

***1 Zechariah 12-14 (Ezra 6:15-22) The Completion of the Temple**

It is interesting that we find ourselves in the prophet Zechariah on Palm Sunday. Zechariah has so many prophecies of the rejection of Jesus by Israel, His crucifixion, His resurrection, 2nd coming and eternal reign! In way of review, last week in our study we saw:

***2 Zechariah 9** ⁹ Rejoice, O people of Zion! Shout in triumph, O people of Jerusalem! Look, your king is coming to you. **He is righteous and victorious, yet He is humble, riding on a donkey— riding on a donkey's colt.**

***2a** This was fulfilled on “Palm Sunday” when Jesus rode into the city (Matt. 21:4–5; John 12:12–16). Alexander came for war; Jesus came with peace. How did they treat Him? Zechariah 13:7 tells us He was to be arrested (Matt. 26:31) and smitten. He was sold for the price of a slave (Zech. 11:12; Matt. 27:3–10). He was pierced on the cross (Zech. 12:10). What a tragedy that the “City of Peace” should reject her “Prince of Peace” and crucify Him. Warren Wiersbe ¹

***3 Zechariah 10** ⁴ **From Judah will come the cornerstone**, the tent peg, the bow for battle, and all the rulers. ⁵ They will be like mighty warriors in battle, trampling their enemies in the mud under their feet. Since YaHWeH is with them as they fight, they will overthrow even the enemy's horsemen.

***3a** Isaiah 28:16 Therefore, this is what the Sovereign YaHWeH says: “Look! *I am placing a foundation stone in Jerusalem, a firm and tested stone. It is a precious cornerstone that is safe to build on. Whoever believes need never be shaken.*”

But that Cornerstone would be rejected, betrayed to the religious rulers and put to death.

***3b Zechariah 11** ¹² And I said to them, **“If you like, give me my wages, whatever I am worth; but only if you want to.” So they counted out for my wages thirty pieces of silver.** (the price of a slave) ¹³ And YaHWeH said to me, “Throw it to the potter”—this magnificent sum at which they valued me! So I took the thirty coins and threw them to the potter in the Temple of YaHWeH.

This morning we will look at the last 3 chapters of Zechariah, starting in 12:

***4 Zechariah 12** ¹ This message concerning the fate of Israel came from YaHWeH: “This message is from YaHWeH, **who stretched out the heavens, laid the foundations of the earth, and formed the human spirit.** ² I will make **Jerusalem like an intoxicating drink that makes the nearby**

¹ Warren W. Wiersbe, [*Wiersbe's Expository Outlines on the Old Testament*](#) (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1993), Zec 9:9.

nations stagger when they send their armies to besiege Jerusalem and Judah.

It is amazing how the nations around Israel have targeted them for extinction. There really is no logic involved. They never cared about Jerusalem from the time of Mohammed until the Jews were trying to return to Israel in the 1920's. Then the Arab leadership under the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem began to fabricate lies to incite the Arabs against the Jews.

Muslims claim Jerusalem as their third-holiest city, but Jerusalem is not mentioned once in the Koran. In addition, “During the centuries when Jerusalem was under complete Arab control, no Arab ruler or Islamic leader ever made it the object of a religious pilgrimage – again a strange indifference toward a city which is now considered to be the third-holiest religious site in Islam after Mecca and Medina.” Dave Hunt

***5 - Temple Mount neglected 1900's, *6 – City of David only fields 1910**

***7** Jerusalem's importance to Muslims comes from the belief that in the Dome of the Rock shrine there is a rock where two significant things happened – where Abraham intended to offer Isaac as a sacrifice, and where Mohammed allegedly ascended into heaven. **Though this tradition is firmly in the Muslim mind, it is of recent origin. It was invented by Yasser Arafat's uncle – Haj Amin el-Husseini, who was the past Grand Mufti of Jerusalem.** He promoted this myth in the 1920's and 1930's to arouse Arab passions against the growing Jewish presence in Jerusalem.

