Chapter 1-8During the building of the TempleChapter 9-14After the Temple was completed

Key Verse

Zechariah 1:14 So the angel that communed with me said unto me, Cry thou, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; I am jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great jealousy.

O.T. 3 offices anointed by God: Prophet – speak for God / Priest – represent people to God / King – rule for God

Have a King – God's will, not God's time

Deuteronomy 17:14-17 When thou art come unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, and shalt possess it, and shalt dwell therein, and shalt say, I will set a king over me, like as all the nations that *are* about me; Thou shalt in any wise set *him* king over thee, whom the LORD thy God shall choose: *one* from among thy brethren shalt thou set king over thee: thou mayest not set a stranger over thee, which *is* not thy brother. But he shall not multiply horses to himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt, to the end that he should multiply horses: forasmuch as the LORD hath said unto you, Ye shall henceforth return no more that way. Neither shall he multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away: neither shall he greatly multiply to himself silver and gold.

What king was to do

Deuteronomy 17:18-20 And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of *that which is* before the priests the Levites: And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them: That his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not aside from the commandment, *to* the right hand, or *to* the left: to the end that he may prolong *his* days in his kingdom, he, and his children, in the midst of Israel.

Man rebels against God & rejects God's timing - instead chooses a king 'of the people' - King Saul

1 Samuel 8:6-7 But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD. And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.

1 Samuel 8:11-17 And he said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: **He will take** your sons, and appoint *them* for himself, for his chariots, and *to be* his horsemen; and *some* shall run before his chariots. And he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and *will set them* to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots. And he will take your daughters *to be* confectionaries, and *to be* cooks, and *to be* bakers. And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, *even* the best *of them*, and give

them to his servants. And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants. And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put *them* to his work. He will take the tenth of your sheep: and ye shall be his servants.

1 Samuel 8:19-20 Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us; That we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles.

David – King Chosen by God ***

1 Samuel 16:6-13 And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD'S anointed *is* before him. But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for *the LORD seeth* not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart. Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all *thy* children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither. And he sent, and brought him in. Now he *was* ruddy, *and* withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this *is* he. Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

King Saul – 40 years / King David – 40 years / King Solomon – 40 years

Kingdom divided at death of Solomon via Reheboam -

Heavy hand of Reheboam caused a split - majority split -

1 Kings 12:19 So Israel rebelled against the house of David unto this day

Jerusalem was where Temple was – end result – all kings were evil as they departed from Temple

N. Kingdom	Israel	10 tribes		ia is capital	All evil kings
S. Kingdom	Judah	2 tribe		lem is capital	Some good, some bad kings
N.Kingdom	Israel	Assyrian Capti		722 B.C.	Hosea, broken-hearted prophet
S. Kingdom	Judah	Babylonian Ca		606 B.C.	Jeremiah, weeping prophet
Return to Jerusalem		536 B.C.	Nehemiah		Haggai 1:1; Zech. 1:1
Rebuild Temple		516 B.C.	Haggai, Zechariah		

Haggai 2:4 Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, saith the LORD; and be strong, O Joshua, son of Josedech, the high priest; and be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the LORD, and work: for I *am* with you, saith the LORD of hosts:

Haggai 2:18-19 Consider now from this day and upward, from the four and twentieth day of the ninth *month, even* from the day that the foundation of the LORD'S temple was laid, consider *it*. Is the seed yet in the barn? yea, as yet the vine, and the fig tree, and the pomegranate, and the olive tree, hath not brought forth: from this day will I bless *you*.

Zech. 1:14 ... Thus saith the LORD of hosts; I am jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great jealousy.

Zech. 1:17 Cry yet, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; My cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad; and the LORD shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem.

Zech. 2:4-5 ...Jerusalem shall be inhabited *as* towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle... saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.

Zechariah Chapter 1

Zechariah, the prophet was slain in the sanctuary.

Matthew 23:35 That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar.

Call to Repentance	1:1-7		
1 st Vision	1:8-17	Vision given 1:8-13	Vision explained 1:14-17
2 nd Vision	1:18-21		

Call to Repentance 1:1-7

Look Back & Learn: Message given to their fathers. Read Zech. 1:2, 1:4-5. God had sent Jeremiah, the weeping prophet and other prophets, but they were ignored.

2 Chronicles 36:15-16 And the LORD God of their fathers sent to them by his messengers, rising up betimes, and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place: But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till *there was* no remedy.

We must learn from men and women in Bible. God shows us humanity as it truly is and He shows us life from the viewpoint of eternity. If you will not learn from others, you will suffer same errors.

Message of Repentance

Zechariah 1:3 Therefore say thou unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; **Turn ye unto me**, saith the LORD of hosts, **and I will turn unto you**, saith the LORD of hosts.

Warning not to repeat the errors of their fathers -- Turn ye from your evil doings...

God's call to return to Him is accompanied by His welcoming arms.

Hosea 6:1 Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.

Luke 15:20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

Humans can be judgmental – God is loving and compassionate. An honest and sincere broken heart, He will not reject. God loves to forgive.

The last words Jesus gave on earth before ascending to heaven was the Great Commission. However in 90 A.D., He appeared one more time to the church, and His message was one of repentance.

Revelation 2:5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

Revelation 3:19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

Zechariah 1:5 Your fathers, where *are* they? and the prophets, do they live for ever? We must remind ourselves that only that which lasts for ever has real value.

1st Vision 1:8-17 1st Vision: The man on the Red Horse (Vs. 7 begins 8 visions)

The Vision Itself 1:8-13

Zechariah 1:9 Then said I, O my lord, **what** *are* **these**? And the angel that talked with me said unto me, I will shew thee what these *be*.

Heavenly beings look "to and fro..."

Zechariah 1:10-11 ... These *are they* whom the LORD hath sent to walk to and fro through the earth... and said, We have walked to and fro through the earth, and, behold, all the earth sitteth still, and is at rest.

2 Chronicles 16:9 For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth...

Job 1:7 And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

Job 2:2 And the LORD said unto Satan, From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

Zechariah 4:10 ... they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.

The Report: Gentile nations are at rest Zech. 1:11

Angel of the Lord intercedes for Israel Zech. 1:12

Are not the 70 years of desolation to be done? Yes - the Babylonian Captivity has come to an end – 70 years long.

Jeremiah 25:11-12 And this whole land shall be a desolation, *and* an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years. And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, *that* I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith the LORD, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it perpetual desolations.

Jeremiah 29:10 For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.

Daniel 9:2 In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

Explanation of the Vision 1:14-17

Time of blessing on Jerusalem is at hand

Zechariah 1:14 So the angel that communed with me said unto me, Cry thou, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; I am jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great jealousy.

Time of judgment on the heathen is soon to come

Zechariah 1:15 And I am very sore displeased with the heathen *that are* at ease: for I was but a little displeased, and they helped forward the affliction.

God will now bless Israel again

Zechariah 1:16-17 Therefore thus saith the LORD; I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies: my house shall be built in it, saith the LORD of hosts, and a line shall be stretched forth upon Jerusalem...and the LORD shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem.

God restored Israel, spared Nineveh in Jonah's time, forgave King David, still used Peter after his denial... God is a God of second chance.

> 2nd Vision 1:18-21

The nations that have come against Israel will now be judged by God

The nations that have scattered Judah are the four horns

Zechariah 1:19 And I said unto the angel that talked with me, What *be* these? And he answered me, These *are* the horns which have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem.

Nations move in power as with horns. Here is Media-Persia & Greece from the book of Daniel:

Daniel 8:2-5 And I saw in a vision; and...behold, there stood before the river a ram which had *two* horns: and the *two* horns *were* high; but one *was* higher than the other, and the higher came up last. I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him...And...behold, an he goat came...and the goat *had* a notable horn between his eyes.

The four carpenters will be used to judge the horns

Zechariah 1:21 Then said I, What come these to do? And he spake, saying, These *are* the horns which have scattered Judah, so that no man did lift up his head: but <u>these</u> are <u>come to fray them</u>, to <u>cast out</u> the horns of the Gentiles, which lifted up *their* horn over the land of Judah to scatter it.

Events on earth occur within the will of man; however, a Sovereign God oversees and controls major events with His divine plan. For us today, we are waiting for:

Revelation 6:1 And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see.

- > **3**rd **Vision** Reminder of God's future blessing on Jerusalem
- Go measure Jerusalem 2:1-2

Zechariah 2:1-2 I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand. Then said I, Whither goest thou? And he said unto me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what *is* the breadth thereof, and what *is* the length thereof.

God's city – 70 years of desolation... but now restoration – go measure it...

Psalms 87:2-3 The LORD loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. Selah.

God's city / God's Temple / God's people - Israel of O.T.; saved of N.T. / God's house - the church

God's love for Jerusalem & Israel

Zechariah 2:8 For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you **toucheth the apple of his eye**.

The pupil is the tiny opening of the iris that lets light in and is the vital organ of the eye. Hence, anything dear and precious is like the pupil of the eye.

Like a sinner saved by grace – taken from Rags to Riches! O, the Love of God – unmeasurable!

Deuteronomy 32:10 He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he <u>led him</u> about, he <u>instructed him</u>, he <u>kept him as the apple of his eye</u>.

