

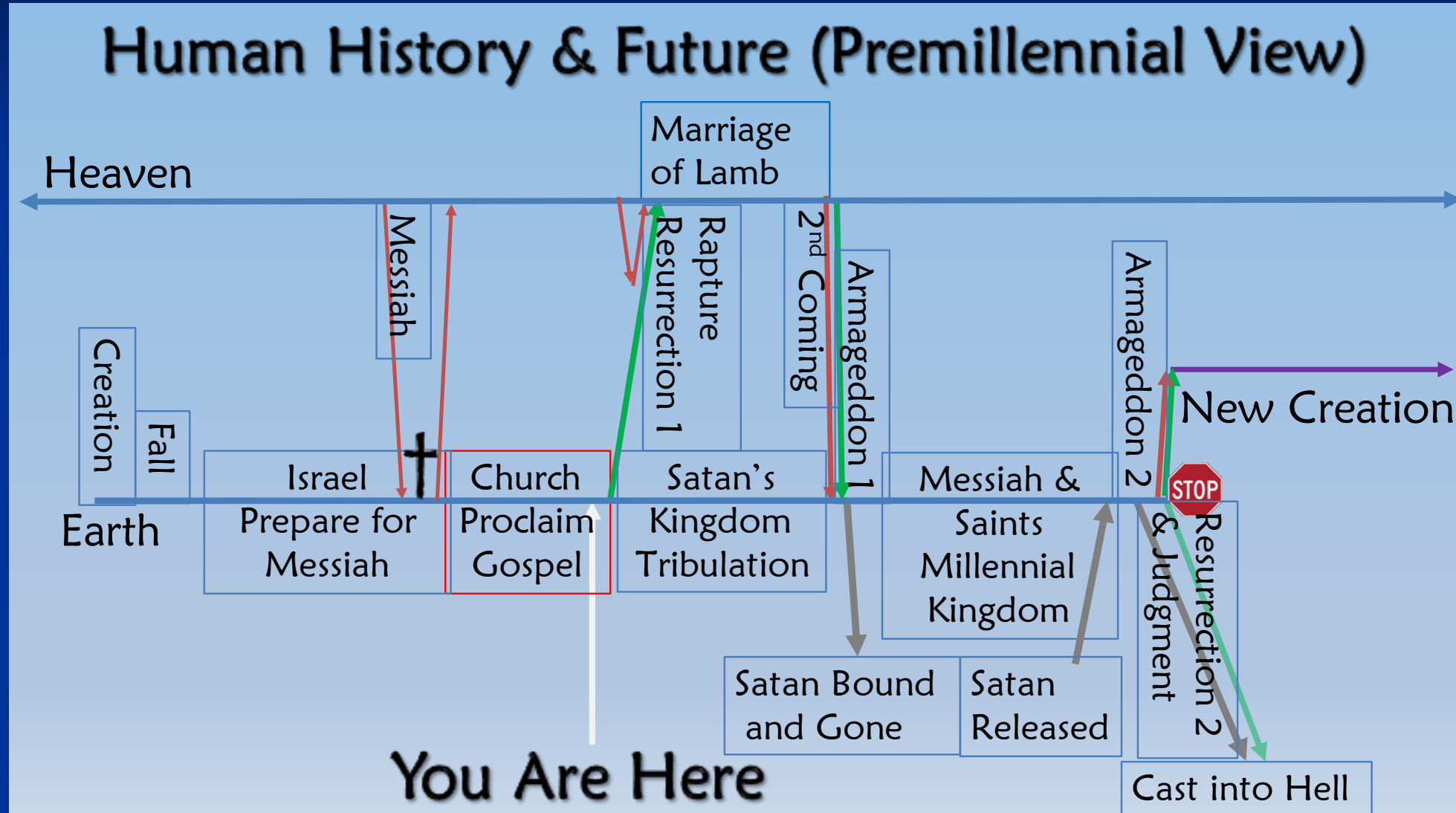
A detailed 3D architectural rendering of The Millennial Temple. The temple is a large, multi-tiered structure with a central courtyard and a prominent central building. The architecture is characterized by its golden-brown color and intricate geometric patterns. The temple is surrounded by a high wall and a wide, paved plaza. In the background, a large body of water is visible under a clear sky. The sun is shining brightly from behind the central building, creating a lens flare effect. The overall scene is presented in a perspective view from an elevated position.

The Millennial Temple

Future Events Sunday School

10 March 2024

Future Events Timeline



God's Plan for Building a Temple

- God's plan first revealed at Mt Sinai: "Let them construct a sanctuary for Me that I may dwell among them" (Ex. 25:8).
- Context: God had descended Mt Sinai amidst smoke, fire, thunder, lightning, trumpet sounds and earthquake. Mt. Sinai burned with fire (Ex. 19: 16-24). The terrified Israelites begged Moses to keep God from even speaking to them so they would not die (Ex. 20:19). Instead, Moses told the people God's command in Exodus 25:8. "In effect, Moses was saying to them, 'God wants to move from the mountain into your camp...This God who destroyed the land of Egypt by plagues, drowned the mighty Egyptian army in the Red Sea, and appeared as a mountain-consuming fire...is coming right into your midst... and [He wants] a safeguard be set up in the form of a structure that would keep [you] Israel from being consumed.'"

The Rapture of the Church and the Second Coming of Christ

The Rapture of the Church

Christ returns in the air
([1 Thessalonians 4:17](#)).

