who lead a revival. He was slain in 609 B.C. See 2 Chron 35:20-27

**20 After all this, when Josiah had set the temple in order, Neco king of Egypt came up to make war at Carchemish on the Euphrates, and Josiah went out to engage him. 21 But Neco sent messengers to him, saying, "What have we to do with each other, O King of Judah? I am not coming against you today but against the house with which I am at war, and God has ordered me to hurry. Stop for your own sake from interfering with God who is with me, that He may not destroy you." 22 However, Josiah would not turn away from him, but disguised himself in order to make war with him; nor did he listen to the words of Neco from the mouth of God, but came to make war on the plain of Megiddo. 23 And the archers shot King Josiah, and the king said to his servants, "Take me away, for I am badly wounded." 24 So his servants took him out of the chariot and carried him in the second chariot which he had, and brought him to Jerusalem where he died and was buried in the tombs of his fathers. And all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah. 25 Then Jeremiah chanted a lament for Josiah. And all the male and female singers speak about Josiah in their lamentations to this day. And they made them an ordinance in Israel; behold, they are also written in the Lamentations. 26 Now the rest of the acts of Josiah and his deeds of devotion as written in the law of the LORD, 27 and his acts, first to last, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah.**  
**NASB**

This occurred on the plain of Megiddo. He was the last hope of a declining kingdom and there was national mourning for him. The word "Hadad" actually means "a sun." It is an Assyrian word and Assyria worshipped the sun.

**Zech. 12:12-14 (ESV) The land shall mourn, each family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves; [13] the family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the Shimeites by itself, and their wives by themselves; [14] and all the families that are left, each by itself, and their wives by themselves.**

The deepest grief seeks seclusion. The nation goes into deep mourning. Why these four people? David the king, Nathan the prophet, Levi the priest, and Shimei, a Levite who was a teacher (Num 3:21) classifies different ranks. Look at Hos 3:4-5 Hos 3:4-5

**4 For the sons of Israel will remain for many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar, and without ephod or household idols. 5 Afterward the sons of Israel will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king; and they will come trembling to the LORD and to His goodness in the last days. NASB**

Israel will have no king until they seek God and David their king.

(Other references to this subject: Ez 37:1-28, Is 11:1-16, 35:1-10, Mic 4:1-8, Amos 9:11-15.)

## CHAPTER 13

We will see a contrast to 12:10a in chapter 13.

**Zech. 13:1-5 (ESV) "On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness.**

**[2] "And on that day, declares the Lord of hosts, I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, so that they shall be remembered no more. And also I will remove from the land the prophets and the spirit of uncleanness. [3] And if anyone again prophesies, his father and mother who bore him will say to him, 'You shall not live, for you speak lies in the name of the Lord.' And his father and mother who bore him shall pierce him through when he prophesies.**

**[4] "On that day every prophet will be ashamed of his vision when he prophesies. He will not put on a hairy cloak in order to deceive, [5] but he will say, 'I am no prophet, I am a worker of the soil, for a man sold me in my youth.'**

Some writers try and ascribe this writing of Zechariah to the Babylonian captivity. While in Babylon, they were in the heart of all idolatry. After their 70 year captivity they went back to the land. Israel has not had an idolatry problem as a nation since the Babylonian captivity. Prior to Babylon, idolatry was a major downfall of Israel. Zechariah here is addressing the cleansing of Israel from a problem that we don't see that they have. Here, Zech points out that Israel will be cleansed from false prophets and uncleanness.

We need to look a little at the theme of idolatry. See Deut 18:10-12

**10 There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, one who uses divination, one who practices witchcraft, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, 11 or one who casts a spell, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. 12 For whoever does these things is detestable to the LORD; and**

**because of these detestable things the LORD your God will drive them out before you. NASB**

In verse 12, God is going to do this again. What is going to happen is that God will cleanse Israel from occultic practices. Included in this list is horoscopes, mediums, fortune tellers and parapsychology. New age uses a lot of this. There isn't hardly a secular magazine or newspaper published today that doesn't contain horoscopes. Continue with Deut 18:20-22

**20 'But the prophet who shall speak a word presumptuously in My name which I have not commanded him to speak, or which he shall speak in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'**

**21 "And you may say in your heart, 'How shall we know the word which the LORD has not spoken?' 22 "When a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not come about or come true, that is the thing which the LORD has not spoken. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him. NASB**