Psalms 17:8 Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings,

Isaiah 49:14-16 But Zion said, The LORD hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me. Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, **I have graven thee upon the palms of** *my* **hands**; thy walls *are* continually before me.

• God will bless Jerusalem 2:3-5

Zechariah 2:4-5 ...Jerusalem shall be inhabited *as* towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein: For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.

No need for walls as the LORD will be a wall of fire around and glory within... Today – what do we have within & without – the people of God (us – the saved)

John 17:23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one... 1 Cor. 3:16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? **Eph. 4:30** And grieve not the **holy Spirit of God**, whereby **ye are sealed** unto the day of redemption. John 10:28-29 And <u>I give unto them eternal life</u>; and they <u>shall never perish</u>, **neither shall any** *man* **pluck them out of my hand**. My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and **no** *man* **is able to pluck** *them* **out of my Father's hand**.

• Return to the Land 2:6-9

God's people may leave Him, but He will never leave His people

Hebrews 13:5 *Let your* conversation *be* without covetousness; *and be* content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will **never** leave thee, nor forsake thee. (I Will = Promise!)

God has chastened them, but will now bless them.

Zechariah 2:6 Ho, ho, *come forth*, and flee from the land of the north, saith the LORD: for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven, saith the LORD.

Zephaniah 3:15 The LORD hath taken away thy judgments, he hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, *even* the LORD, *is* in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more.

Time to leave Babylon – a life of comfort and return to Jerusalem. Encouraged to leave by, "Ho, ho..."

Zechariah 2:6 Ho, ho, come forth, and flee from the land of the north, saith the LORD...

Isaiah 48:20 Go ye forth of Babylon, flee ye from the Chaldeans, with a voice of singing declare ye, tell this, utter it *even* to the end of the earth; say ye, The LORD hath redeemed his servant Jacob.

God's love even during times of chastening – 70 years are over, now leave Babylon for blessings...

Stay in Babylon Jer. 29:1-11; Now leave Babylon & return to Jerusalem Jer. 50:8, 51;6, 51:9, 51:44-45

• Closing 2:10-13

What would make a person sing & rejoice?

Zech. 2:10-11 Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the LORD. And many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people: and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto thee.

Ponder these verses – they are full of great truths via meditation. We rejoice in God – He rejoices in us!

How can this be so? The love of God exceeds all we would ever think it to be:

Zephaniah 3:14 Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem.

Zephaniah 3:17 The LORD thy God in the midst of thee *is* mighty; he will save, <u>he will rejoice over thee</u> with joy; he will rest in his love, <u>he will joy over thee with singing</u>.

Psalms 40:1-3 To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David. I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He **brought me up also out of an horrible pit**, out of the miry clay, and **set my feet upon a rock**, *and* **established my goings**. And **he hath put a new song in my mouth**, *even* praise unto our God: many shall see *it*, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.

Ephesians 5:18-20 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but **be filled with the Spirit**; Speaking to yourselves in **psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord**; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Psalms 33:1-4 Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: *for* praise is comely for the upright. Praise the LORD with harp: **sing unto him** with the psaltery *and* an instrument of ten strings. **Sing unto him a new song;** play skilfully with a loud noise. For the word of the LORD *is* right; and all his works *are done* in truth.

A future prophecy:

Zechariah 2:12 And the LORD shall inherit Judah his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again.

Ezekiel 48:35 *It was* round about eighteen thousand *measures*: and the name of the city from *that* day *shall be*, The LORD *is* there.

Other nations will also be blessed

Zechariah 2:11 And many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people...

A glorious future for Jerusalem, but also for many nations.

Isa 19:18 In that day shall five cities in the land of Egypt speak the language of Canaan, and swear to the LORD of hosts; one shall be called, The city of destruction.

Isa 19:19 In that day **shall there be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt**, and a pillar at the border thereof to the LORD.

Isa 19:20 And it shall be for a sign and for a witness unto the LORD of hosts in the land of Egypt: for they shall cry unto the LORD because of the oppressors, and he shall send them a saviour, and a great one, and he shall deliver them.

Isa 19:21 And **the LORD shall be known to Egypt, and the Egyptians shall know the LORD in that day**, and shall do sacrifice and oblation; yea, they shall vow a vow unto the LORD, and perform *it*.

Isa 19:22 And the LORD shall smite Egypt: he shall smite and heal *it*: and they shall return *even* to the LORD, and he shall be intreated of them, and shall heal them.

Isa 19:23 In that day shall there be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian shall come into Egypt, and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians shall serve with the Assyrians.

Isa 19:24 In that day shall Israel be the third with Egypt and with Assyria, *even* a blessing in the midst of the land:

Isa 19:25 Whom the LORD of hosts shall bless, saying, Blessed be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel mine inheritance.

What God has in store for this world – WOW.

Zechariah Chapter 3

A Brand Plucked out of the Fire

Chapter 3 is the 4th Vision

Interpretation – God's restoration of Israel Application – God's salvation & restoration of a sinner – plucked out of the fire 3:1-7 Immediate Address 3:8-10 Future Prophecy

Personal Life / Family / Church / Social Life – a spiritual battle

Zechariah 3:1 And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. Power of Satan to resist / Power of Christ to Redeem

Satan is ready to accuse the brethren. And as is the case, Satan has a valid accusation.

Mercy – nothing I deserve. Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling.

Deuteronomy 9:6 Understand therefore, that the LORD thy God giveth thee not this good land to possess it for thy righteousness; for thou *art* a stiffnecked people.

Titus 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

Our only hope – a mediator that can satisfy God – Jehovah

1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

Zechariah 3:2 And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: *is* not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

God has chosen Jerusalem – It is blessing time again.

Zechariah 3:3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. **Exodus 28:2** And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty.

The high priest is a representative for the people. Israel has sinned against God – sinned greatly:

Isaiah 1:5-6 Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even unto the head *there is* no soundness in it; *but* wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment.

Israel – 70 years of captivity – I am sure they did not feel spiritual / worthy – but the tide has turned. God's throne is one of judgment and justice and God is righteous.

Zechariah 3:4 And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.

Well, the best thing in my life I ever did do....was take off the old robe and put on the new.

1 John **2:1-2** My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of* the whole world.

Like Adam & Eve – hid / try to ignore / blame others / need to accept blame & trust in blood sacrifice. Rags to riches / sinner to saint / child of devil to child of God / destiny of hell to destiny of heaven We have nothing to offer God. Anything we are or will be – all glory to God.

John 15:5 I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Exodus 28:35-36 And it shall be upon Aaron to minister: and his sound shall be heard when he goeth in unto the holy *place* before the LORD, and when he cometh out, that he die not. And thou shalt make a plate *of* pure gold, and grave upon it, *like* the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD.

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

The interpretation of 3:4 is that God will now bless Jerusalem. This is the theme of Haggai and Zechariah. God cleanses His people for service. Israel's calling:

Exodus 19:5-6 Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth *is* mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These *are* the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

What God did for Joshua as representative for Israel; He will do even more so in a future fulfillment.

Zechariah 3:9 For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone *shall be* seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

This will occur when the BRANCH arrives.

Zechariah 3:8 Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they *are* men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth **my servant the BRANCH**. (MARK)

Isaiah 4:2 In that day shall the branch of the LORD be beautiful and glorious... (JOHN)

Jeremiah 23:5 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. (MATTHEW)

Zechariah 6:12 ...saying, Behold the **man whose name** *is* **The BRANCH**; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD: (LUKE)

Economics in the Millennial

Zechariah 3:10 In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall ye call every man his neighbour under the vine and under the fig tree.

The Stone

Zechariah 3:9 For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone *shall be* seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

Romans 11:26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

Cornerstone

Ephesians 2:19-20 ... ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens ... And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*;

Stone of Stumbling

1 Peter **2:7-8** Unto you therefore which believe *he is* precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling

Rejected Stone

Matthew 21:42 Jesus saith... Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?

Smitten Stone

Exodus 17:6 ...and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it...1 Corinthians 10:4 for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ...

Christ's first coming, He was a stumbling stone to Israel who rejected Him; but He became the cornerstone of the church. At His second coming, He will smite the kingdoms of the world and establish His glorious kingdom.

Daniel 2:44-45 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, *but* it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter...

Zechariah Chapter 4

This chapter tells of the Work of God. The Focus is the Candlestick; the Power is the Oil and God uses the Anointed Ones as human instruments. Zechariah asks a lot of questions. Here are the answers:

WHAT HE SAW (5th Vision)

Zechariah 4:1-3 And the **angel** that talked with me came again, and waked me, as a man that is wakened out of his sleep, And said unto me, **What seest thou**?

And I said, I have looked, and behold a <u>candlestick</u> all *of* gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and <u>seven pipes to the seven lamps</u>, which *are* upon the top thereof:

And **two olive trees** by it, one upon the right *side* of the bowl, and the other upon the left *side* thereof.

Zechariah 4:4-6 So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, What are these, my lord?

Then the **angel that talked** with me answered and said unto me, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord.

WHAT THIS MEANS

Then **he answered** and spake unto me, saying, This *is* the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, **Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit,** saith the LORD of hosts.