The Rapture brings comfort
([1 Thessalonians 4:18](#)).

The Rapture concerns the church – “In Christ” ([1 Thessalonians 4:14,16](#)).

The Rapture changes the bodies of believers
([1 Corinthians 15:51-53](#)).

The Second Coming of Christ

Christ returns to the earth
([Zechariah 14:4,5](#)).

The Second Coming brings judgment
([Revelation 19:15](#)).

The Second Coming concerns Israel and the nations
([Zechariah 12:2-9](#)).

The Second Coming changes the hearts of Jews
([Zechariah 12:10](#)).

*From <https://bible.org/article/rapture-debate>

“For they themselves report...how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come” (1 Thess. 1:9,10).

A Desolated Earth

Comparison of the Seal, Trumpet, and Bowl Judgments

Seal Judgments	Trumpet Judgments	Bowl Judgments
#1: White Horse: victorious conqueror (6:1–2).	#1: Hail, fire mixed with blood so that a third of the earth and tress are burned up, and all the green grass is burned up (8:7).	#1: Harmful and painful sores upon the Beast worshippers (16:2).
#2: Red Horse: takes peace from the earth so that its inhabitants will slay one another (6:3–4).	#2: A mountain of burning fire is thrown into the sea. A third of the sea becomes blood. A third of the living creatures in the sea die. A third of the ships are destroyed (8:8–9).	#2: The sea turns to blood and every living thing in the sea died (16:3).
#3: Black Horse: scales for rationing food (6:5–6).	#3: A huge burning star called “wormwood” fell from heaven upon a third of the rivers and springs of water, which became wormwood. Many people died from the waters because they were poisoned (8:10–11).	#3: The rivers and springs of water become blood (16:4–7)
#4: Pale Green Horse: brings death through the sword, famine, pestilence, and wild animals (6:7–8).	#4: A third of the sun, moon, and stars were struck so that a third of them were darkened. There was no light for a third of the day and a third of the night (8:12).	#4: The sun burns the peoples with fire (16:8–9).
#5: The slain witnesses cry out for vengeance to God (6:9–11).	#5: A star (angel) falls and opens the pit of the abyss with the result that the sun & air are darkened and locust-like demons come out of the pit to the earth. The locusts torture for five months those who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads (9:1–11).	#5: The Beast’s kingdom is cast into darkness, which causes immense pain (16:10–11).
#6: Great earthquake, sun darkened, moon becomes red, stars fall, sky vanished, mountains & islands removed from their places (6:12–17).	#6: Four angels that were bound at the Euphrates are released for the purpose of killing a third of mankind. They bring an army on horseback 200,000,000 strong. The third of mankind is killed by the fire, smoke, and sulphur that comes out of the horses’ mouths (9:13–19).	#6: The Euphrates is dried up to prepare the way for the kings of the east. Three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouths of the unholy trinity and gather the kings of the entire world for the battle on the great day of God (16:12–16).
#7: Silence in heaven for about half an hour. Thunder, rumblings, lightning, and earthquake. Seven trumpets prepare to sound (8:1–6).	#7: Lightning, rumblings, thunder, earthquake, and large hail (11:15–19). Seven bowls (15:1–8).	#7: Lightning, rumblings, thunder, a great earthquake unequal to any before it, massive hail. Babylon splits in three parts and the cities of the <u>nations</u> collapse. Every island flees and mountains cannot be found. Men curse God (16:17-21).

Post Tribulation 75 Day Interval Events

“And from the time that the regular burnt offering is taken away and the abomination that makes desolate is set up, there shall be 1,290 days. Blessed is he who waits and arrives at the 1,335 days. But go your way till the end. And you shall rest and shall stand in your allotted place at the end of the days” (Daniel 12:11-12).

- 1260 days (length of second half of Tribulation)
- 1290 days (abomination of desolation remains in the Tribulation Temple, then destroyed)
- 1335 days (those who remain alive to the 1335th day will enter the Messianic kingdom)
- The Antichrist is killed, resurrected and then thrown into Lake of Fire
- The false prophet cast alive into the lake of fire
- Humbling and binding of Satan into the Abyss
- The Gentiles are gathered in Valley of Jehoshaphat (Kidron Valley) for the Sheep and Goats Judgment before the Messiah regarding sins against Israel (scattering the Jews in the middle of Tribulation, dividing the land during the Campaign of Armageddon, and selling Jews into slavery) (Joel 3:1-3; Matt. 25:31-46, Rev. 14:14-20). The goats sinned against the Jews and fail to survive to the 1335th day. The sheep dared to violate the rule of the Antichrist and help the Jews; they survive until the 1335th day and enter the Millennial kingdom.

75 Day Interval Events Continue

- Resurrection of the OT Saints (Is. 26:19, Dan. 12:2); these are the friends of the bridegroom (Jn. 3:29) who will be invited to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb
- The Resurrection of Tribulation Saints (Rev. 20:4): the saints beheaded because they did not worship the Antichrist or his image and they did not receive the mark of the beast. Fourth stage of the First Resurrection (Rev. 20:5-6).
- The Marriage Supper of the Lamb for the church as the bride of Christ and for Israel as the remarried wife of Yahweh may conclude the 75 day interval or may inaugurate the Messianic kingdom (more likely scenario, since the wedding feast parable was connected with the kingdom as in Matthew 22:1-14, 25:1-13, Is. 25:6-8)
- Building the Millennial Temple: “Thus says the Lord of hosts, ‘Behold, the man whose name is the Branch: for he shall branch out from his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord. It is he who shall build the temple of the Lord and shall bear royal honor, and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both’” (Zech. 6:12-13).