This explains why most prophecies have a double fulfillment. What is implied here is there is no room for error if God is the one who speaks. This leads us to realize that very often God gives a smaller event that looks forward to a later event. This double application allows the people to apply Deut 18. The same theme also shows up in Jeremiah 14. False prophets will show up in Israel. Look at Jeremiah 14:11-16

**11 So the LORD said to me, "Do not pray for the welfare of this people. 12 "When they fast, I am not going to listen to their cry; and when they offer burnt offering and grain offering, I am not going to accept them. Rather I am going to make an end of them by the sword, famine and pestilence."**

**13 But, "Ah, Lord GOD!" I said, "Look, the prophets are telling them, 'You will not see the sword nor will you have famine, but I will give you lasting peace in this place.'" 14 Then the LORD said to me, "The prophets are prophesying falsehood in My name. I have neither sent them nor**

commanded them nor spoken to them; they are prophesying to you a false vision, divination, futility and the deception of their own minds. 15 "Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the prophets who are prophesying in My name, although it was not I who sent them — yet they keep saying, 'There shall be no sword or famine in this land' — by sword and famine those prophets shall meet their end! 16 "The people also to whom they are prophesying will be thrown out into the streets of Jerusalem because of the famine and the sword; and there will be no one to bury them — neither them, nor their wives, nor their sons, nor their daughters — for I shall pour out their own wickedness on them. NASB

The people Jeremiah was addressing were very complacent because of the message of the false prophets. True prophecy is not always popular! See also Matt 24:22-27

23 "Then if anyone says to you, 'Behold, here is the Christ,' or 'There He is,' do not believe him. 24 "For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect. 25 "Behold, I have told you in advance. 26 "If therefore they say to you, 'Behold, He is in the wilderness,' do not go forth, or, 'Behold, He is in the inner rooms,' do not believe them. 27 "For just as the lightning comes from the east, and flashes even to the west, so shall the coming of the Son of Man be. NASB

Verse 24 is a heavy verse. They will show great signs and wonders, i.e., they will work miracles! Miracles alone do not authenticate a ministry of God. Satan also can work miracles. Jesus says that even the elect would be deceived - if that were possible. This says to me two things. One, as a child of God, if I seek God's discernment as to miracles, He will show me the power behind them so I won't be deceived. Second, some of these miracles are going to be very convincing.

Look at Luke 21:8

**And He said, "See to it that you be not misled; for many will come in My**

**name, saying, 'I am He,' and, 'The time is at hand'; do not go after them.  
NASB**

Can we imagine someone in today's society doing this?

And 2 Thess 2:3-4

**3 Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God. NASB**

"It" in verse 3 is the Day of the Lord. The Day of the Lord will not come until there is a great falling away (apostasy). Continue on with 2 Thess 2:5-8

**5 Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things? 6 And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he may be revealed. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way. 8 And then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; NASB**

To "restrain" means to "hold back." I believe the "Restrainer" is the Holy Spirit and when He is removed, the church goes with Him. Look at Hag 2:5

**'As for the promise which I made you when you came out of Egypt, My Spirit is abiding in your midst; do not fear!' NASB**

The true believers on the earth hold in check the followers of the evil one. When the true believers are removed then Satan will have free reign to do as he wishes. Continue on with 2 Thess 2:9-10

**9 that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, 10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. NASB**

Are we spiritually ready for something like this to happen? We better be because its going to happen! They rejected Jesus and they will be given over to this. Satan is not going to be limited as to his miracle working power.

Continue on with 2 Thess 2:11-12

**11 And for this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they might believe what is false, 12 in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness. NASB**

God is using the false prophets to magnify the choice the world has already made. Part of the consequences of sin is deception, the inability to know the truth. These did not believe the truth, but delighted in unrighteousness. Read these verses from the NKJV 2 Thess 2:11-12

**11 And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, 12 that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness. NKJV**

Notice in verse 11 it refers to "the" lie. Chuck Missler says the original Greek points to a specific lie. That being the case, then "the" lie is a correct translation. What is "the" lie? I believe it would be denying that Jesus is God and attributing deity to the anti-christ. Let us return now to Zechariah 13.