HOW IT WORKS

Zechariah 4:11-14 Then answered I, and said unto him, What *are* these two olive trees upon the right *side* of the candlestick and upon the left *side* thereof? And I answered again, and said unto him, What *be these* two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden *oil* out of themselves?

And **he answered** me and said, Knowest thou not what these *be*? And I said, No, my lord. Then said he, **These** *are* **the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth**.

This describes the work of God. God will supernaturally help Israel again as they rebuild the Temple. The work of God is primarily the Candlestick. The power of God is in the oil and the anointed ones are the instruments that God uses to keep the candlestick lit.

The Candlestick is the Work of God

Isaiah 60:2-3 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

Isaiah 62:1 For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp *that* burneth.

Revelation 1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

The Oil is the Power of God

Isaiah 61:1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *them that are* bound;

The supply of the oil comes from God. It is like 'perpetual motion.' There is always enough oil and the work of God will always go on.

Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

The work of the Holy Spirit produces lasting, genuine results. There is synthetic salvation (talk em into it rather than the new birth); synthetic preaching (self-effort); synthetic church work (marketing it like a business); and synthetic giving (manipulate into giving or promise they will get if they give).

The Result is Light Given

John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

John 1:7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all *men* through him might believe.

Matthew 5:14-15 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

The story of Hanakkah:

When the Greeks entered the Temple they defiled all the oils and when the Hasmoneans prevailed and defeated them, they searched and found only one cruse of oil which lay with the seal of the Kohen Gadol. It contained only enough oil to light for one day, yet a miracle happened and they used it to light for eight days.

The Anointed Ones are the Human Instruments that God uses

Zechariah 4:14 Then said he, These *are* the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth.

These two anointed ones are Zerubbabel and Joshua, the high priest. The O.T. anointed ones were prophets, priests and kings. The N.T. anointed ones are pastors and church planters (evangelist) and the saved are anointed to discern biblical truth. (1 John 2:20; 2:27).

Ephesians 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

The oil flows from the branches of the two anointed ones – it is not the wonder of the olive trees but the wonder of the oil. The end result is not a focus on the two anointed ones, nor a focus on the oil, but rather a focus on the light given by the Candlestick.

1 Corinthians **3:5-6** Who then is Paul, and who *is* Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.

Ephesians 3:21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end...

These two anointed ones point to a future time when the Temple is rebuilt in the Tribulation Period.

Rev. 11:4 These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.

Conclusion:

> Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts

Deuteronomy 32:30 How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had sold them, and the LORD had shut them up?

1 Cor. 1:12-13 Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?

1 Cor. 3:7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

It is not charisma, manipulation, persuasion, but rather the energy of the Holy Spirit that is needed.

Ephesians 1:19 And what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the **working** of his mighty power,

Greek Word: ενεργεια energeia: efficiency ("energy"); operation; strong, (effectual) working.

> Zerubbabel will Finish the Work (See Ezra 6:14-18)

Zechariah 4:9 The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you.

Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:

Don't Despise Small Things

Zechariah 4:10 For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel *with* those seven; they *are* the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.

Small things: Jesus born in a manger and poor family / Saul a sorry sinner / David, a shepherd boy with a stone & Goliath / Lad with 5 loaves and 2 fishes / A gospel tract / Church started in China – I was there

Ezra 3:12-13 But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers, *who were* ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice; and many shouted aloud for joy: So that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people: for the people shouted with a loud shout, and the noise was heard afar off.

Zechariah 4:9 The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you.

The *success* of feeble efforts is here *guaranteed*. Proud man will only honor what seems to him to be great things—conventionally great; while small things are despised.

All great things were small in their beginnings. London was once a little hamlet; the oak tree was once an acorn. What we consider small may be the greatest things in the universe.

GBC has 50 people in the midst of 300,000 (within 5 miles).

God can Move Mountains

Zechariah 4:7 Who *art* thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel *thou shalt become* a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone *thereof with* shoutings, *crying*, Grace, grace unto it.

Matthew 17:20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

What mountains was Zerubbabel facing? -- discouragement among the people; opposition from the enemies around them; poor crops; an unstable economy; and people not obeying God's laws.

Success is Found in Light Given

N.T. success is found in obeying the Great Commission to "go ye...." The Candlestick / the Church is the focus, not individual success.

God will ask the church – Did you feed the flock?

Did you obey my command: "Preach the gospel to every creature" and "Teach all nations?"

Zechariah Chapter 5

The theme of Zechariah is that God is done with chastening and Israel is now on the blessing side. In this chapter, God will remove that which hinders blessing – sin & worldliness.

In the 6th vision, Zechariah sees a scroll and a woman. The scroll will judge sin and the woman represents worldliness and is to be removed – taken away.

The Scroll

The scroll will judge the sin of thieves and swearers. Those that did not tithe robbed God and then lied about it. They are guilty on both accounts:

Zechariah 5:3 Then said he unto me, This *is* the curse that goeth forth over the face of the whole earth: for **every one that stealeth shall be cut off** *as* on this side according to it; and **every one that sweareth shall be cut off** *as* on that side according to it.

This scroll will enter into the house of those guilty of these sins:

Zechariah 5:4 I will bring it forth, saith the LORD of hosts, and **it shall enter into the house** of the thief, and **into the house** of him that sweareth falsely by my name: and **it shall remain in the midst of his house**, and shall consume it with the timber thereof and the stones thereof.

1 Peter 4:17 For the time *is come* that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if *it* first *begin* at us, what shall the end *be* of them that obey not the gospel of God?

Unsaved do not tithe – they are not redeemed by the precious blood of the Lamb. Redeemed = purchased. God does not judge the unsaved due to not tithing. No, He waits until the Great White Throne Judgment. A church member that does not tithe is either rebellious, disobedient, never been told or just unsaved. The love of Christ compelled me to tithe. I tithed before I knew what it meant.

The Woman

The woman represents materialism, the sin of today. The ephah (vs. 6,7,8,9,10) is a measurement of commerce / trade. Many of these Jews had become successful merchants in Babylon. God is going to take Israel out of Babylon and also He wants to take Babylon out of Israel. An accurate description of Babylon is:

Revelation 18:10-13 ...Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city...And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more: The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble, And cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men.

The love of money is the root of all evil. Mammon is the god of money.

Matthew 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Leviticus 27:30 And all the tithe of the land, *whether* of the seed of the land, *or* of the fruit of the tree, *is* the LORD'S: *it is* holy unto the LORD.

Malachi 3:8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

Those that did not tithe were guilty of stealing from God (Zech. 5:3-4 – thieves). Materialism and robbing God often go hand in hand. "I cannot tithe because I love things too much" or "I will not tithe because I love money too much." Marvel at the simplicity from God that even a 2^{nd} grader knows how much a tithe is – 10% is an extremely simple calculation. Ignorance is not an excuse due to its simplicity.

Colossians 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

Job had money and wealth but they did not have him. It is all an attitude of the heart.

What is the most favored commodity on earth? Gold! Heaven's concrete is gold.

Revelation 21:21 And the twelve gates *were* twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the **street of the city** *was* **pure gold**, as it were transparent glass.

Christians get too enamored with the things / the wealth / the cares of this world.

Mark 4:19 And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.

Luke 10:42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

Matthew 6:19-20 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But **lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven**, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

You cannot take what you hoard here. Things here are just to be used to accomplish things. Babylon was the mother of idolatry and materialism is the mother of idolatry in this age.

"The ephah on a base placed in Babylon (Shinar) suggests that 'commercialism' was worshipped as one of the Babylonian gods. Like a god, money is trusted by people to give them help, to solve problesms, to provide happiness, and to empower them to accomplish their goals in life. The last of the 10 commandments is *thou shalt not covet*." (Wiersbe)

God has cleansed the land. The next step is preparing His people for their promised kingdom in ch. 6

There are four chariots, just as there are four horsemen shown in Rev. 6:1-8, and four angels holding the wind in Rev. 7:1-3, indicating a global scope of activity.

This 7th vision of four chariots of different colored horses ride out as:

- 1. The chariot drawn by black horses rides north. (BABYLON)
- 2. The chariot drawn by white horses also rides north.

(Zech 6:6)

- **3.** The chariot drawn by grisled horses ride toward the south. (EGYPT)
- 4. The destination of the **chariot** drawn by **red horses** is not explicitly given.

What are these? Zechariah 6:5 "And the angel answered and said unto me, These *are* the four spirits of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the Lord of all the earth." It is angelic activity!

Revelation 7:1 ...I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.

Babylon and Egypt are the two principle seats of power in its hostility toward Israel. Brass (mountains) represents judgment. There will be a soon judgment on these nations. (Zech 6:6)

Chariot: A vehicle used for warlike or peaceful purposes, but most commonly the former. The Jewish chariots were patterned after the Egyptian, and consisted of a single pair of wheels on an axle, upon which was a car with high front and sides & open at the back. The earliest mention of chariots is the placing of Joseph in Pharaoh's second chariot. (Smith Bible Dictionary)

Chariots Are Means of Transportation

2 Kings 9:20 ... and the driving *is* like the driving of Jehu the son of Nimshi; for he driveth furiously.

Nahum 2:3-4 ...the chariots *shall be* with flaming torches in the day of his preparation, and the fir trees shall be terribly shaken. The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall justle one against another in the broad ways: they shall seem like torches, they shall run like the lightnings. (Today's cars @ 70 mph)

Angels Ride in Chariots – Today Known as UFO's

2 Kings **2:11-12** And...behold, *there appeared* a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw *it*, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more...