***8 – The Mufti became Hitler's friend and “apprentice” against the Jews!**

The verse in the Koran that describes Mohammed's trip to heaven is Surah 17:1: *Glorified be He who carried His servant by night from the Inviolable Place of Worship to the Far Distant Place [al-Aqsa] of Worship the neighborhood whereof We have blessed, that We might show him of Our tokens!* The Islamic interpretation says that the *Inviolable Place of Worship* is Mecca, and this is accepted by all. **It then says that the *Far Distant Place of Worship* is Jerusalem – but this has no substantiation because Jerusalem had never been a place of Islamic worship to that time, nor would it be for centuries afterward.**

***9 Modern Jerusalem** These verses are *exactly* fulfilled in modern Jerusalem. **The problem between Jews and the Arab world has boiled down to one point: Jerusalem.** In peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, Israel was willing to concede almost everything to the Palestinians in an amazing willingness to make peace. The only thing Israel would not concede was *sovereignty over Jerusalem*, and the entire deal was ruined over that one point. Dave Hunt

***10 Zechariah 12³ On that day I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock. All the nations will gather against it to try to move it, but they will only hurt themselves.** ⁴ “On that day,” says YahWeH, “I will cause every horse to panic and every rider to lose his nerve. I will watch over the people of Judah, but I will blind all the horses of their enemies. ⁵ And the clans of Judah will say to themselves, ‘The people of Jerusalem have found strength in YahWeH of Heaven's Armies, their God.’ ⁶ “On that day I will make the clans of Judah like a flame that sets a woodpile ablaze or like a

burning torch among sheaves of grain. **They will burn up all the neighboring nations right and left, while the people living in Jerusalem remain secure.**

This unique city is the only one upon which God has bestowed His distinctive blessing and protection (Ps 132:13-14), and the only city for whose peace we are commanded to pray (Ps 122:6). God says He has chosen Jerusalem as the place where He has put His name forever (2 Chr 6:6; 33:7; Ps 46:4; 48:1-8; 87:3). The new heavens and new earth will contain ‘the city of my God...new Jerusalem’ (Rv 3:12; 21:2). That there will be a ‘heavenly Jerusalem’ (Heb 12:22) but no ‘heavenly’ New York, Paris, London, Damascus, Cairo, etc. speaks volumes.” (Dave Hunt, *The Berean Call* – September 2000)

***11 Zechariah 12** ⁷ “YaHWeH will give victory to the rest of Judah first, before Jerusalem, so that the people of Jerusalem and the royal line of David will not have greater honor than the rest of Judah. ⁸ On that day YaHWeH will defend the people of Jerusalem; the weakest among them will be as mighty as King David! And the royal descendants will be like God, like the angel of YaHWeH who goes before them! ⁹ **For on that day I will begin to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.**

***11a** “. . . we place the entire passage in the time of the Great Tribulation and more specifically in the Battle of Armageddon, when the nations of the earth will make their last frantic effort to blot Israel out of existence, only to be met by the most crushing defeat at the hands of the Lord of hosts Himself.” Daniel Feinberg

***12 Zechariah 12** ¹⁰ “**Then I will pour out a spirit of grace and prayer on the family of David and on the people of Jerusalem. They will look on Me** (YaHWeH speaking Vs 1) **whom they have pierced and mourn for Him as for an only Son.** They will grieve bitterly for Him as for a firstborn Son who has died.

***12a** The unusual combination “they will look to *Me* whom they have pierced” and “they will mourn for *Him*” suggests two different individuals, but the deity of the Messiah solves this problem. Yahweh Himself would suffer for the people in the person of Messiah. The suffering could be figurative (they wounded His holiness) or substitutionary (He died in place of others). Other references to this text point to a substitute suffering (e.g., John 19:37; Rev. 1:7; cf. Isa. 53:5). ²

MAKE NO MISTAKE; IT WAS GOD WHO DIED ON THAT CROSS!