**Zech. 13:1 (ESV) "On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness.**

The word for "uncleanliness" (NASB) or "impurity" (NIV) is used only here in scripture. It is in contrast to the Spirit of grace and supplication in 12:10a. This spirit of impurity is opposed to the Spirit of grace and supplication. Look at the following verses: Matt 12:43

**"Now when the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places, seeking rest, and does not find it. NASB**

Mark 5:8

**For He had been saying to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" NASB**

Luke 8:29

**For He had been commanding the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For it had seized him many times; and he was bound with chains and shackles and kept under guard; and yet he would burst his fetters and be driven by the demon into the desert. NASB**

Luke 11:24

**"When the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and not finding any, it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' NASB**

and finally Rev 13:11-18

**11 And I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke as a dragon. 12 And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed. 13 And he performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men. 14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life. 15 And there was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast might even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed. 16 And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand, or on their forehead, 17 and he provides that no one should be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name. 18 Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six. NASB**

The two horns are authority. "A lamb" is like the lamb in chapter 5. He spoke like the dragon in chapter 12:9 he is identified for us. Rev 12:9

**And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with**

**him. NASB**

The first beast in Rev 13 is the political power. In verse 13 of Rev 13, he works a miracle similar to the one that the two witnesses perform in chapter 11 of Rev. He has incredible supernatural power. Remember what we saw in 2 Thes 2:9. In Rev 13:14 the term "earth dwellers" is used as opposed to those who dwell in heaven.

See Rev 9:1-4.

**1 And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star from heaven which had fallen to the earth; and the key of the bottomless pit was given to him. 2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and smoke went up out of the pit, like the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by the smoke of the pit. 3 And out of the smoke came forth locusts upon the earth; and power was given them, as the scorpions of the earth have power. 4 And they were told that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, nor any green thing, nor any tree, but only the men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. NASB**

Verses 1-2 we can tie to Zechariah. In verse 3, these are not ordinary locusts because Prov 30:27 says locusts have no king and these locusts do have a king. In verse 4 we see they can only harm people who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads.

**Zech. 13:2 (ESV) "And on that day, declares the Lord of hosts, I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, so that they shall be remembered no more. And also I will remove from the land the prophets and the spirit of uncleanness.**

This is the only place in the Old Testament where demonic activity is prophesied to be banished. We take it for granted because of Rev 20. Here is a hint of Satan and his hosts being bound for 1,000 years.

Here is the solution. Having the solution we have a glimpse of what the problem is. This problem has not occurred in Israel yet. They don't have the kind of idolatry and false prophets that are about to surface and cause the delusions that are to come. The climactic form of this idolatry is that Israel will accept this leader as their Messiah. In Matt 12 they rejected Jesus and they will accept another as Messiah. The one they accept will also have supernatural power. Israel is ready for this. Remember that the Jews have always looked for a messiah that would rule on this earth. The anti-christ will be a world ruler and Israel will accept him as the messiah.

**Zech. 13:3-4 (ESV) And if anyone again prophesies, his father and mother who bore him will say to him, 'You shall not live, for you speak lies in the name of the Lord.' And his father and mother who bore him shall pierce him through when he prophesies.**

**[4] "On that day every prophet will be ashamed of his vision when he prophesies. He will not put on a hairy cloak in order to deceive,**

What's implied here is that if any false prophets are left over, they will deny it. False prophecy will be dealt with seriously. The prophets apparently wore a garment that would identify them as a prophet. Remember Elijah left his cloak for Elisha. 2 Kings 2:13-14

**13 He also took up the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and returned and stood by the bank of the Jordan. 14 And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and struck the waters and said, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" And when he also had struck the waters, they were divided here and there; and Elisha crossed over. NASB**

The "mantle" was a cloak. As false prophets they are wolves in sheep's clothing. The false prophets will adorn themselves as prophets and people will be deceived.

**Zech. 13:5 (ESV) but he will say, 'I am no prophet, I am a worker of the soil, for a man sold me in my youth.'**

True prophets will deny being a prophet.