Chariots Suggest a War (Elijah was nowhere near Area 51)

2 Kings 6:14-15 Therefore sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by night, and compassed the city (WAR ON EARTH) about. And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots (WAR ON EARTH). And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?

2 Kings 6:16-17 And he answered, Fear not: for they that *be* with us *are* more than they that *be* with them. And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the **mountain** *was* full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha (HEAVENLY HELP FOR WAR).

2 Kings 6:18 And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the LORD, and said, Smite this people, I pray thee, with blindness. And he smote them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.

Notice the description of war on earth is very similar to the description of the war in the spiritual realm. Angels travel in some sort of vehicular model and are involved in war. The battles on earth are won or lost via the battles in the heavenlies:

Exodus 17:11-14 And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands *were* heavy; and they took a stone, and put *it* under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword. And the LORD said unto Moses, Write this *for* a memorial in a book, and rehearse *it* in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.

Bible Tells of Chariots of God

Psalms 68:17 The chariots of God *are* twenty thousand, *even* thousands of angels: the Lord *is* among them, *as in* Sinai, in the holy *place*.

Isaiah 66:15 For, behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.

Walking To & Fro - Often Represents Spiritual Activity

Zechariah 6:7 And the bay went forth, and sought to go that they might walk to and fro through the earth: and he said, Get you hence, walk to and fro through the earth. So they walked to and fro through the earth.

2 Chronicles 16:9 For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of *them* whose heart *is* perfect toward him...

Job 1:7 And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

Job 2:2 And the LORD said unto Satan, From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

Zechariah 1:10-11 ...These *are they* whom the LORD hath sent to walk to and fro through the earth. And they answered the angel of the LORD that stood among the myrtle trees, and said, We have walked to and fro through the earth, and, behold, all the earth sitteth still, and is at rest.

Zechariah 4:10 ... they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.

The Spiritual World Sees the Big Picture

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

1 John **2:2** And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of* the whole world.

Matthew 25:46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Matthew 16:26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

Matthew 6:19-20 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

Ephesians 6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

The Battle Over You

If unsaved – to keep you lost – via pride, rebellion, religion, good works, love of money, love of sin, love of world, too busy to get serious with the Lord... anything that works

If saved - to keep you from church; to taint your testimony; to get you to sin; for you to love the world;

Angels Are As Real As People

Matthew 26:53 Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?

Hebrews 1:14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

There is latent prophetic teaching from Zechariah

Blessing on Jerusalem again
4 Horns – Israel Scattered
Jerusalem Restored
Day of Atonement
2 Olive Trees / 2 Witnesses in Rev. 11:3-14
Ephah – Follow \$\$ of Babylon or Petra in Tribulation Period
4 Chariots – God Judges Nations Matt. 25
Jesus, the King-High Priest Reigns as the Branch

3 esteemed Jews would arrive from Babylon bringing gold and silver for the building of the Temple. Take some of the gold and silver and make a crown. Put the crown upon Joshua, the High Priest / King.

Zechariah 6:10-11 Take of *them of* the captivity, *even* of Heldai, of Tobijah, and of Jedaiah, which are come from Babylon, and come thou the same day, and go into the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah; Then take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set *them* upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest;

Joshua, the High-Priest / King was a type of the Lord Jesus Christ, the High-Priest / King. This combination of a High-Priest also being crowned as King was a new concept – done for the purpose of a type of Jesus, the High-Priest / King reigning in a future fulfillment.

Zechariah 6:12-13 And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the **man whose name** *is* **The BRANCH**; and <u>he</u> shall grow up out of his place, and <u>he</u> shall build the temple of the LORD: Even <u>he</u> shall build the temple of the LORD; and <u>he</u> shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and <u>he</u> shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.

The crowns were to be put into the Temple as a memorial (reminder).

Zechariah 6:14 And the crowns shall be to Helem, and to Tobijah, and to Jedaiah, and to Hen the son of Zephaniah, for a memorial in the temple of the LORD.

The Temple will be rebuilt in a near fulfillment with a far fulfillment (Eze. 40-48).

Zechariah 6:15 And they *that are* far off shall come and build in the temple of the LORD, and ye shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you. And *this* shall come to pass, if ye will diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God.

God uses "pictures" in the O.T. & life to show us God's plan in easy to understand terms:

• Supernatural Birth

Romans 4:19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb:

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

• Jesus' Bodily Resurrection of the Dead

Matthew 12:40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

• Applied Blood

Exodus 12:13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye *are*: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy *you*, when I smite the land of Egypt.

1 Corinthians 5:7 ... For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

• Simple Faith Numb 21:5-7

John 3:14-15 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

• Resurrection of Our Body Phil. 3:20-21; Rom. 8:9; 1 John 3:2

1 Corinthians 15:35-38 But some *man* will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come? *Thou* fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die: And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other *grain*: But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.

• Jesus Reigning as King / High-Priest Isa. 2:1-5; 27:13

Zechariah 6:11 Then take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set *them* upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest;

Hebrews 7:1-2 For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him; To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace;

Psalms 110:4 The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou *art* a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Hebrews 5:6 As he saith also in another *place*, Thou *art* a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

Luke 1:32-33 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Isaiah 9:6-7 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counseller, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of *his* government and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it...

Hebrews 1:8 But unto the Son *he saith*, Thy throne, O God, *is* for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness *is* the sceptre of thy kingdom.

Zechariah Chapter 7

Timing of 7:1 is 519 B.C. - - Temple was completed in 517 B.C. and dedicated in 516 B.C.

Ezra 6:15 And this house was finished on the third day of the month Adar, which was in the sixth year of the reign of Darius the king.

Men were sent to ask a question concerning the fastings of the 5th & 7th month. They were not sure of what to do, as they were far from God during the 70 years. The 5th month fast was a memorial of the burning of the Temple in Jerusalem (2 KI 25:8-9, Jer. 52:12-13). The 7th month fast was a memorial of the death of Gedaliah (2 KI 25:25, Jer. 41:1-2).

They knew where to go for the answer:

Zechariah 7:2-3 When they had sent unto the house of God Sherezer and Regemmelech, and their men, to pray before the LORD, *And* to speak unto the priests which were in the house of the LORD of hosts, and to the prophets, saying, Should I weep in the fifth month, separating myself, as I have done these so many years?

When Christians are away from God, His house, His Word and His God-called leaders, they lose joy and purpose. When they return to the Lord, they are have many questions.

Psalms 137:3-5 For there they that carried us away captive required of us a song; and they that wasted us *required of us* mirth, *saying*, Sing us *one* of the songs of Zion. How shall we sing the LORD'S song in a strange land? If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget *her cunning*.

The question concerning the fastings was answered by three questions for them:

Zechariah 7:5-7 ... 1) When ye fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh *month*, even those seventy years, did ye at all fast unto me, *even* to me? 2) And when ye did eat, and when ye did drink, did not ye eat *for yourselves*, and drink *for yourselves*? 3) *Should ye* not *hear* the words which the LORD hath cried by the former prophets, when Jerusalem was inhabited and in prosperity, and the cities thereof round about her, when *men* inhabited the south and the plain?

They were reprimanded in that they were living a selfish life & did not obey the prophets.

Selfish life – when they fasted (7:5) & a selfish life when they feasted (7:6). It is easy to deceive ourselves but impossible to fool God. He sees our heart and know our heart. God views life from your heart, not your actions, traditions, rituals....

Psalms 51:16-17 For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give *it*: thou delightest not in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

1 Samuel 15:22 And Samuel said, Hath the LORD *as great* delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey *is* better than sacrifice, *and* to hearken than the fat of rams.

Matthew 9:13 But go ye and learn what *that* meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

What the prophets had previously preached: (isa/ 48:1, 58:2-3)

Isaiah 29:13 Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near *me* with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men... (Matt. 15:8-9, Mark 7:6-7)

A rebuke was given in 7:1-7 and in 7:8-14, he reminds them of their previous rejection.

Matthew 22:37-39 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second *is* like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Love thy Neighbor

Zechariah 7:9 Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother:

Judge without bias; show kindness & love; and have pity for the afflicted.

Psalms 18:25 With the merciful thou wilt shew thyself merciful; with an upright man thou wilt shew thyself upright;

Zechariah 7:10 And oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor; and let none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart.

Exodus 22:21-22 Thou shalt neither vex a stranger, nor oppress him: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt. Ye shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child.

God cares for the widows, fatherless, poor and strangers. God loves PEOPLE! He cares for those less fortunate. If you love God, you will love that which God loves.

Proverbs 21:13 Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard.

Love the Lord thy God – But Their Response was Rejection

Zechariah 7:11 But they refused to hearken, and pulled away the shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear.

A stubborn, rebellious, stiff-necked response to God Almighty! Willfulness is a choice.

Pulled away the shoulder; *they gave a stubborn, refractory shoulder,* like an ox which refuses to have the yoke put on his neck, or draws back when it feels the weight PULPIT HELPS

Zechariah 7:12 Yea, they made their hearts *as* an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the LORD of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from the LORD of hosts.