Physical Changes to the Land of Israel

- “The whole land shall be turned into a raised plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. But Jerusalem shall remain aloft on its site from the Gate of Benjamin to the place of the former gate, to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king's vinepresses (Zech. 14:10; Mic. 4:1).
- Geba was 6 miles NE of Jerusalem, and though actually in the territory of Benjamin, it was considered to be the northernmost border of Judah (1Kings 15:22; 2 Kings 23:8). Rimmon was 35 miles SW of Jerusalem and was on the southern border of Judah where the hill country merged into the Negev (Josh. 15:32, 19:7).



From: <https://prophecysigns.com/post/zechariah-14-map-of-jerusalem-in-1000-year-millennium>

The Millennial Temple Established

“Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore. My tabernacle also shall be with them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And the nations shall know that I am Jehovah that sanctifies Israel, when my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore” (Ezek. 37:26-28).

“In the last days the mountain of the Lord’s temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.” Many peoples will come and say, ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the temple of the God of Jacob. “He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.’ The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.” (Is. 2:2-3)

Ezekiel's Visions of a City, the Man and God's Glory

“In the twenty-fifth year of our exile, at the beginning of the year, on the tenth of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was taken, on that same day, the hand of the LORD was upon me and He brought me there. In the visions of God He brought me into the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain, and on it to the south there was a structure like a city...there was a man whose appearance was like the appearance of bronze, with a line of flax and a measuring rod in his hand...The man said to me, ‘Son of man, see with your eyes, hear with your ears, and give attention to all that I am going to show you, for you have been brought here in order to show it to you. Declare to the house of Israel all that you see’ ” (Ezek. 40:1-4).

The man leads Ezekiel to the eastern gate “[A]nd behold, the glory of the God of Israel was coming from the way of the east. And his voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with his glory. And it was like the appearance of the vision which I saw when he came to destroy the whole city. And the visions were like the vision which I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell on my face” (Ezek. 43:1-3). See also Ezekiel 1:1,3,5-6; 3:13-15,23 and 10:9-10, 18-22.

- Ezekiel and his wife taken captive with 10,000 others to Babylon in 597BC
- This vision occurred about 573BC (3188, 10th of Nisan) (the start of preparations for Passover)
- ‘Chebar’ means strong, many.

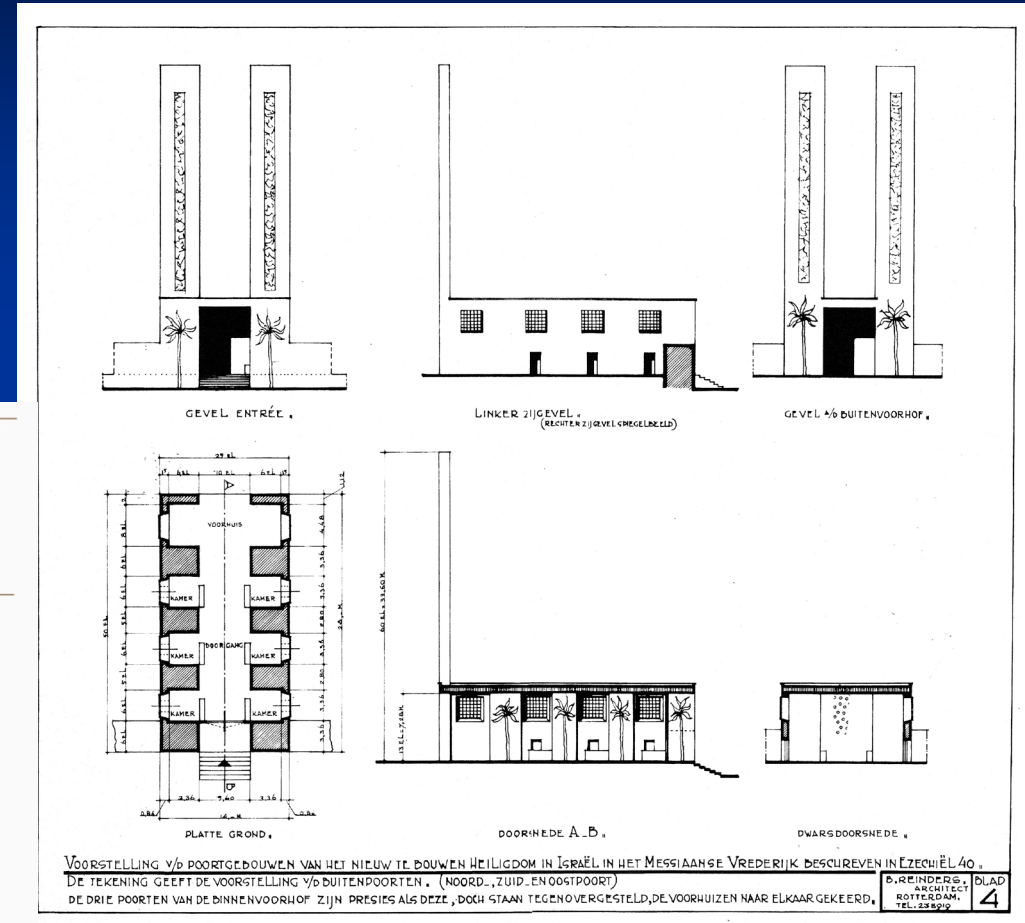
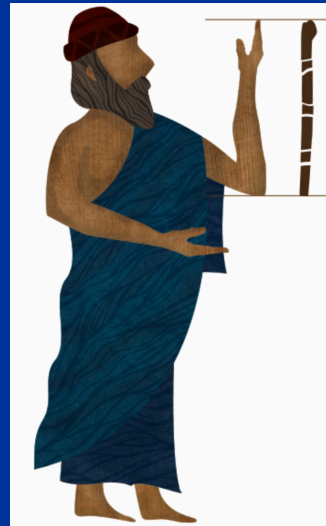