“. . . like Thomas their excruciating and inexpressibly penetrating cry of deepest contrition will be, ‘My Lord and my God!’ (John 20:28).” Unger

“It is not so much a mourning for the act committed, but for the Person involved.” Daniel Feinberg

² Tom Constable, [*Tom Constable's Expository Notes on the Bible*](#) (Galaxie Software, 2003), Zec 12:10.

Note that this comes from the Spirit of GRACE! What an evidence of God's incredible GRACE in the lives of His people. Isn't it true that every time you look on the One whom YOU have pierced, God's grace prompts you to grieve and mourn for your own wickedness which put Jesus on the cross?!!

***13 Revelation 1:7 (NLT)** ⁷ Look! He comes with the clouds of heaven. And everyone will see Him— even those who pierced Him. And all the nations of the world will mourn for Him. Yes! Amen!

***13a Romans 11:26–27 (NLT)** ²⁶ And so all Israel will be saved. As the Scriptures say, “The One who rescues will come from Jerusalem, and He will turn Israel away from ungodliness. ²⁷ And this is My covenant with them, that I will take away their sins.”

***13b** “Nothing can excite to repentance like a view of the crucified Savior.”
Daniel Feinberg

Have you looked upon the One who was pierced for your sins and cried out in sorrow and repentance? Having you cried out to Him for forgiveness of your sins? The Jews will:

***14 Zechariah 12** ¹¹ **The sorrow and mourning in Jerusalem on that day will be like the great mourning for Hadad-rimmon in the valley of Megiddo.** [This refers to the mourning over King Josiah's death (2 Kings 23:29 and 2 Chronicles 35:20-25).] ¹² “All Israel will mourn, each clan by itself, and with the husbands separate from their wives. The clan of David will mourn alone, as will **the clan of Nathan (Zerubbabel came from Nathan's line)**, ¹³ the clan of Levi, and the clan of Shimei. ¹⁴ Each of the surviving clans from Judah will mourn separately, and **with the husbands separate from their wives.**

***14a** The nation will look upon the Pierced One (12:10; John 19:37; Rev. 1:7) and will repent of her sins and mourn. God will open His gracious fountain and cleanse them of their sins. **Note the specific groups of people who will repent (12:12–14): David (royalty), Nathan (the prophets), Levi (the priests).** Throughout Israel's history, it has been the prophets, priests, and kings who often led the people astray.³

“The wives are spoken of as mourning apart because in public lamentations the custom prevailed of separating into groups, also according to sex.” Leopold

From 520–515 BC the people labored and finished the temple.

***15 Ezra 6** ¹⁵ The Temple was completed on March 12, during the sixth year of King Darius's reign. ¹⁶ The Temple of God was then **dedicated** [“The word for dedication (hanukka) was later to become the name of a festival in memory of the Temple's re-consecration in 165 b.c. after its profanation by Antiochus Epiphanes (John 10:22f.)” (Kidner)] with great joy by the people of Israel, the priests, the Levites, and the rest of the people who had returned from exile. ¹⁷ During the

³ Warren W. Wiersbe, *Wiersbe's Expository Outlines on the Old Testament* (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1993), Zec 12:10–14:21.

dedication ceremony for the Temple of God, 100 young bulls, 200 rams, and 400 male lambs were sacrificed. And 12 male goats were presented as a sin offering for the twelve tribes of Israel. ¹⁸ Then the priests and Levites were divided into their various divisions to serve at the Temple of God in Jerusalem, as prescribed in the Book of Moses.

***16** The builders finished the temple on Adar 3 (in late February), 515 B.C. This was about four and one-half years after Haggai and Zechariah had gotten the builders moving again (in 520 B.C.). It was about 21 years after the Jews had laid the foundation (in 536 B.C.) and about 24 years after Cyrus had issued his decree allowing the Jews to return to Palestine (in 539 B.C.). It was 70 years after Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the temple (586 B.C.). Thus God fulfilled Jeremiah's prophecy that the captivity would last 70 years (Jer. 25:11; 29:10). Nebuchadnezzar burned the temple down in the fifth month of 586 B.C. (2 Kings 25:8–9) and the restoration Jews reopened it in the twelfth month of 515 B.C. Solomon's temple had stood for almost 400 years, but the second temple lasted longer, about 585 years, until Titus destroyed it in A.D. 70. Tom Constable