This great wrath that came from the Lord was deserved and not given without compassion.

Jeremiah 9:1 Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!

Jeremiah 14:17 Therefore thou shalt say this word unto them; Let mine eyes run down with tears night and day, and let them not cease: for the virgin daughter of my people is broken with a great breach, with a very grievous blow.

Ezekiel 33:11 Say unto them, *As* I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

Matthew 23:37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under *her* wings, and ye would not!

"They made their hearts *as* an adamant stone..." Pulpit Helps says, "*adamant* probably means *diamond*, a stone so hard, says Jerome, as to break all metals to pieces, but to be itself broken by none; hence it is called '*adamas'* - *unconquerable*."

Judgment was sent due to their hardened heart and dull ears:

Zechariah 7:13-14 Therefore it is come to pass, *that* as he cried, and they would not hear; so they cried, and I would not hear, saith the LORD of hosts: But I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations whom they knew not. Thus the land was desolate after them, that no man passed through nor returned: for they laid the pleasant land desolate.

Matthew 13:15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and *their* ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and should understand with *their* heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

Severe warning to rejecters:

Hebrews 10:29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

Hebrews 10:31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Romans 11:1 I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, *of* the tribe of Benjamin.

Chapter 7 reminded them that they were scattered due to their hard heartedness. Chapter 8 now tells them that God will restore and bless them – a theme of Zechariah.

Vs. 1-6	Jerusalem will be Rebuilt
Vs. 7	Israel Regathered
Vs. 8	Jehovah & Israel Restored / Reconciled
Vs. 9-13	Land of Israel Refreshed (Blessings)
Vs. 14-17	Reminder not to Fall into Sins of Fathers
Vs. 18-19	Fasts Turned into Feasts
Vs. 20-23	Gentiles will be Redeemed

These prophecies have a *Double Reference*. There is a minor, near fulfilment with a major, far fulfilment. The far fulfilment is for the millennial reign of Christ – a future event.

Vs. 1-6 Jerusalem will be Rebuilt

The Shekinah glory dwelt in Holy of Holies in the Temple on Temple Mount in Jerusalem. This is the permanent location for Jehovah to meet with Israel. Jerusalem and all of Israel was deeded to Israel. There is a spiritual battle over anything that Jehovah claims. Demons hate the Jewish people, the land of Israel, Jerusalem, the church and the believer. Note vs. 4-5 – God loves *people*!

Vs. 7 Israel Regathered (See also Eze. 37:19-25, Isa. 11:11-12, Rom. 11:25-27)

Amos 9:14-15 And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit *them*; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God.

Isaiah 43:5-7 Fear not: for I *am* with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth; *Even* every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.

Jeremiah 30:7-11 Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it. For it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD of hosts, *that* I will break his yoke from off thy neck, and will burst thy bonds, and strangers shall no more serve themselves of him: But they shall serve the LORD their God, and David their king, whom I will raise up unto them. Therefore fear thou not, O my servant Jacob, saith the LORD; neither be dismayed, O Israel: for, lo, I will save thee from afar, and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and shall be in rest, and be quiet, and none shall make *him* afraid. For I *am* with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee:

though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished.

Jeremiah 31:7-8 ...Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations: publish ye, praise ye, and say, O LORD, save thy people, the remnant of Israel. Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the coasts of the earth, *and* with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her that travaileth with child together: a great company shall return thither.

Vs. 8 Jehovah & Israel Restored / Reconciled

There are promises for a great future for Israel and a great future for the church! Some lack a trust in God because they do not understand events in life.

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and **lean not unto thine own understanding**. God is too good to do wrong and too wise to make a mistake. Many difficult events in life are due to the will of a human and not the will of God. Do not blame God what a human being with a free will did.

Vs. 9-13 Land of Israel Refreshed (Blessings)

Zechariah 8:12 For the seed *shall be* prosperous; the vine shall give her fruit, and the ground shall give her increase, and the heavens shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these *things*.

Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Vs. 14-17 Reminder not to Fall into Sins of Fathers

This is a reminder and a review of Zechariah 7:8-11. Same wording, just a different context.

Vs. 18-19 Fasts Turned into Feasts

Isaiah 65:19 And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying.

Psalms 30:5 For his anger *endureth but* a moment; in his favour *is* life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy *cometh* in the morning.

Vs. 20-23 Gentiles will be Redeemed (See also Micah 4:1-5)

Isaiah 2:1-4 ...And it shall come to pass in the last days, *that* the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Chapters 9-14 are the second half of Zechariah and they are primarily future prophecies. The Messianic prophecies reveal Christ as Messiah, humble King, loving Shepherd, mighty Warrior, gracious Saviour and righteous Ruler. Chapters 9-11 speak of his rejection and Chapters 12-14 speak of his 2nd coming.

Some of these verses are difficult to understand and many have a double reference in their fulfilment. Verses 1-8 primarily speak of the conquest of Alexander the Great.

The following expression may have 1 of 3 meanings:

Zechariah 9:1 The burden of the word of the LORD in the land of Hadrach, and Damascus *shall be* the rest thereof: when the eyes of man, as of all the tribes of Israel, *shall be* toward the LORD.

- A) Alexander's march caused people to look to God for help
- B) God's eyes were on the nations and especially on Israel
- C) As people were watching Alexander, they were actually watching God at work, for history is His story
- D) Whatever the case, the eyes of man were toward the Lord, just as the Bible states

Alexander defeated the Persians in 333 B.C. and now it is prophesied as he conquers Hadrach, Damascus, Hamath, Tyrus, Zidon, Ashkelon, Gaza, Ashdod and the Philistines (vs. 1-6).

Zechariah 9:7 And I will take away his blood out of his mouth, and his abominations from between his teeth: but he that remaineth, even he, *shall be* for our God, and he shall be as a governor in Judah, and Ekron as a Jebusite.

I will take away his blood out of his mouth. This refers to the practice of drinking the blood of sacrifices as an act of worship, or of eating the victims with the blood—a practice strictly forbidden to the Israelites. BARNES

...But he that remaineth, even he, *shall be* for our God – may have a *far fulfilment* as the people from these nations get saved at the revelation of Jesus Christ and enter the Millennium.

Zech. 9:8 And I will encamp about mine house because of the army, because of him that passeth by...

Pusey restricts the meaning to the proceedings of Alexander, who passed by Judaea on his way to Egypt, and returned by the same route, without doing any injury to Jerusalem.

"The Jews repaid the protection of Persia with a devoted loyalty, which prompted them to refuse the demand of submission made by Alexander during the siege of Tyre. He marched to chastise them after the fall of Gaza, and the beautiful city had already risen before his view on the hill of Zion, when he found **the high priest Jaddua waiting his approach at the watch station of Sapha, clad in his robes of gold and purple, and followed by a train of priests and citizens in pure white. Alexander bowed in reverence to the Holy Name upon the high priest's frontlet; and, being asked by Parmenio the reason of**

his conduct, said that in a dream at Dium, he had seen the God of Jaddua, who encouraged him to pass over into Asia, and promised him success. Then entering Jerusalem, **he offered sacrifice in the temple**, **heard the prophecy of Daniel about himself; and granted certain privileges to all the Jews** throughout his empire." BARNES (This is from historical account of Josephus)

The conquest of Alexander the great united the world with one language (Koine Greek – N.T. writings) and one culture. The Romans build roads which interconnected the world. These events allowed for the early church to take the gospel to the world (Col. 1:6, 1:23, Rom. 10:18, 16:26).

Zechariah 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he *is* just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

Matthew 21:4-5 All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.

Jesus comes in as King. What a contrast to Alexander. The fulfilment of this prophecy is found in Matthew chapter 21. Jesus is rejected as King to the Jews and Jesus preaches a judgment sermon to Israel in chapter 23. Israel has been set aside due to their rejection of Jesus Christ.

Matthew 23:37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under *her* wings, **and ye would not!**

Jesus Christ will offer Himself once again as Messiah to Israel at His 2nd coming and they will accept Him.

Matthew 23:38-39 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed *is* he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

It was customary to set up over the heads of persons crucified, the crime for which they suffered, and the name of the sufferer. BARNES

Matthew 27:37 And set up over his head his accusation written, THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.
 Mark 15:26 And the superscription of his accusation was written over, THE KING OF THE JEWS.
 Luke 23:38 ...superscription...written...in...Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.
 John 19:19 And Pilate wrote a title...And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS.
 Hence, it was fully written as: This is Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews

Zech. 9:10 Future reign of Jesus Christ as King in Millenenium

Zech. 9:13-16 Probably a double reference as it describes the war between the Maccabean conflict and Antiochus Epiphanes and then later a war in the Tribulation Period with Antichrist.

Zech. 9:17 Christ's deliverance will cause fastings and sorrow to be ceased forever.

Romans 11:26 ... There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

Zechariah Chapter 10 – Early & Latter Rain

10:1-5	The Secret of Victory	Jehovah will help Israel
10:6-12	The Restoration of Israel	Jehovah will save Israel

Zechariah 10:1 Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain; *so* the LORD shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field.