From: <https://www.biblestudy.org/meaning-names/chebar.html>

Measuring Length

“[I]n the man’s hand was a measuring rod of six cubits, each of which was a cubit and handbreadth... Then he went to the gate which faced east, went up its steps and measured the threshold of the gate, one rod in width; and the other threshold was one rod in width. The guardroom was one rod long and one rod wide; and there were five cubits between the guardrooms. And the threshold of the gate by the porch of the gate facing inward was one rod. He measured the porch of the gate, eight cubits; and its side pillars, two cubits... He made the side pillars sixty cubits high...” (Ezek. 40: 5-16)

(One rod (reed) = 6 royal Hebrew cubits
(6 x 20.4 inches) = ~10 feet 6 inches)



Major construction projects used the royal cubit measure

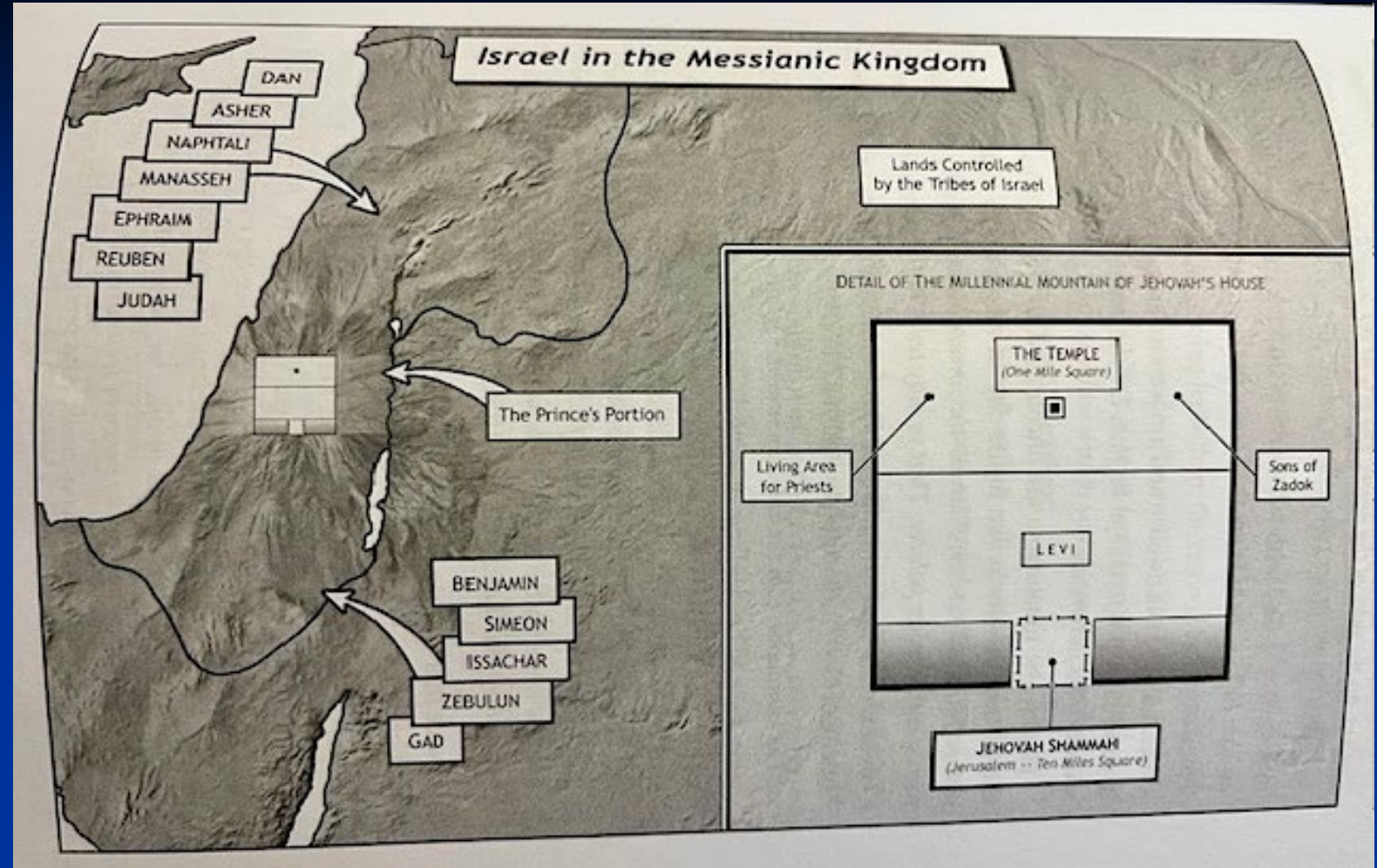
From: Clarke, Adam. "Commentary on Ezekiel 40:5". "The Adam Clarke Commentary".