**Zech. 13:6 (ESV) And if one asks him, 'What are these wounds on your back?' he will say, 'The wounds I received in the house of my friends.'**

Here is an interesting verse. Jesus had wounds on His hands. Were these wounds given to Him in the house of His disciples? What wounded Him? Unbelief! Look at John 20:24-28

**24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 The other disciples therefore were saying to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I shall see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."**

**26 And after eight days again His disciples were inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst, and said, "Peace be with you." 27 Then He said to Thomas, "Reach here your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand, and put it into My side; and be not unbelieving, but believing." 28 Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" NASB**

Jesus wasn't physically wounded in the house of His friends. The Romans crucified Him. Who did Jesus call His friends? In John 15 Jesus calls His followers His friends. He was very specific as to who was His friend. The only place we have mention of Jesus wounds is the incident with Thomas. Perhaps these wounds Jesus is referring to is unbelief. If we have a doubt, take it to Jesus because He doesn't want us to doubt.

Look ahead to Zech 13:9. **And 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.**

**I will say, 'They are my people';  
and they will say, 'The Lord is my God.' "**

Notice the last phrase. It is what Thomas said. What we see between verse 6 and verse 9 is in the national sense what Thomas did in the personal sense.

**Zech. 13:7 (ESV) "Awake, O sword, against my shepherd,  
against the man who stands next to me,"  
declares the Lord of hosts.**

**"Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered;  
I will turn my hand against the little ones.**

The term "next to me" implies nearest relation. God is speaking and He will take the sword against the one with the wounds in His hands. Jesus Himself interprets this for us in Matt 26:31.

**Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of Me  
this night, for it is written, 'I will strike down the shepherd,  
and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered.' NASB**

Jesus quotes Zech 13:7 and applies it to the disciples being scattered. Who does He say is the shepherd? He Himself.

**Zech. 13:8-9 (ESV)**

**In the whole land, declares the Lord,  
two thirds shall be cut off and perish,  
and one third shall be left alive.**

**[9] And 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.**

**I will say, 'They are my people';  
and they will say, 'The Lord is my God.' "**

Two-thirds are cut off. This is a period of Psalm 2, Rev 7 and Jer 30. One-third goes through the fire. This is the Time of Jacob's Trouble – the “great

tribulation.” Why two-thirds destroyed? A double portion was given the first-born in Deut 21:17.

**But he shall acknowledge the first-born, the son of the unloved, by giving him a double portion of all that he has, for he is the beginning of his strength; to him belongs the right of the first-born. NASB**

Death was the right of the first-born. Israel was the first-born, they get a double portion and thus, two-thirds of them will die. We have a tendency to think of death as a bad thing. In reality, what could be greater than to be in the presence of God in heaven and to know that we will be there for all eternity? Isn't that the great hope of the church?

## CHAPTER 14

Chapter 14 confirms the need to take all of Zechariah literally. It is consistent with the first 13 chapters.

**Zech. 14:1 (ESV) Behold, a day is coming for the Lord, when the spoil taken from you will be divided in your midst.**

Rev 5:1 - 19:16 emphasizes exactly what this verse refers to: The Day of the Lord. Zechariah is speaking to Jerusalem. This is saying their spoil or plunder will be divided in the midst of them. The enemies of Jerusalem will initially prevail.

**Zech. 14:2 (ESV) For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city shall be taken and the houses plundered and the women raped. Half of the city shall go out into exile, but the rest of the people shall not be cut off from the city.**

Notice this verse is in the first person singular. The Lord is the one who is going to do this. Ezekiel 38-39 describe this event.

Look at Rev 16:13-14

**13 And I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs; 14 for they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty. NASB**

Here we have a satanic trinity that has the power to perform miracles and what do they do? They influence all of the kings in the world to gather them together for a battle on "the great day of God Almighty."

Continue with Rev 16:15

**("Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his garments, lest he walk about naked and men**

**see his shame.") NASB**

The guards would check up on the watchman. If they found them asleep, they would set their clothes on fire and they would have to flee naked. Then comes verse 16. Rev 16:16

**And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew is called Har-Magedon. NASB**

From this verse, we draw a conclusion that the battle is the Battle of Armageddon. The battle isn't here, it is in Jerusalem. Armageddon is just the gathering place.

Back to Zechariah 14:2. I believe this gathering in Rev 16 refers to this event. This idea is all through scripture. All Rev 16 does is name the gathering place. A description of the events are here and also in Joel 3 and 4, Dan 9, Is 4 and 31, Luke 21, 24, Matt 24:15-22. The focus of these passages is that the world gathers against Jerusalem. Jerusalem will be the focal point.

The half the city being taken into captivity destroys the idea this was fulfilled in 70 A.D. Rome destroyed Jerusalem, it didn't take half of it into captivity.