Compared to the dedication of Solomon's temple (1 Kings 8:62-66), this was a meager dedication celebration. Solomon sacrificed some 142,000 animals at his dedication of the temple; here at the dedication of the second temple they only sacrificed a total of 712 animals. The fact that sacrifice was made for the twelve tribes shows that regathered Israel had the real sense that they were the collective product of all twelve tribes, and there were not ten or any other number of "lost" tribes. David Guzik

Yet, all was not the same as in the previous service in the days of Solomon's temple. "The general plan of the second temple resembled the first. But the [Most Holy Place] was left empty as the ark of the covenant had been lost through the Babylonian conquest . . . [The Holy Place] was furnished with a table for showbread, the incense altar, and one menorah instead of Solomon's ten." Yamauchi

***17 Ezra 6** ¹⁹ On April 21 the returned exiles celebrated Passover. ²⁰ The priests and Levites had purified themselves and were ceremonially clean. **So they slaughtered the Passover lamb for all the returned exiles, for their fellow priests, and for themselves.** ²¹ The Passover meal was eaten by the people of Israel who had returned from exile and by the others in the land who had turned from their corrupt practices ('the filthiness of the heathen.') to worship YaHWeH, the God of Israel. ²² **Then they celebrated the Festival of Unleavened Bread for seven days.** There was great joy throughout the land because YaHWeH had caused the king of Assyria to be favorable to them, so that he helped them to rebuild the Temple of God, the God of Israel.

"We may suspect a spirit of Jewish animosity in the ugly phrase 'the filthiness of the heathen.' **But it was only too true that both the Canaanite and the Babylonian habits of life were disgustingly immoral.** The same horrible characteristic is found among most of the heathen today. These degraded people are not simply benighted in theological error; they are corrupted by horrible vices. Missionary work is more than the propagation of Christian theology; **it is the purging of Augean stables.**" Walter Adeney

[**Augeas**, the mythical king of Elis, kept great **stables** that held 3,000 oxen and had not been cleaned for thirty years - until Hercules was assigned the job. Hercules accomplished this task by causing two rivers to run through the **stables**. ... We can refer to "**Augean tasks**," "**Augean labor**," or even "**Augean clutter**."]]

***18 Zechariah 13** ¹ "On that day a fountain will be opened for the dynasty of David and for the people of Jerusalem, **a fountain to cleanse them from all their sins and impurity.**

"The connection between chapters 12 and 13 is so close that a chapter division is really uncalled for. **The same people, the same subject, and the same time are in view in both chapters. Once Israel is brought to a penitent condition and is brought face to face with her crucified Messiah, then the provision of God for cleansing will be appropriate.**" Daniel Feinberg

As the Passover Lamb atoned for their sins and saved them from the death angel in Egypt, so the celebration of Passover became a picture of what the death of God on the cross for their sins would do for Israel. He would cleanse them from their sins! That same cleansing fountain is available for you and me!

The idea of the sin-cleansing fountain has also been a part of famous hymns:

***18a** *There is a fountain filled with blood, Drawn from Immanuel's veins;*

And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, Lose all their guilty stains. (William Cowper)

This is both a fountain of blood and water! Fountains are not filled with blood, but with water. The proclamation of the gospel in the first century concluded with an exhortation to "repent and be baptized" (Acts 2:38; 22:16). To this grand act of submission to Jesus' Lordship Paul refers when he speaks of the "**washing of regeneration.**"

***19** As the sinner is baptized into the death of Christ (Rom 6:3) the blood of Jesus is sprinkled upon him (1 Pet 1:2). That blood continues to cleanse the believer who confesses his sins to the Lord (1 John 1:7). Thus in prophetic language, the passage is alluding to the gospel plan of salvation: faith (looking unto the pierced one), repentance (mourning over sin) and baptism (the fountain of cleansing).⁴

***19a** Acts 2:38–39 (NIV84) ³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

***20 Zechariah 13** ² "And on that day," says YaHWeH of Heaven's Armies, "I will erase idol worship throughout the land, so that even the names of the idols will be forgotten. I will remove from the land both the false prophets and the spirit of impurity that came with them.