<https://www.studyight.org/commentaries/acc/ezekiel-40.html>. 1832

From: <https://arkencounter.com/blog/2023/11/16/how-big-was-noahs-ark-really/>

From: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/77/3rd_Temple_Ezekiel_B.Reinders_facades.jpg

“Not only will Jerusalem be raised up as the highest mountain, but it will be greatly enlarged as well. Ezekiel 45:1 states that the holy portion of the land will be immense, measuring 25,000 by 25,000 reeds. This is an area about 50 by 50 miles, or about 2,500 square miles. It will be the center of the worship of God. The northern section will be 50 by 20 miles. In the center of that section will stand the Temple, which will be one mile square, and a group of priests will reside in the remainder of the area. The central portion, also 50 by 20 miles, will be reserved for the Levites, with the southern section of 50 by 10 miles reserved for building Millennial Jerusalem (10 by 10 miles) and for growing food.



“[H]e brought me out by the way of the gate which faced toward the east and measured it all around. He measured on the east side with the measuring reed five hundred reeds...the north side five hundred reeds...” Ezek. 42:15b-20)

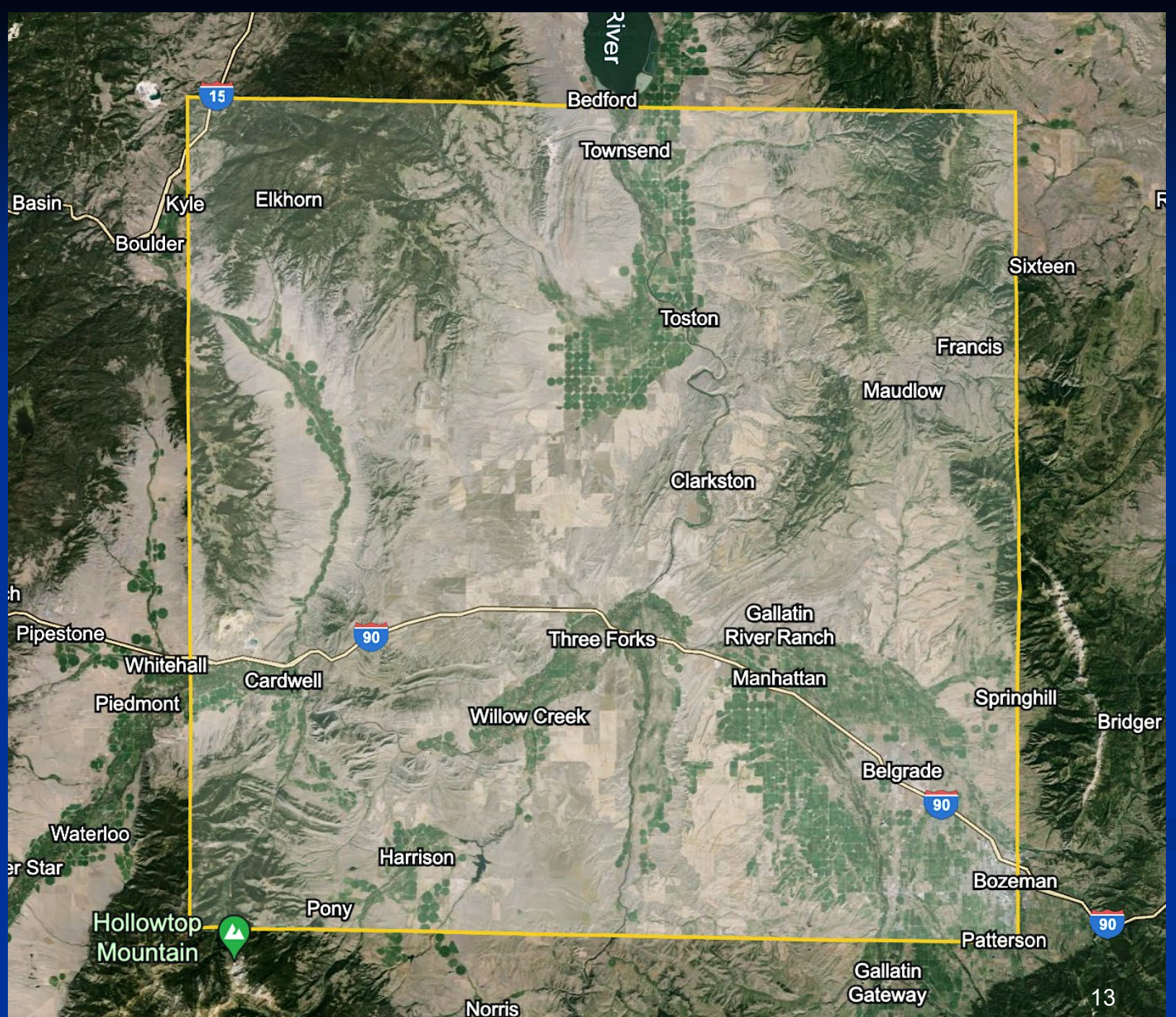
Local Comparison

50 by 50 miles, or about 2,500 square miles; the northern part (50 x 20 miles) would contain the millennial temple and area for Zadokian priests, the middle part (50 x 20 miles) would be space for Levitical priests and the southern part (50 x 10 miles) would contain Jerusalem and food-growing areas.