See Jer 30:5-7.

**5 "For thus says the LORD,  
'I have heard a sound of terror,  
Of dread, and there is no peace.  
6 'Ask now, and see,  
If a male can give birth.  
Why do I see every man  
With his hands on his loins, as a woman in childbirth?  
And why have all faces turned pale?  
7 'Alas! for that day is great,  
There is none like it;  
And it is the time of Jacob's distress,  
But he will be saved from it. NASB**

Here is given the Old Testament name of this period. The focus of the tribulation is Jacob. Who is Jacob? What is Jacob's other name? Israel! "None will be like it" tells us this period of time will be unique.

**Zech. 14:3 (ESV) Then the Lord will go out and fight against those nations as when he fights on a day of battle.**

"Then," that is after verses 1-2. There is an apparent tactical victory over Jerusalem. Who is going out to fight? God. Then it says in the KJV "as He fought in the day of battle." The KJV has it in the past tense. The ESV doesn't clearly bring this out. When did the Lord fight "in the day of battle?" Look at Ex 14:13-14

**13 But Moses said to the people, "Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the LORD which He will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever. 14 The LORD will fight for you while you keep silent." NASB**

Look also at Josh 5:13-15

**13 Now it came about when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing opposite him with his sword drawn in his hand, and Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us or for our adversaries?" 14 And he said, "No, rather I indeed come now as captain of the host of the LORD." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and bowed down, and said to him, "What has my lord to say to his servant?" 15 And the captain of the LORD'S host said to Joshua, "Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so. NASB**

This encounter in Josh 5 is with God because Joshua worships Him and He allows it. Notice also the phrase in verse 15. He is reminding Joshua this is the same person Moses spoke with at the burning bush.

See also Ex 15:3

**"The LORD is a warrior;  
The LORD is His name. NASB**

And Num 21:14a

**Therefore it is said in the Book of the Wars of the LORD, NASB**

**Zech. 14:4 (ESV) On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives that lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward.**

This is the only place in scripture where the Mt. of Olives is mentioned by name. II Sam 15 has the phrase the "ascent of Olives". It appears here (Zechariah) in reference to the feet of Jesus. Why the Mt. of Olives? It was on the Mt. of Olives the Glory of God left the temple and will return to the temple there. See Ez 11:22-23

**22 Then the cherubim lifted up their wings with the wheels beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel hovered over them. 23 And the glory of the LORD went up from the midst of the city, and stood over the mountain which is east of the city. NASB**

He leaves the Mt. of Olives and in Ez 43:12 is a description of His returning to the Mt. of Olives. Ezek 43:12

**"This is the law of the house: its entire area on the top of the mountain all around shall be most holy. Behold, this is the law of the house. NASB**

There is a geological fault on the Mt. of Olives. Jesus ascended to the Father from the Mt. of Olives and He will return to earth there. It appears as though there will be an earthquake when He does return. Look at Rev 16:17-21

**17 And the seventh angel poured out his bowl upon the air; and a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne, saying, "It is done." 18 And there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder; and there was a great earthquake, such as there had not been since man came to be upon the earth, so great an earthquake was it, and so mighty. 19 And the great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath. 20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. 21 And huge hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, came down from heaven upon men; and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, because its plague**

**was extremely severe. NASB**

Could it be this is the return of the Messiah?

**Zech. 14:5 (ESV) And you shall flee to the valley of my mountains, for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal. And you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the Lord my God will come, and all the holy ones with him.**

Who is the "you" mentioned here? The inhabitants of Jerusalem. Here is another mention of an earthquake in the days of Uzziah. Josephus Vol 9, chap 10 paragraph 4 records it.

Accordingly, when a remarkable day was come, and a general festival was to be celebrated, he put on the holy garment, and went into the temple to offer incense to God upon the golden altar, which he was prohibited to do by Azariah the high priest, who had fourscore priests with him, and who told him that it was not lawful for him to offer sacrifice, and that "none besides the posterity of Aaron were permitted so to do." And when they cried out, that he must go out of the temple, and not transgress against God, he was wroth at them, and threatened to kill them, unless they would hold their peace. In the meantime, a great earthquake shook the ground, and a rent was made in the temple, and the bright rays of the sun shone through it, and fell upon the king's face, insomuch that the leprosy seized upon him immediately; and before the city, at a place called Eroge, half the mountain broke off from the rest on the west, and rolled itself four furlongs, and stood still at the east mountain, till the roads, as well as the king's gardens, were spoiled by the obstruction.