⁴ James E. Smith, *The Minor Prophets*, Old Testament Survey Series (Joplin, MO: College Press, 1994), Zec 13:1.

***20a** When you see the gaudy and ornate shrines that supposedly mark holy sites in Israel today, you see that idolatry is still alive and well in the Holy Land. God promises to cleanse the land from such idolatry completely. David Guzik

***21 Zechariah 13** ³ If anyone continues to prophesy, his own father and mother will tell him, 'You must die, for you have prophesied lies in the name of YaHWeH.' And as he prophesies, his own father and mother will stab him. ⁴ "On that day people will be ashamed to claim the prophetic gift. No one will pretend to be a prophet by wearing prophet's clothes. ⁵ He will say, 'I'm no prophet; I'm a farmer. I began working for a farmer as a boy.'

***21a Deuteronomy 13:6–11 (NLT)** ⁶ "Suppose someone secretly entices you—even your brother, your son or daughter, your beloved wife, or your closest friend—and says, 'Let us go worship other gods'—gods that neither you nor your ancestors have known. ⁷ They might suggest that you worship the gods of peoples who live nearby or who come from the ends of the earth. ⁸ But do not give in or listen. Have no pity, and do not spare or protect them. ⁹ You must put them to death! Strike the first blow yourself, and then all the people must join in. ¹⁰ Stone the guilty ones to death because they have tried to draw you away from YaHWeH your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of slavery. ¹¹ Then all Israel will hear about it and be afraid, and no one will act so wickedly again. [See also De 18:20.]

***22 Zechariah 13** ⁶ And if someone asks, '**Then what about those wounds on your chest?**' (*Lit. between your hands*) **he will say, 'I was wounded at my friends' house!'**

***22a** Though some expositors believed this verse describes Messiah and His wounds, **the preceding context and lack of any New Testament citation of the verse in relation to Messiah argue against this view.** Unger

***22b** "The man being questioned has denied that he ever was a false prophet. His questioner, however, is suspicious and persists in the examination. It was customary for false prophets to inflict cuttings or wounds on themselves." G. Coleman Luck

Note to self: Don't pretend to be something that you're not!

***23 Zechariah 13** ⁷ "Awake, O sword, against **My** shepherd, the man who is My partner," says YaHWeH of Heaven's Armies. "**Strike down the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered...**

In 11:17 it was the worthless shepherd whom the Lord would strike, but here it is the Good Shepherd. The one doing the striking is evidently God Himself since "strike" is masculine in the Hebrew text and agrees with "YaHWeH of hosts." If so, Zechariah presented Messiah's death as God's activity as well as Israel's (12:10–14). Tom Constable

The one who is smitten is described in two ways. First, the sword would awake against "My shepherd." The reference is not to the foolish shepherd of 11:15–17, nor the national leaders who would oppress Israel (cf. 11:5). The smitten one is the Shepherd of Yahweh, the Good Shepherd introduced in 11:4. This Shepherd is none other than Messiah, the one who is identified with Yahweh in 12:10. Second, the smitten one is "**the man that is My fellow.**" The word "fellow"

(*'amiti*) occurs only here and in Leviticus where it is usually rendered “neighbor.” It suggests one united to another by the possession of common nature, rights and privileges. **The language could refer only to Christ** (cf. John 10:30). James Smith

Mark 14:27 (NLT) ²⁷ On the way, Jesus told them, “All of you will desert me. For the Scriptures say, ‘God will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’

***23a Matthew 26:30–32 (NASB95)** ³⁰ After singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ³¹ Then Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away because of Me this night, for it is written, ‘I WILL STRIKE DOWN THE SHEPHERD, AND THE SHEEP OF THE FLOCK SHALL BE SCATTERED.’” ³² “But after I have been raised, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.”