There is a long dry time in between the early and latter rain, It ensures plenty and prosperity.

Joel 2:23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first *month*.

Joel 2:28 & 32 And it shall come to pass afterward, *that* I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions...And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.

The early rain

Acts 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand souls.

The latter rain

Revelation 7:9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

Rom. 11:26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer...

Spiritual famine due to bad shepherding or no-shepherding (Zech. 10:1-2). The shepherds (chief priests, scribes, Pharisees, lawyers...) were the ones that crucified the Lord of glory.

Zechariah 10:3 "...the LORD of hosts hath visited his flock the house of Judah, and hath made them as his goodly horse in the battle."

Zechariah 10:4 <u>Out of him</u> came forth the **corner**, out of him the **nail**, out of him the **battle bow**, out of him every oppressor together.

Out of Judah

Zechariah 10:3-4 Mine anger was kindled against the shepherds, and I punished the goats: for the LORD of hosts hath visited his flock **the house of Judah**, and hath made them as his goodly horse in the battle.

Out of him came forth the **corner**, out of him the **nail**, out of him the **battle bow**, out of him every oppressor together.

Hebrews 7:14 For *it is* evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood.

Corner

Mark 12:10 And have ye not read this scripture; The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner:

Acts 4:11-12 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

1 Peter 2:6-7 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe *he is* precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

Nail

Isaiah 22:20-25 And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah: And I will clothe him with thy robe, and strengthen him with thy girdle, and I will commit thy government into his hand: and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah. And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder; so he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open. And I will fasten him *as* a nail in a sure place; and he shall be for a glorious throne to his father's house. And they shall hang upon him all the glory of his father's house, the offspring and the issue, all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flagons. In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall the nail that is fastened in the sure place be removed, and be cut down, and fall; and the burden that *was* upon it shall be cut off: for the LORD hath spoken *it*.

This was a minor fulfilment of Eliakim with a major fulfillment in Jesus Christ, the Nail. Hang all your burdens on Him. **1 Peter 5:7** Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

Vs. 25... "In that day shall the nail - Not Eliakim, but Shebna. Eliakim was to be fastened, that is, confirmed in office. But Shebna was to be removed." BARNES NOTES

Battle Bow

Revelation 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

Defeat enemies with help of Lord (Zech. 10:5) – Moses & Pharaoh; Haman, Antichrist...

Israel will be regathered, reunited as a nation, redeemed and rejoiced in the strength of the Lord.

Isaiah 43:1-7 But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called *thee* by thy name; thou *art* mine. When thou passest through the waters, I *will be* with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I *am* the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour...Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been honourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for thee, and people for thy life. Fear not: for I *am* with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth; *Even* every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.

Regathered

Zechariah 10:10 I will bring them again also out of the land of Egypt, and gather them out of Assyria; and I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon; and *place* shall not be found for them.

Reunited as a nation

House of Jacob, Joseph and Ephraim will all be involved – all 12 tribes will be reunited (Zech. 10:6-7)

Redeemed

Zechariah 10:6-7 And I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph, and I will bring them again to place them; for I have mercy upon them: and **they shall be as though I had not cast them off: for I** *am* **the LORD their God**, and will hear them. And *they of* Ephraim shall be like a mighty *man*, and their heart shall rejoice as through wine: yea, their children shall see *it*, and be glad; their heart shall rejoice in the LORD.

Application for us: Justification – *just as if* I had never sinned! Righteousness of Christ placed on me!

Rejoicing

Zechariah 10:12 And I will strengthen them in the LORD; and they shall walk up and down in his name, saith the LORD.

2 Samuel 7:10 Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as beforetime,

Amos 9:14-15 And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit *them*; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God.

The Rejection Chapter: Rejection of the Savior – Messiah to Israel

Zechariah 11:1 Open thy doors, O Lebanon, that the fire may devour thy cedars.

The Jewish people believe this prophecy to be fulfilled when the Temple doors (the "doors" and almost all its inner linings as well were made of cypress -"fir" and cedar -1 Kings 5:8-10) were opened of their own accord and the fire burned it 40 years later:

"I suppose Lebanon itself, that is, "the Temple," felt the command of the prophet's words, since, as its destruction approached, its doors opened without the hand of man. Josephus relates how, "at the passover, the eastern gate of the inner temple, being of brass and very firm, and with difficulty shut at eventide by twenty men; moreover with bars strengthened with iron, and having very deep bolts, which went down into the threshold, itself of one stone, was seen at six o'clock at night to open of its own accord. The guards of the temple running told it to the officer, and he, going up, with difficulty closed it. This the uninstructed thought a very favorable sign, that God opened to them the gate of all goods. But those taught in the divine words, understood that the safety of the temple was removed of itself, and that the gate opened."

A saying of this sort is still extant: "Our fathers have handed down, forty years before the destruction of the house, the lot of the Lord did not come up on the right hand, and the tongue of splendor did not become white, nor did the light from the evening burn, and the doors of the temple opened of their own accord, until Rabbi Johanan ben Zaccai rebuked them, and said, 'O temple, why dost thou affright thyself? I know of thee that thy end is to be destroyed, and of this Zechariah prophesied, "Open thy doors, O Lebanon, and let the fire devour thy cedars." The "forty years" mentioned in this tradition carry back the event exactly to the Death of Christ, the temple having been burned 73 a.d.. Josephus adds that they opened at the Passover, the season of His Crucifixion. On the other hand, the shutting of the gates of the temple, when they had "seized Paul and dragged him out of the temple" Ac 21:30, seems miraculous and significant, that, having thus violently refused the preaching of the Gospel, and cast Paul out, they themselves were also shut out, denoting that an entrance was afterward to be refused them. And let afire devour thy cedars - Jerusalem, or the temple, were, after those times, burned by the Romans only. BARNES

The *howling* of vs. 2-3 describes the completeness of the destruction.

Zechariah 11:4-6 Thus saith the LORD my God; Feed the **flock of the slaughter**; Whose possessors slay them, and hold themselves not guilty: and they that sell them say, Blessed *be* the LORD; for I am rich: and their own shepherds pity them not. For I will no more pity the inhabitants of the land, saith the LORD: but, lo, I will deliver the men every one into his neighbour's hand, and into the hand of his king: and they shall smite the land, and out of their hand I will not deliver *them*.

The flock of Israel is destined for slaughter (vs.4) because of wicked shepherds (vs.5).

The rejection of the Messiah - the people were guilty here as well as their leaders. The common people will have a lesser punishment and the rulers / leaders will bear a greater degree of punishment.

Jeremiah 5:30-31 A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land; The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love *to have it* so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?

Therefore the people are visited with anger as well as their leaders. The people, however, being less privileged and instructed, are also, in some measure, less guilty. The people, therefore, though punished as well, are not punished as much -- also in ver. 7 -- the "poor of the flock." BARNES

There are degrees of punishment according to level of authority / level of knowledge:

Leviticus 4:3 If the priest that is anointed do sin according to the sin of the people...
Leviticus 4:13 And if the whole congregation of Israel sin through ignorance...
Leviticus 4:22 When a ruler hath sinned, and done *somewhat* through ignorance...
Leviticus 4:27 And if any one of the common people sin through ignorance... and be guilty;

Luke 10:13-14 Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if **the mighty works** had been done in Tyre and Sidon, which have been done in you, they had a great while ago repented, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. But it shall be **more tolerable** for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment, than for you.

Luke 20:46-47 Beware of the scribes, which desire to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the markets, and the highest seats in the synagogues, and the chief rooms at feasts; Which devour widows' houses, and for a shew make long prayers: the same **shall receive greater damnation**.

2 Peter 2:21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

Witnesses will be called

Luke 11:31-32 The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with the men of this generation, and condemn them: for she came from the utmost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon *is* here. The men of Nineve shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas *is* here.

Books will be opened

Revelation 20:11-12 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

Their own words will condemn them

Matthew 12:36-37 But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

Just as there will be degrees of rewards in heaven, so also there will be degrees of punishment in hell.

Matthew 27:21-22 The governor answered and said unto them, Whether of the twain will ye that I release unto you? They said, Barabbas. Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? They all say unto him, Let him be crucified.

Matthew 27:25 Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children.

Beauty & Bands 2 Staves / Shepherd Staffs Zech 11:7-14

"The two staves intimate the manifold care of God for his flock from the earliest days... favour and unity. **Beauty** - probably means the favour and grace of God and **Bands** - literally, *Those that bind*. The name is meant to express the union of all the members of the flock, especially that between Israel and Judah (see ver. 14). These make one flock under one shepherd." BARNES

The flock

Zechariah 11:8 Three shepherds also I cut off in one month; and my soul lothed them, and their soul also abhorred me.

The three shepherds are probably the scribes, elders & chief priests (Matt. 27:1,20,41,62).

Matthew 27:41-42 Likewise also the chief priests mocking *him*, with the scribes and elders, said, He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him.

Jesus is rejected by National Israel

John 1:11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

Acts 3:12-15 ... Ye men of Israel...the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let *him* go. But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead...

Acts 4:10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead...

Acts 5:30-31 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. Him hath God exalted with his right hand *to be* a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

Acts 7:51-52 Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers *did*, so *do* ye. Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:

Beauty Broken **Zechariah 11:10** And I took my staff, *even* Beauty, and cut it asunder, that I might break my covenant which I had made with all the people.