The KJV says "saints" while the ESV says "holy ones." I Thes 3:13, Jude 14, II Thes 1:10, Rev 19:11-16 all speak of us (saints) returning with Jesus. 1 Thess 3:11-13

**11 Now may our God and Father Himself and Jesus our Lord direct our way to you; 12 and may the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love for one another, and for all men, just as we also do for you; 13 so that He may establish your hearts unblamable in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints. NASB**

**Jude 14-15**

**14 And about these also Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, 15 to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him." NASB**

**2 Thess 1:9-10**

**9 And these will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, 10 when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed — for our testimony to you was believed. NASB**

**Rev 19:11-16**

**11 And I saw heaven opened; and behold, a white horse, and He who sat upon it is called Faithful and True; and in righteousness He judges and wages war. 12 And His eyes are a flame of fire, and upon His head are many diadems; and He has a name written upon Him which no one knows except Himself. 13 And He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood; and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. 15 And from His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may smite the nations; and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. 16 And on**

**His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." NASB**

Matt 16:27, Mark 8:38, and Luke 9:26 we see His angels also come with Him. Matt 16:27

**"For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and will then recompense every man according to his deeds. NASB**

Mark 8:38

**"For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." NASB**

Luke 9:26

**"For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when He comes in His glory, and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. NASB**

Remember Zech 13:6 when we spoke of the wounds at the house of His friends? The disbelief of Thomas. What was Thomas' response to seeing Jesus? Thomas referred to Jesus as "my Lord and my God." Israel's sin was that of disbelief also. What is their response here? He is referred to as "the Lord and my God." No disbelief here!

**Zech. 14:6-7 (ESV) On that day there shall be no light, cold, or frost. [7] And there shall be a unique day, which is known to the Lord, neither day nor night, but at evening time there shall be light.**

Look at the following verses:

Isa 13:9-10

**9 Behold, the day of the LORD is coming,  
Cruel, with fury and burning anger,**

**To make the land a desolation;  
And He will exterminate its sinners from it.  
10 For the stars of heaven and their constellations  
Will not flash forth their light;  
The sun will be dark when it rises,  
And the moon will not shed its light. NASB**

Isa 24:23

**Then the moon will be abashed and the sun ashamed,  
For the LORD of hosts will reign on  
Mount Zion and in Jerusalem,  
And His glory will be before His elders. NASB**

Joel 3:14-15

**14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision!  
For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.  
15 The sun and moon grow dark,  
And the stars lose their brightness. NASB**

Matt 24:29-30

**29 "But immediately after the tribulation of those days the  
sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the  
heavens will be shaken, 30 and then the sign of the Son of  
Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the  
earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming  
on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory. NASB**

Zechariah speaks of light as collapsing and becoming dense. Scientists have discovered things we call "black holes." It is so dense even light cannot leave it. This passage tells us it will be dark at first, but light in the evening. Only the Lord knows the day. See Acts 1:7

**He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs  
which the Father has fixed by His own authority; NASB**

"Epochs" means "a new beginning." There is a set time for redemption to be fulfilled. Jesus also mentioned this in Mark 13:32

**But of that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in**

heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. NASB

**Zech. 14:8 (ESV)** On that day living waters shall flow out from Jerusalem, half of them to the eastern sea and half of them to the western sea. It shall continue in summer as in winter.

Compare Is 4:3-4 with Is 4:5-6 Isa 4:3-4

**3** And it will come about that he who is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy — everyone who is recorded for life in Jerusalem. **4** When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and purged the bloodshed of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and the spirit of burning, NASB

Isa 4:5-6

**5** then the LORD will create over the whole area of Mount Zion and over her assemblies a cloud by day, even smoke, and the brightness of a flaming fire by night; for over all the glory will be a canopy. **6** And there will be a shelter to give shade from the heat by day, and refuge and protection from the storm and the rain. NASB