From:

<https://earth.google.com/web/search/Bozeman,+MT/@46.04086749,->

[111.77565519,1576.71619287a,194848.8341175d,35y,0h,0t,0r/data=CigiJgokCVblieKcu_0-EVzlieKcu_2-GQAAJicP_ww_IQCADycP_wy_MikKJwolCiExVkJzVVp6M3VlbHIVS0szUzVPLVIONVVvsSIEwQVNra0UgAToDCgEw](https://earth.google.com/web/search/Bozeman,+MT/@46.04086749,-111.77565519,1576.71619287a,194848.8341175d,35y,0h,0t,0r/data=CigiJgokCVblieKcu_0-EVzlieKcu_2-GQAAJicP_ww_IQCADycP_wy_MikKJwolCiExVkJzVVp6M3VlbHIVS0szUzVPLVIONVVvsSIEwQVNra0UgAToDCgEw)



General Outline Ezekiel 40-48

- In chapters 40, 41, 42, we learn about the size and features of the new temple
- In the first half of Ezekiel Chapter 43 the Lord's glory returns to dwell in that temple, the first time since the Babylonian exile.
- In the second half of Chapter 43 and through to 46 we learn how worship at the temple will operate in the kingdom.
- Finally, in Chapters 47-48 we learn about Israel's geography and borders to accommodate the massive new temple complex.

From: <https://versebyverseministry.org/bible-answers/why-is-there-a-temple-in-the-millennial-kingdom-who-builds-it>

Outline of Ezekiel 40:5 - 41:26

- Ezekiel 40:5-27 (describes the outer wall, the outer court, the eastern gate, the thirty chambers and pavement of the outer court, the northern gate, the southern gate)
- Ezekiel 40:28-47 (describes the southern, eastern, and northern gates of the inner court, the table for preparing the sacrifices, chambers for the ministering priests, the altar)
- Ezekiel 40:48 - 41:26 (describes the porch, the posts, the holy place with its entrance, the Holy of Holies, the temple wall and chambers, the separate place, the interior and exterior of the temple, the temple's measurements = one square mile)

Outline of Ezekiel 42:1-43:27

- Ezekiel 42:1-14 (describes the chambers of the outer court)
- Ezekiel 42:15-20 (describes the outer wall)
- Ezekiel 43:1-9 (describes the return of God's Shekinah glory to authenticate and approve of this temple, to dwell in the midst of Israel forever)
- Ezekiel 43:10-12 (command to show the sinfulness of Israel)
- Ezekiel 43:13-27 (describes the altar, its measurements and consecration)

Ezekiel Tours the Temple

- 1: Eastern (Main) Gate—Ezek. 40:6
- 2: Outer Court Plaza—Ezek. 40:17
- 3: North-facing Gate—Ezek. 40:20
- 4: South-facing Gate—Ezek. 40:24
- 5: South Entry to Inner Gate—Ezek. 40:28
- 6: East Entry Inner Court—Ezek. 40:32
- 7: North Entry Inner Court—Ezek. 40:35
- 8: Inner Temple Measuring—Ezek. 40:48, 41:1
- 9: NW Area of Outer Court—Ezek. 42:1
- 10: Exit Temple by East Gate—Ezek. 42:15; moments later he sees the “Glory of the God of Israel” enter the Temple (Ezek. 43:1-5)

- A, B, C: Most Holy Place, Inner Room, Entry (Ezek. 41:2-4)
D: Altar (~16 feet high) (Ezek. 43:13-17)
E, F: Chambers for Zadokian Priests (Ezek. 40:45-46)
G, I: The Outer Court (30 chambers) (Ezek. 40:17)
H: Four Temple Kitchens (Ezek. 46:21-24)
J: Prince’s Gate (Ezek. 46:2)
K: The Main East Gate (Ezek. 43:1)



Each side measures about ~5250 ft.

Two Objections to the Ezekiel Temple and Law

- A. “The measurements of the Ezekiel temple will not fit the Temple Mount and therefore cannot be literal.” However, there will be major geographical changes resulting from the Second Coming of Christ. Many geological/land surface changes occur at Second Coming of Jesus Christ (Zech. 14; Ezek. 47) which would destroy existing structures.
- B. “Isn’t reinstating blood sacrifices heresy?” The church has been asked to remember the body and blood of the Messiah. This remembrance ends at the Second Coming of Christ (1 Cor. 11:26). What will Israel use to remember the Lord’s death in the Messianic kingdom?
 - The Mosaic sacrifices never took sin away and were not the means of salvation for the OT saint (Heb. 10:1-4). OT saints were saved by God’s grace alone through faith in God alone. The Mosaic blood sacrifices were the means of restoring fellowship for the OT saints. Likewise, millennial animal sacrifices will not take away sin, but they will be the means of restoring fellowship with God for the millennial saint who sins. Outward conformity to the OT ceremonial law did not bring salvation, but saved Israelites willingly conformed to God’s law.
 - Most Mosaic sacrifices were for purification of priests and objects. The millennial sacrifices also purify from ceremonial uncleanness—an ongoing need for a sinful and unclean people to approach God. These sacrifices do not represent the Messiah’s atoning sacrifice for sin.

Which Temple is Ezekiel Describing?