Bands Broken Zechariah 11:14 Then I cut asunder mine other staff, *even* Bands, that I might break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.

God's favor and covenant is broken. Refer to verses above on previous page of rejection in Acts ch. 3-7.

Matthew 23:37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under *her* wings, and ye would not!

Zech. 11:12-13 Sold for 30 pieces of silver -- the price of a slave, gored to death by an ox (Exo. 21:32).

Matthew 26:15 And said *unto them*, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.

Matthew 27:3 Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders,

Matthew 27:6-7 And the chief priests took the silver pieces, and said, It is not lawful for to put them into the treasury, because it is the price of blood. And they took counsel, and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in.

Zechariah 11:11 And it was broken in that day: and so the poor of the flock that waited upon me knew that it *was* the word of the LORD.

The "little flock which waited upon" the Good Shepherd, obeyed the warning, and, fleeing to Pella, escaped the horrible judgment which fell on those who remained. BARNES

Zech 11:15-17 The foolish shepherd – the Antichrist

John 5:43 I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.

Israel, who rejected the True Shepherd will make a covenant with this foolish shepherd. That foolish shepherd will not care for the flock (vs 16) and will be destroyed (vs. 17).

2 Thessalonians 2:8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

Revelation 19:11&15 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war...And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

This chapter contains future prophecy with a focus on: Gentile nations attacking Israel; Jehovah protecting Israel; the *Time of Jacob's trouble*; and the return of King Jesus to earth.

Jehovah will deliver Jerusalem – *Jerusalem* is mentioned 11 times in ch. 12 & 10 times in ch. 14. God loves Jerusalem. Jerusalem was formerly Jebus. Temple Mount makes it a special city. 35 acres of property on Temple Mount is central to a spiritual war. (Even so, the spiritual war is over the heart of the unsaved; the heart of the saved; the family of the saved; and Grace Baptist Church & its ministries).

Zechariah 1:14 So the angel that communed with me said unto me, Cry thou, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; I am jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great jealousy.

Zechariah 3:2 And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: *is* not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

Ezekiel 48:35 *It was* round about eighteen thousand *measures*: and the name of the city from *that* day *shall be,* The LORD *is* there. (This is Jerusalem)

Zechariah 12:1 The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him.

The LORD is LORD of all above (heavens); beneath (earth); and within (spirit of man).

The LORD – Jehovah / Creator / Giver of life to mankind... Gen. 1:1; 1:26, 2:7

He has chosen Israel and given them their land forever. If the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth has decided to do this; then He can do this. He is sovereign and has a will. We are to submit to Him.

Genesis 14:19 And he blessed him, and said, Blessed *be* Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

He will defend, protect, deliver and redeem Jerusalem, the holy city and Israel, the people of God. This applies to the born again Christian – you are a CHILD of God:

Isaiah 41:10 Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: be not dismayed; for I *am* thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Isaiah 41:13 For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

Jerusalem will be a point of contention

Zechariah 12:2-3 Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah *and* against Jerusalem. And in that day will I make

Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.

Zechariah 12:9 And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

God uses demons to gather all nations at Armageddon

Revelation 16:14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, *which* go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

Revelation 16:15-16 Behold, I come as a thief...And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

Zechariah 14:2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle...

God will help Jerusalem

Zechariah 12:4-5 In that day, saith the LORD, I will smite every horse with astonishment, and his rider with madness: and I will open mine eyes upon the house of Judah, and will smite every horse of the people with blindness. And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart, The inhabitants of Jerusalem *shall be* my strength in the LORD of hosts their God.

Victory Given via Supernatural Help (Note the three groups of people in these verses)

Zechariah 12:6-7 In that day will I make the governors of Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left: and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, *even* in Jerusalem. The LORD also shall save the **tents of Judah first**, that the glory of **the house of David** and the glory of the **inhabitants of Jerusalem** do not magnify *themselves* against Judah.

Zechariah 12:8 In that day shall the LORD defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David *shall be* as God, as the angel of the LORD before them.

Israel will be Saved by Grace – the Day of Atonement probably on Yom Kippur

Romans 11:26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

Zechariah 12:10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they **shall look upon me whom they have pierced**, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for *his* only *son*, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for *his* firstborn.

Revelation 1:7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they *also* which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

John 19:34-35 But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. And he that saw *it* bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe.

A Great Mourning

The words mourn or mourning are words to describe conviction of sin – against a holy God.

James 4:8-9 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *ye* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *ye* double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and *your* joy to heaviness.

They will mourn when they see Him whom they have pierced...

Matthew 24:30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven...

Zechariah 12:11 In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem... **Zechariah 12:12** And the land shall mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart...

Mourning is associated with repentance

2 Timothy 2:25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

Luke 5:8 When Simon Peter saw *it*, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.

Exodus 20:18-19 And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw *it*, they removed, and stood afar off. And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die.

Saul met Jesus

Acts 9:5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: *it is* hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

Acts 9:6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

Thomas saw Him that was pierced...

John 20:27-28 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust *it* into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. And **Thomas answered and said** unto him, My Lord and my God.

Isaiah 53:5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities...

We too shall see the nail pierced hands...

When we see the Lamb slain – slain for our sins – we too shall mourn and rejoice – perhaps at the same time?? Truly mixed emotions – we will realize the great sacrifice of the *broken body* of our Saviour.

Ezra 3:13 So that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people: for the people shouted with a loud shout, and the noise was heard afar off.

Isaiah 50:6 I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting.

Isaiah 52:14 As many were astonied at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men:

Acts 7:55-56 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

Revelation 5:6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain...

When they mourn at His 2nd coming in Zech. 12:11-14, each family will mourn separately and men will mourn separate from the women.

Perhaps you have stood at the body of one you loved lying in a casket and mourned. We will mourn as we witness the *living sacrifice* of the body of Jesus Christ. With this in mind, it is a reasonable idea for Paul to beg us to give ourselves to the cause of Christ.

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

Israel will mourn because they are responsible for the death of Christ (humanly speaking) and we will mourn because we are responsible for the death of Christ (spiritually speaking – He died for our sins).

1 Corinthians **15:3** For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

Rom. 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

1 Peter 3:18 For **Christ also hath once suffered for sins**, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

2 Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Israel will be saved. Peter, Thomas and Saul were saved. Have you been born again?

Often prophecy in the Bible does not follow chronological order.

Revelation 12:5 And she brought forth a man child, (Virgin Birth) who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron (Millennial Reign of King Jesus): and her child was caught up unto God, and *to* his throne (Resurrection of Jesus Christ).

In this chapter the following events are foretold:

0	Salvation of Israel to begin the Millennium	Vs. 1-2
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- \circ False Prophets exposed in the Millennium Vs. 3-5
- Crucifixion of Messiah ~ 30 A.D. Vs. 6-7
- Purging of Israel in Tribulation Period
 Vs. 8-9

> Salvation of Israel to begin the Millennium Vs. 1-2

When Jesus sets up His kingdom – he will start afresh – similar to the new start after the worldwide flood. This cleansing will give salvation of Israel and doing away with false teaching.

There will be cleansing of sin and uncleanness for Israel (Rom. 11:26, Zech. 12:10)

Zechariah 13:1 In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

Zechariah 12:7 The LORD also shall save the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem do not magnify *themselves* against Judah.

There will be cleansing of idols, false prophets and unclean spirits

Zechariah 13:2 And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD of hosts, *that* I will cut off the names of the idols out of the land, and they shall no more be remembered: and also I will cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to pass out of the land.

Every false doctrine has a spirit behind it

1 John 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

The devil will attack from without – the world and also from within – false doctrine. People will stay lost due to false doctrine – baptism saves / no hell / no devil / all will make it / good works saves...

> False Prophets exposed in the Millennium Vs. 3-6

The ultimate false prophet is destroyed at the end of the Tribulation Period.

Revelation 19:20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him... These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Now false prophets emerge again in the Millennium – but they will be exposed by their parents (vs.3).

False prophets would often suffer self-inflicted wounds.

"These were wounds he had given himself in the temples and churches, dedicated to angels and saints, his patrons, friends, and lovers; with whom he committed spiritual adultery or idolatry, and before whose images and shrines he had cut and given himself these wounds and gashes, to the great dishonour of Christ, as if his crucifixion and wounds were of no avail..." GILL (See 1 Kings 18:26-28)

(Today, *cutting* is from a similar *spirit*. Most often cutting is done by those who have suffered tremendous inner pain in early childhood – not due to false prophets but the end result is similar to this O.T. practice. The methodology of spirits are similar. For example, the worship of mother and child is common: Babylonian - Semiramis; Egyptian – Isis & Osiris; India – Isi & Iswara; Asia – Cybele & Deoius; Rome – Furtuna & Jupiter; Greece – Ceres & babe).

Christ being crucified was treated as if He were a false prophet...

Thus, it may be likely that this verse speaks of the combination of the treatment of false prophets and the treatment of Messiah – as a connecting thought between the false prophets of vs. 3-5 and the crucifixion of Christ in vs. 7.