Is 35:2-6 with Is 35:1, 7-10, Isa 35:2-6

**2** It will blossom profusely  
And rejoice with rejoicing and shout of joy.  
The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,  
The majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They will see the glory of the LORD,  
The majesty of our God.  
**3** Encourage the exhausted, and strengthen the feeble.  
**4** Say to those with anxious heart,  
"Take courage, fear not.  
Behold, your God will come with vengeance;  
The recompense of God will come,

**But He will save you."**

**5 Then the eyes of the blind will be opened,  
And the ears of the deaf will be unstopped.**

**6 Then the lame will leap like a deer,  
And the tongue of the dumb will shout for joy.  
For waters will break forth in the wilderness  
And streams in the Arabah. NASB**

Isa 35:1

**The wilderness and the desert will be glad,  
And the Arabah will rejoice and blossom;  
Like the crocus NASB**

Isa 35:7-10

**7 And the scorched land will become a pool,  
And the thirsty ground springs of water;  
In the haunt of jackals, its resting place,  
Grass becomes reeds and rushes.  
8 And a highway will be there, a roadway,  
And it will be called the Highway of Holiness.  
The unclean will not travel on it,  
But it will be for him who walks that way,  
And fools will not wander on it.  
9 No lion will be there,  
Nor will any vicious beast go up on it;  
These will not be found there.  
But the redeemed will walk there,  
10 And the ransomed of the LORD will return,  
And come with joyful shouting to Zion,  
With everlasting joy upon their heads.  
They will find gladness and joy,  
And sorrow and sighing will flee away. NASB**

All through the scripture real water and spiritual nourishment go together.

Zechariah speaks here of literal water and spiritual water. In Jer 2 and 17, Jeremiah speaks of the sin of Israel as rejecting the living water and going after cisterns that are broken. Jer 2:13

**"For My people have committed two evils:**

**They have forsaken Me,  
The fountain of living waters,  
To hew for themselves cisterns,  
Broken cisterns,  
That can hold no water. NASB**

Two things always happen when we turn from God:

1. we forsake Him
2. We give in to the temporal instead of the eternal.

Jer 17:13

**O LORD, the hope of Israel,  
All who forsake Thee will be put to shame.  
Those who turn away on earth will be written down,  
Because they have forsaken the fountain of living water, even the  
LORD. NASB**

This is also the result of a topographical change.

**Zech. 14:9 (ESV) And the Lord will be king over all the earth. On that day the Lord will be one and his name one.**

To the Jewish mind, this would suggest Deut 6:4-5.

**4 "Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! 5 "And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. NASB**

**Zech. 14:10-11 (ESV) The whole land shall be turned into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. But Jerusalem shall remain aloft on its site from the Gate of Benjamin to the place of the former gate, to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of**

**Hananel to the king's winepresses. [11] And it shall be inhabited, for there shall never again be a decree of utter destruction. Jerusalem shall dwell in security.**

Arabah is the deepest geological rift on the face of the earth. It goes from Galilee through the Dead Sea. At the Dead Sea, it is 1,300 feet below sea level. The gates mentioned in verse 10 are all in Jerusalem. Geba to Rimmon are boarders of Judah.

Jerusalem will be lifted up as mentioned in Is 2:2 and Micah 4:1-2. Isa 2:2

**Now it will come about that  
In the last days,  
The mountain of the house of the LORD  
Will be established as the chief of the mountains,  
And will be raised above the hills;  
And all the nations will stream to it. NASB**

This is yet to come. It is after the church age.

Mic 4:1-2

**And it will come about in the last days  
That the mountain of the house of the LORD  
Will be established as the chief of the mountains.  
It will be raised above the hills,  
And the peoples will stream to it.  
2 And many nations will come and say,  
"Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD  
And to the house of the God of Jacob,  
That He may teach us about His ways  
And that we may walk in His paths."  
For from Zion will go forth the law,  
Even the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. NASB**

Micah is speaking of a time of restoration that is yet to come. These verses are almost identical with Isaiah 2:2-3.

**Zech. 14:12 (ESV) And this shall be the plague with which the Lord will strike all the peoples that wage war against Jerusalem: their flesh will rot while they are still standing on their feet, their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongues will rot in their mouths.**

This idea of a plague here would be in the context of the seven last plagues mentioned in Revelation 15-16. Also, what happens here is instantaneous. The flesh is gone before the skeleton can fall. A neutron bomb will do this. This is an anti-personal weapon. This is different than what Ezekiel mentions in 38-39. What Zechariah describes is something that destroys protein, but doesn't bother anything else. What Ezekiel describes is something that destroys by blast pressure and leaves the entire area radioactive for a long time.