- “It's either a literal temple, or it's the church of Jesus Christ in some kind of spiritual form.
- “There are many other interpretations; for instance some believe that this temple spoken of by Ezekiel is a memorial to the temple that was destroyed when the Babylonians came and took the land captive (2 Kings 25:8-9). So Solomon's temple was destroyed, and some people think that Ezekiel's temple description is some kind of memorial to that temple.
- “Others who believe that this temple is the temple that was built after captivity, not Solomon's one that was destroyed but Zerubbabel's temple that was built after the captivity - that great temple. But we read in the book of Haggai, that the people wept because the glory of the first house was better than Zerubbabel's. Haggai prophesies that the glory of the latter house would be greater than the former, in other words there was another temple coming, one day, that would be greater than all of these other temples. The main fact that this other temple cannot be the temple that was rebuilt after captivity during Haggai's time is the fact that there are more differences between Ezekiel's temple and the temple after captivity than there are similarities between them. Therefore some people say: 'Well, this is the temple Haggai's people should have built. This is the way the temple should have been built, but they failed to do it'. The greatest problem with that idea is primarily it means that God's prophecy through Ezekiel has been unfulfilled, that God's prophecy has failed!

The Mystery of the Church: Ezekiel or Paul?

- “If the building described in Ezekiel is representing Jesus’ church, it’s strange that Ezekiel never mentions the Day of Atonement as a type of the death of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross. It’s strange that Ezekiel doesn’t represent the Feast of Weeks as typical and relational to the church of Jesus Christ. It’s strange that Ezekiel doesn’t describe the ministry of the Great High Priest, our Lord Jesus Christ, a ministry which the whole book of Hebrews has as a theme - how He carries out His ministry. You would think that the Day of Atonement, the Feast of Weeks and the High Priestly ministry of Jesus, at least, would be primary main themes if Ezekiel was referring to a future vision of the church of Jesus Christ, but none of those things are within this temple. More than that, we would have to go to the book of Ephesians where we read,
 - “If indeed you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace which was given to me for you...You can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus...” (Eph. 3:2-6).
- “We would have to say to Paul: “I’m sorry Paul, but you were wrong, you got it wrong - the revelation of the church, it wasn’t given to you first, it was given to Ezekiel. The mystery of the church isn’t really a mystery after all...because it was shown to Ezekiel first hundreds of years ago. The mystery of the church was something that had been hidden for many years, and now had been revealed to Ezekiel first.”

Perhaps Ezekiel is Describing the New Jerusalem?

- “Ezekiel is describing Jerusalem, Israel, Mount Zion. These locations are on the earth. The Holy Spirit is speaking to us about the earth. It is different than the new Jerusalem that you find in Revelation 21, it is not the same. The new Jerusalem will be our eternal home, and indeed for all believers, in a new heaven and in a new earth - that is the eternal state, that is after the thousand year reign of Christ. This has got nothing to do with it, this millennial temple. John tells us of that eternal state, the new heaven and the new earth, the new Jerusalem - he says: 'I saw no temple therein, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it'. There is no temple there, but here is a temple. We'll not need a temple in heaven, but there will be a temple on earth during the millennial reign of Christ specifically for the Jewish people.
- “The descriptions, the specifications, the measurements of the temple Ezekiel describes can only mean that it's going to be literal. They're so exhaustive that you can actually make a sketch or a diagram of it, as you can of all the temples that have ever been built in Israel. In fact, one commentator, sketches out a diagram and a layout of the millennial temple - yet all through his commentary and his prose he denies that it is possible to build one. Yet he is able to make a sketch of it!

The Ezekiel Laws

- The Ezekiel system of law has several differences from the previous Mosaic law. One main difference is that the Ark of the Covenant will be absent in the Millennial Temple (Jer. 3:16) since God Himself will be dwelling and reigning in Israel there is no need for the ark to show God's presence. Also, the Mosaic Law is no longer in effect so the tablets of the law will not be needed. Another difference is that under Mosaic Law only the high priest could enter the Holy of Holies, but according to Ezekiel 44:15-16 all priests can enter. According to Mosaic law, the first day of Nisan (March-April) was not a special holy day, but under the Ezekiel system it will be (45:18). In the Mosaic system, the Passover was a one-day holiday, while in the Ezekiel system, Passover will last seven days (45:21)...As for Sabbath offerings, the Ezekiel law (46:4-5) requires six lambs and a ram, while the Mosaic law required only two lambs and a ram to be offered (Num. 28:9).
- These details show that Ezekiel 44-46 describes a new legal code that does not require a return to the Law of Moses.
- If we accept the details of the Mosaic Law and the Tabernacle and the Solomonic Temple, is there a good reason not to accept the details of the Ezekiel laws and Ezekiel Temple?

Worship at the Ezekiel Temple (Ezekiel 45:17- 46:15)

- First day of first month—offer a young bull as sin offering and put blood on doorposts, altar and gateposts
- Seventh day of first month—same as above for unintentional sin to atone for temple
- Passover—a bull for a sin offering
- Feast of Unleavened Bread—each day for one week offer burnt offering of seven bulls and seven rams each day and goat for sin offering; grain offering and drink offering for each bull and each ram
- Feast of Tabernacles—same as for Unleavened Bread
- Sabbath—6 lambs, one ram plus grain and drink offerings
- New Moon—one bull, 6 lambs, one ram plus grain and drink offerings
- Voluntary Peace or Burnt Offerings by the Prince (David?—Ezekiel 34:23-24)
- Daily Morning Sacrifice—one year old lamb with grain and oil

From: <https://www.sonstoglorry.com/ThirdTempleEzekielsMillennialTemple.htm#TempleFloorPlans>

“A Legalistic System of Enforced Participation”