***24 Isaiah 53:10 (ESV)** ¹⁰ Yet it was the will of YahWeH to crush Him; He has put Him to grief; when His soul makes an offering for guilt, He shall see His offspring; He shall prolong His days; the will of YahWeH shall prosper in His hand.

***24a Acts 2:22–23 (ESV)** ²² “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves know— ²³ this **Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.**

David Guzik: The Father and the Son worked together at the cross. Though Jesus was *treated* as if He were an enemy of God, He was not. Even as Jesus was punished as if He were a sinner, He was performing the most holy service unto God the Father ever offered. **2 Corinthians 5:17–19 (NASB95)** ¹⁷ Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. ¹⁸ Now all *these things* are from God, **who reconciled us to Himself through Christ** and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹ **namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself**, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

***25 Zechariah 13 “and I will turn against the lambs.”** ⁸ Two-thirds of the people in the land will be cut off and die,” says YahWeH. “But one-third will be left in the land. ⁹ I will bring that group through the fire and make them pure. I will refine them like silver and purify them like gold. **They will call on My name**, and I will answer them. I will say, ‘These are My people,’ and they will say, ‘YahWeH is our God.’ ”

***25a** The smiting of the Good Shepherd would result in terrible devastation, carnage and death “in all the land.” Two-thirds of the population—the vast majority which rejected Messiah—would perish. Most likely the reference is to the war with Rome which broke out in A.D. 66 James Smith

The language of this passage seems to go far beyond what happened in 66–70 AD and appears to describe the tribulation period at the end of the age.

***26** Evidently two-thirds of the Jews will perish during the Tribulation and one-third will live through it and enter the Millennium. (“*the time of Jacob’s trouble*” Jeremiah 30:7) This surviving remnant then must include the 144,000 of Revelation 7:1–8 and 14:1–5. The one-third will call on the Lord’s name in supplication for forgiveness (12:10). The Lord will

respond to their cry by reaffirming His new covenant relationship with them, and they will agree to it (cf. Ezek. 20:37). Tom Constable

***27** This chapter (14) pictures the triumphant return of Israel's Messiah as the divine King. Thus it portrays the fulfillment of eschatological psalms—such as Psalms 93; 96–97; 99—which envision the universal earthly reign of the Lord. This reign is known from other Scriptures as the personal reign of the Messiah on the throne of David. Zechariah 14 progresses from the initial plundering of Jerusalem near the end of the future Tribulation, through the catastrophic judgment on the Gentile armies at Messiah's Second Advent and the establishment of His millennial reign, to a description of the worship in Jerusalem during the Millennium. The fact that these events have not yet occurred points to a premillennial return of Christ, that is, His return *before* the Millennium. Duane Lindsay ⁵

***28 Zechariah 14** ¹ Watch, **for the day of YaHWeH is coming** when your possessions will be plundered right in front of you! ² I will gather **all** the nations to fight against Jerusalem. The city will be taken, the houses looted, and the women raped. Half the population will be taken into captivity, and the rest will be left among the ruins of the city. ³ Then YaHWeH will go out to fight against those nations, as he has fought in times past. ⁴ **On that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem. And the Mount of Olives will split apart, making a wide valley running from east to west.** Half the mountain will move toward the north and half toward the south. ⁵ You will flee through this valley, for it will reach across to Azal. Yes, you will flee as you did from the earthquake in the days of King Uzziah of Judah. **Then YaHWeH my God will come, and all His holy ones with Him.** ***28a – Picture of Jerusalem looking toward Mount of Olives**

The Lord would gather all the nations against Jerusalem to fight against her (cf. Rev. 16:16–21, Armageddon). They would capture the city, plunder the houses, and rape the women. Half of the Jewish residents would depart as exiles, but the other half would remain. This has never yet happened. This would be one-half of the portion of the one-third of the Jewish population that would be in Jerusalem that had not died during the Tribulation (13:8). Tom Constable