**Zech. 14:13 (ESV) And on that day a great panic from the Lord shall fall on them, so that each will seize the hand of another, and the hand of the one will be raised against the hand of the other.**

This confession is described earlier (Zech 12:4).

**Zech. 14:14-15 (ESV) Even Judah will fight against Jerusalem. And the wealth of all the surrounding nations shall be collected, gold, silver, and garments in great abundance. [15] And a plague like this plague shall fall on the horses, the mules, the camels, the donkeys, and whatever beasts may be in those camps.**

The animals also are gone - the same as man in verse 12, but clothing remains as well as silver and gold. Garments are often mentioned in the lists of spoil because it was an important item of wealth in the east.

**Zech. 14:16 (ESV) Then everyone who survives of all the nations that have come against Jerusalem shall go up year after year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to**

## **keep the Feast of Booths.**

The Feast of Booths (Tabernacles) is the only Mosaic feast mentioned in the millennium. Celebrating the Feast of Booths was not optional. This was mandatory. This feast was/is celebrated after the harvest was over. See Rev 21:3

**And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He shall dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be among them, NASB**

This is the Feast of Tabernacles being celebrated after all else is over and the saints are in the very presence of God for all eternity.

**Zech. 14:17-21 (ESV) And if any of the families of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, there will be no rain on them. [18] And if the family of Egypt does not go up and present themselves, then on them there shall be no rain; there shall be the plague with which the Lord afflicts the nations that do not go up to keep the Feast of Booths. [19] This shall be the punishment to Egypt and the punishment to all the nations that do not go up to keep the Feast of Booths.**

**[20] And on that day there shall be inscribed on the bells of the horses, "Holy to the Lord." And the pots in the house of the Lord shall be as the bowls before the altar. [21] And every pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be holy to the Lord of hosts, so that all who sacrifice may come and take of them and boil the meat of the sacrifice in them. And there shall no longer be a trader in the house of the Lord of hosts on that day.**

Here is an interesting judgment on those who fail to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. Tabernacles was celebrated when the harvest was over. This feast was when the Lord "tabernacles" with His own. See again Rev 21:3

**And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He shall dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be among them, NASB**

In Rev 21:3 there is a reference to Jesus dwelling with men. The word translated "will dwell" is the same word as "tabernacle." The celebration of this feast was not an option.

In verse 20, the phrase "Holy to the Lord" is the same phrase that was on Aaron's turban in Ex 28:36-37.

**36 "You shall also make a plate of pure gold and shall engrave on it, like the engravings of a seal, 'Holy to the LORD.' 37 "And you shall fasten it on a blue cord, and it shall be on the turban; it shall be at the front of the turban. NASB**

Verses 17-19 tell us that there will be disobedience even in that age. Perhaps what David said in Ps 66:3 applies to this. Ps 66:3

**Say to God, "How awesome are Thy works!  
Because of the greatness of Thy power Thine enemies will give  
feigned obedience to Thee. NASB**

The word "CANAANITE" in verse 21 has a footnote that this is a merchant. The word is KENAANIY (Ken-oh-an-ee') and means a "Canaanite, merchant, trafficker." In Rev 18 at the fall of Babylon, it refers to three groups: Kings, merchants and sea captains - world trade. The name stands for the Phoenicians of the north of Canaan, who were the most noted mariners and merchants of the ancient world. They were known for their ungodly ways, and represent here an unholy and ungodly person. These verses present a negative way of saying that all will be holy. If all the vessels of the sanctuary will be on the same plane of holiness because of universal cleansing, then even the ordinary pot throughout the nation will be equally dedicated to the Lord.

### Summary

We saw Jesus in:

Chapter 1 as the riding one.

Chapter 2 as the measuring one.

Chapter 3 as the cleansing one.  
Chapter 4 as the empowering one.  
Chapter 5 as the judging one.  
Chapter 6 as the crowned one.  
Chapter 7 as the rebuking one.  
Chapter 8 as the restoring one.  
Chapter 9 as the kingly one.  
Chapter 10 as the blessing one.  
Chapter 11 as the shepherding one.  
Chapter 12 as the returning one.  
Chapter 13 as the smitten one.  
Chapter 14 as the reigning one.