Mark 3:19-22 And Judas Iscariot, which also betrayed him: and they went into an house. And the multitude cometh together again, so that they could not so much as eat bread. And when his friends heard of it, they went out to lay hold on him: for they said, He is beside himself. And the scribes which came down from Jerusalem said, He hath Beelzebub, and by the prince of the devils casteth he out devils.

John 7:5 For neither did his brethren believe in him.

Romans 9:5 Whose *are* the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ *came*, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

Matthew 26:47-50 ...lo, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude...Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he: hold him fast. And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, Hail, master; and kissed him. And Jesus said unto him, Friend, wherefore art thou come? Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus, and took him.

> Crucifixion of Messiah Vs. 7

Matthew 26:31 Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad.

As Jesus neared Calvary, the committed disciples thinned out...multitudes, 70, 12, then just a few:

John 19:25-26 Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the *wife* of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son!

The sheep were scattered. One job of the pastor is to feed & protect the sheep. A church without a pastor is vulnerable.

Acts 20:28-29 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

> Purging of Israel in Tribulation Period Vs. 8-9

Israel will go through the refining fires of the Tribulation Period. 1/3 will be brought to the end of that 7-year period and be saved.

Zechariah 13:9 And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined...

Elijah will come (Mal. 4:5) and Israel will be refined as gold is refined.

Malachi 3:1-3 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me...But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he *is* like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: And he shall sit *as* a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

God refines people via the fiery trials – as the dross of sin is removed and we are cleansed.

1 Peter **1:7** That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

1 Peter 4:12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

Jehovah & Israel: (These *friends* of vs. 6 – which were literally scattered will be reunited)

Zechariah 13:9 they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It *is* my people: and they shall say, The LORD *is* my God.

Reminder – this is the 70th week of Daniel:

Daniel 9:24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city...

Jeremiah 30:6-7 Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: it *is* even the **time of Jacob's trouble**; but **he shall be saved out of it.**

The destruction of Jerusalem - a future event

Zechariah 14:1-2 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

This is fueled by a hatred of God and God's people. Hatred is often backed by demonic activity.

Jesus Christ Himself comes to earth

Zechariah 14:4-5 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which *is* before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, *and there shall be* a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. And ye shall flee *to* the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, *and* all the saints with thee.

Will He come again? Here are some testimonies as to the sureness of His coming.

Testimony of Jesus Himself

Matthew 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

Luke 9:26 For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and *in his* Father's, and of the holy angels.

Testimony of Angels

Acts 1:9-12 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet...

Zechariah 14:4 And **his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives**, which *is* before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward...

Testimony of Paul

Titus 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

Testimony of James

James 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

Testimony of Jude

Jude 1:14 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,

Testimony of John

Revelation 1:7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they *also* which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

Description of His Coming...

1) Clarence Larkin:

"The wicked will be plotting dark deeds; and the unbelieving will be proving to their own satisfaction that there is no God, no heaven, no hell, no coming judgment, when suddenly there will be a change. In the distant heaven there will be a POINT OF LIGHT outshining the sun. It will be seen descending toward the earth. As it descends it will assume the form of a bright cloud, out of which shall stream dazzling beams of light, and flashes of lighting. It will descend apace as if on the wings of the whirlwind, and when it reaches its destination over the brow of the Mt. Of Olives, it will stop and unfold itself to the terrified and awestricken beholders, and there will be revealed to them Jesus seated on a white horse and accompanied with His saints and the armies of heaven. Then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven; and then shall all the tribes of earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory."¹

2) John Walvoord:

"Christ is seen here as bodily leaving heaven and coming to earth. The white horse is symbolic of victory. It was customary for Roman generals after a conquest to parade on white horses with their captive prisoners in the procession that followed. The fact that Jesus comes on a white horse indicates that it is a time for His victory and for judgment on the wicked world.

He comes as a conquering King and Lord of lords. His purpose in coming is to execute justice on the world, and to accomplish this He will make war. The fact that He wears many crowns, signifying rulership, shows that He is indeed the proper King over all nations."²

3) Lehman Strauss:

"He is the Rider on the white horse coming to execute righteous judgment on the earth, as He said. When He appears on earth again, it will be to judge and make war. His judgment and His war will be those of the perfect man, the Faithful and True One. He is the mighty captain leading His armies from heaven to earth. Out of His mouth proceeds a sharp two-edged sword. It is He who smites the nations. The armies merely view the battle. Most battles are fought by armies while the general directs from a

¹ The Second Coming of Christ, Clarence Larkin, p. 27

² Every Prophecy of the Bible, John Walvoord, p.619-620

vantage point. But this General is unique, and He has never lost a battle. As KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS, He now returns to establish His kingdom."³

4) Bible Itself – Read Rev. 19:11-21

Isaiah 63:1-4 Who *is* this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this *that is* glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore *art thou* red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people *there was* none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance *is* in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.

Isaiah 34:5-8 For my sword shall be bathed in heaven: behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, and upon the people of my curse, to judgment. **The sword of the LORD is filled with blood**, it is made fat with fatness, *and* with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the LORD hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea. And the unicorns shall come down with them, and the bullocks with the bulls; and their land shall be soaked with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness. **For it is the day of the LORD'S vengeance**, *and* **the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion**.

Chronology of His Coming

Joel 3:15 The **sun and the moon shall be darkened**, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. (Joel 2:10, 2:31)

Joel 3:16 The **LORD also shall roar out of Zion**, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD *will be* the hope of his people...

Zechariah 14:5 And ye shall flee...as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the **LORD my God shall come**, *and* **all the saints with thee**.

Jude 1:14 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,

1 Thessalonians 3:13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the **coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints**.

Romans 11:26 And so **all Israel shall be saved**: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

Zechariah 14:3 Then shall the **LORD go forth, and fight against those nations**, as when he fought in the day of battle.

Zechariah 14:12 And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; **Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth. Revelation 14:20** And the winepress was trodden without the city, and **blood came out of the**

winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand *and* six hundred furlongs. Revelation 19:17-18 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all *men, both* free and bond, both small and great.

³ Revelation, Lehman Strauss, p.323-326

Revelation 19:20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. Joel 3:12 Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about.

This will be the judgment of the nations – Sheep & Goat Judgment of Matthew chapter 25. Entrance into the Millennium will be determined upon the treatment of Israel... (Matt. 25:35-45)

Revelation 20:1-3 And I saw an angel come down from heaven...And he laid hold on the dragon, **that old** serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

King Jesus will begin His Millennial Reign on earth

Zechariah 14:9 And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.

Psalms 2:6-7 Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou *art* my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

Psalms 47:7-8 For God *is* the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding. God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness.

Psalms 86:9 All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord...

Isaiah 2:2-4 And it shall come to pass in the last days, *that* the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Micah 4:1-3 But in the last days it shall come to pass, *that* the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, *but* it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

As the Tribulation Period comes to a close, the Lord Jesus Christ will return just as the Bible described. He will come to judge the wicked, save Israel and set up His kingdom. King Jesus will reign on earth. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Even so, come Lord Jesus.

Zechariah Chapter 14:5-21 – The Feast of Tabernacles

The true Feast of Tabernacles will be when God will dwell with humanity on earth. The O.T. Feast of Tabernacles was a shadow of this coming event. Its complete fulfillment will be in eternity.

Colossians 2:16-17 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath *days*: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body *is* of Christ.

Zechariah 14:9 And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.

This verse describe the Millennial Reign of King Jesus... we will come back with Him...

Zechariah 14:5 ...and the LORD my God shall come, *and* all the saints with thee. Why will we come back with Him? – to rule & reign...

Revelation 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.

Revelation 2:26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

Revelation 5:10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

Daniel 7:18 But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.

Revelation 20:6 Blessed and holy *is* he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but **they shall be priests of God** and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

Revelation 22:3-5 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his **servants shall serve him**... And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall **reign for ever and ever**.

2 Timothy 2:12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:

Are you living for this life or the next life?

Matthew 6:19-20 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

No Night

Zechariah 14:7 But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, *that* at evening time it shall be light.

Revelation 21:23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof.

Topography of Jerusalem will change (Zech 14:10-11) See Isa. 2:2-4, Micah 4:1-3

Jesus will reign in peace & righteousness (Melchizedek was a type of Christ - Heb. 7:2)

Zechariah 14:11 And *men* shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

Defeat of enemy army at 2nd Coming

Zechariah 14:12 And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 ...when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord...

Revelation 19:17-18 ...saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all *men, both* free and bond, both small and great.

Everyone that is Left - to enter the Millennial Reign

Zechariah 14:16 ...*that* **every one that is left** of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and **to keep the feast of tabernacles.**

Matthew 24:40-41 ... Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Matthew 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

Go to Jerusalem to Feast of Tabernacles to worship the King

Zechariah 14:17 And it shall be, *that* whoso will not come up of *all* the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain.

How ungrateful will humanity be that some will ignore this feast - Jesus will rule with rod of iron. Humans can be so ungrateful. Today, so many ignore the great sacrifice of the blood of Jesus...

(Ps. 2:8-11; Ps. 47:7-8) Holiness will reign

Zechariah 14:20 In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD; and the pots in the LORD'S house shall be like the bowls before the altar.

Hebrews 11:16 But now they desire a better *country*, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.