“The actual order of events in this day peculiarly the Lord's is: (1) the nations assembled to war against Jerusalem (vs. 2); (2) the city captured and plundered, etc. (vs. 2); (3) the spoil of the city divided within its walls (vs. 1); (4) the Lord's intervention (vs. 3).” Unger

Then the Lord would come with all His holy ones with Him, namely, Christians in heaven and angels (cf. Ps. 89:5, 7; Matt. 25:31; Col. 4:4; 1 Thess. 3:13; Jude 14; Rev. 19:11–16). Tom Constable

***29 Revelation 19:11–16 (ESV)** ¹¹ Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ¹² His

⁵ F. Duane Lindsey, [“Zechariah,”](#) in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 1 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 1569.

eyes are like a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems, and He has a name written that no one knows but Himself. ¹³ He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which He is called is The Word of God.

***29a Psalm 2:6–12 (NASB95)** ⁶ “But as for Me, I have installed My King upon Zion, My holy mountain.” ⁷ “I will surely tell of the decree of YaHWeH: He said to Me, ‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. ⁸ ‘Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Your possession. ⁹ ‘You shall break them with a rod of iron, You shall shatter them like earthenware.’ ” ¹⁰ Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; Take warning, O judges of the earth. ¹¹ Worship YaHWeH with reverence and rejoice with trembling. ¹² Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish *in* the way, for His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!

This was the type of arrival the Jews in Jesus’ day hoped for. Indeed, when the Roman armies surrounded Jerusalem in 70 A.D. a mistaken assurance from prophecies like this made the Jews utterly confident that the Messiah would return from heaven and wipe out the Roman armies surrounding Jerusalem. They could not see that the Messiah must first be rejected and the nation brought to repentance as Zechariah mentioned in 11:12-13 and 12:10.

***30 Zechariah 14** ⁶ On that day the sources of light will no longer shine, ⁷ yet there will be continuous day! Only YaHWeH knows how this could happen. There will be no normal day and night, for at evening time it will still be light. ⁸ On that day **life-giving waters will flow out from Jerusalem**, half toward the Dead Sea and half toward the Mediterranean, flowing continuously in both summer and winter.

“There is no reason to take this [whole description] in any but a literal way, unless one is prepared to deny a literal coming of YHWH as well.” Merrill

Ezekiel 47 records a vision that may describe this scene. Ezekiel saw a river flowing from the throne of God and down to the Dead Sea, bringing life and vitality everywhere.

Zechariah 14 ⁹ **And YaHWeH will be king over all the earth. On that day there will be one YaHWeH—His Name alone will be worshiped.** ¹⁰ All the land from Geba, north of Judah, to Rimmon, south of Jerusalem, will become one vast plain. **But Jerusalem will be raised up in its original place** and will be inhabited all the way from the Benjamin Gate over to the site of the old gate, then to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king’s winepresses. ¹¹ **And Jerusalem will be filled, safe at last, never again to be cursed and destroyed.**

In all the amazing cataclysmic changes in geography in the last days out of the chaos Jerusalem will rise as God Holy city!

NASB95: ⁹ And YaHWeH will be king over all the earth; in that day YaHWeH will be *the only* one, and His name *the only* one.

***31** This vision of a restored, holy Jerusalem stands in contrast to its broken walls and unpleasant living conditions. One day God would fulfill the people's dreams for Jerusalem beyond what they could imagine. Zechariah was speaking to a people who were enduring hardships and they were being harassed by neighbors; they were discouraged over their small numbers and seemingly inadequate Temple; and their worship was apathetic. But God said, My love for Jerusalem and Mount Zion is passionate and strong. He promised to restore their land, their city, and their Temple. Like other prophets, Zechariah blended prophecies of the present, near future, and final days into one sweeping panorama. Through his message we learn that our hope is found in God and his Messiah, who are in complete control of the world. Life Application Bible

And YaHWeH will destroy Israel's enemies!

***32 Zechariah 14** ¹² And YaHWeH will send a plague on all the nations that fought against Jerusalem. Their people will become like walking corpses, their flesh rotting away. **Their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongues will rot in their mouths.** ¹³ On that day they will be terrified, stricken by YaHWeH with great panic. They will fight their neighbors hand to hand. ¹⁴ Judah, too, will be fighting at Jerusalem. The wealth of all the neighboring nations will be captured—great quantities of gold and silver and fine clothing. ¹⁵ This same plague will strike the horses, mules, camels, donkeys, and all the other animals in the enemy camps.

Zechariah 14 ¹⁶ In the end, the enemies of Jerusalem who survive the plague will go up to Jerusalem each year to worship the King, YaHWeH of Heaven's Armies, and to celebrate the Festival of Shelters. ¹⁷ Any nation in the world that refuses to come to Jerusalem to worship the King, YaHWeH of Heaven's Armies, will have no rain. ¹⁸ If the people of Egypt refuse to attend the festival, YaHWeH will punish them with the same plague that he sends on the other nations who refuse to go. ¹⁹ Egypt and the other nations will all be punished if they don't go to celebrate the Festival of Shelters.

That Gentiles will go to Jerusalem (cf. Isa. 2:2; 14:1; 66:23; Zech. 8:23) to worship does not mean they will become Jewish proselytes, as in Old Testament times. Millennial religious worship will not be a restored Judaism but a newly instituted worldwide religious order embracing both Jews and Gentiles. It will center in Jerusalem and will incorporate some features identical with or similar to certain aspects of Old Testament worship. One of these aspects is the annual celebration of **the Feast of Tabernacles** (cf. Lev. 23:33–43; Zech. 14:18–19). **The need to go to Jerusalem is partially explained by the presence there of the object of worship—the King, the LORD Almighty, that is, Jesus Christ who will be ruling on the throne of David** (2 Sam. 7:13, 16; Luke 1:32) **in Jerusalem** (Isa. 24:23). Duane Lindsey

***33** This Festival of Shelters is the only festival still appropriate during the Messiah's reign. The Passover was fulfilled in Christ's death; the Day of Atonement, in acceptance of Christ's salvation; the Festival of Harvest, in His resurrection; and Pentecost, with the

arrival of the Holy Spirit. But the Festival of Shelters, a festival of thanksgiving, celebrates the harvest of human souls for the Lord. Jesus may have alluded to it in John 4:35. Life Application Bible

Zechariah 14 ²⁰ On that day even the harness bells of the horses will be inscribed with these words: **HOLY TO YAHWEH**. And the cooking pots in the Temple of YaHWeH will be as sacred as the basins used beside the altar. ²¹ In fact, every cooking pot in Jerusalem and Judah will be holy to YaHWeH of Heaven's Armies. All who come to worship will be free to use any of these pots to boil their sacrifices. And on that day there will no longer be traders in the Temple of YaHWeH of Heaven's Armies.

The point is that the people and the city will be so holy that even these insignificant things will be fully dedicated to YaHWeH." (Boice)

"There will be holiness in public life ('the bells of the horses,' v. 20), in religious life ('the cooking pots in YaHWeH's house,' v. 20), and in private life ('every pot in Jerusalem and Judah,' v. 21). Even common things become holy when they are used for God's service. So it is with our lives." Barker

***34 2 Peter 3:8–13 (NLT)** ⁸ But you must not forget this one thing, dear friends: A day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years is like a day. ⁹ The Lord isn't really being slow about His promise, as some people think. No, He is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come as unexpectedly as a thief. Then the heavens will pass away with a terrible noise, and the very elements themselves will disappear in fire, and the earth and everything on it will be found to deserve judgment. ¹¹ Since everything around us is going to be destroyed like this, what holy and godly lives you should live, ¹² looking forward to the day of God and hurrying it along. On that day, He will set the heavens on fire, and the elements will melt away in the flames. ¹³ But we are looking forward to the new heavens and new earth He has promised, a world filled with God's righteousness.

All of this has been or will be fulfilled just as God said. It's going to happen as it has happened! No one in their right mind would enter these last days, these end times, without the Prince of Peace in their hearts! Without the assurance that they would be saved from the wrath to come by the blood of Jesus the Messiah!