- “You shall dwell in booths for seven days...that your generations may know that I made the people of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt. I am the LORD your God” (Lev. 23:42-43). The Feast of Booths portrayed God’s deliverance, protection and provision during the wilderness wanderings of the Exodus.
- “Then it will come about that any who are left of all the nations that went against Jerusalem will go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to celebrate the Feast of Booths. And it will be that whichever of the families of the earth does not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, there will be no rain on them. If the family of Egypt does not go up or enter, then no rain will fall on them; it will be the plague with which the LORD smites the nations who do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Booths” (Zech. 14:16-18).
- The Feast of Booths or Tabernacles was the last of the yearly three main pilgrimage festivals in the Mosaic law (Lv. 23:34-36). Some Gentiles will survive until the 1335th day during the second half of the Tribulation and enter the Millennial kingdom alive. If they refuse to attend the Feast of Booths, they will experience drought and plague. “It is not difficult to see how [offerings of the Ezekiel law] could serve as effective vehicles of divine instruction and discipline for Israel and the nations during the Kingdom age.” As the 1000 years pass during the Millennial kingdom, there will be many people who will reject God’s requirements and Christ as Savior and King. They will join together in one final war against Him, only to be destroyed and cast into hell forever (Rev. 20:7-15).

Amazing physical and geographical changes in Israel:

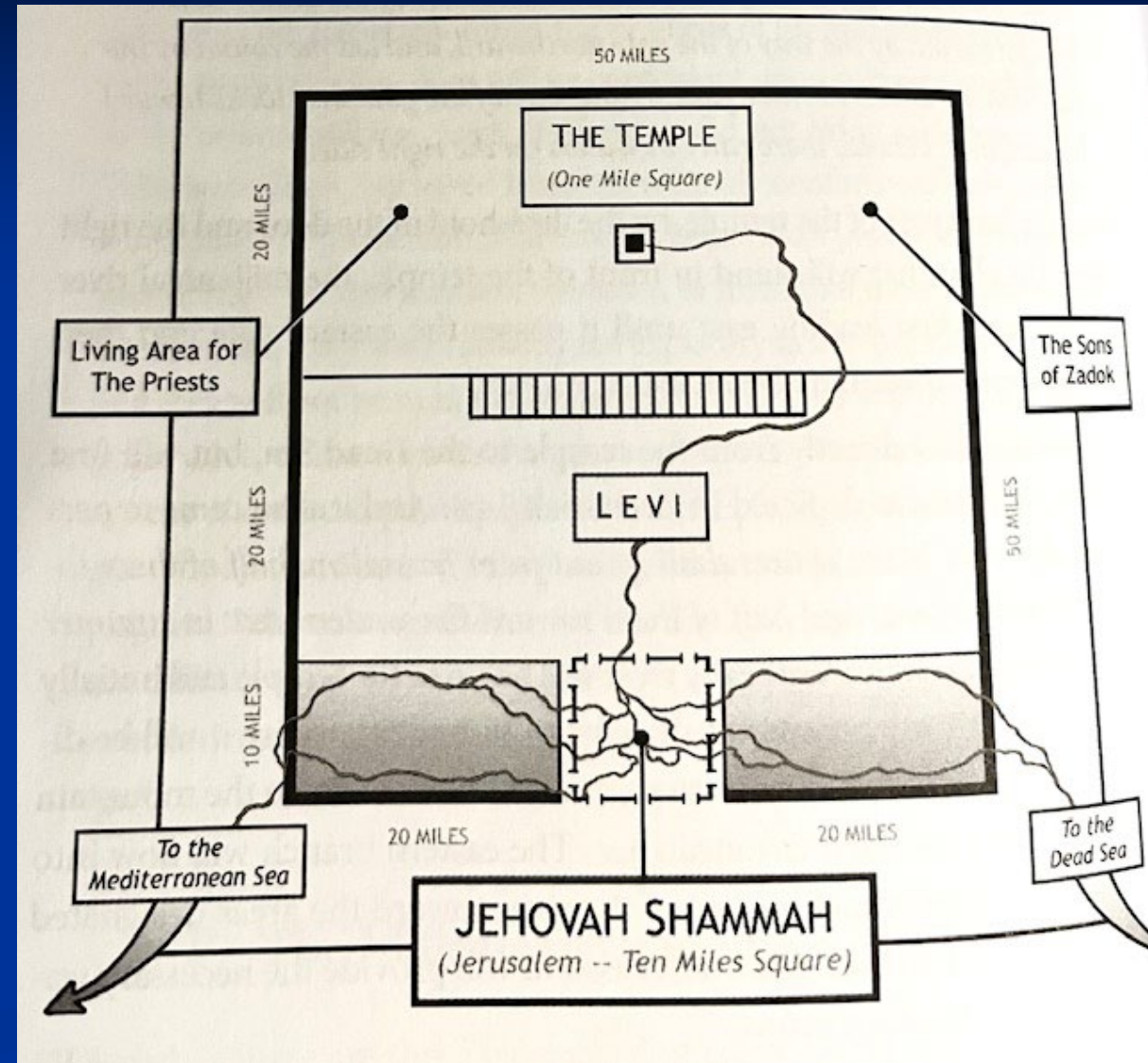
“Then he brought me back to the door of the temple, and behold, water was issuing from below the threshold of the temple toward the east (for the temple faced east). The water was flowing down from below the south end of the threshold of the temple, south of the altar. Then he brought me out by way of the north gate and led me around on the outside to the outer gate that faces toward the east; and behold, the water was trickling out on the south side” (Ezekiel 47:1-2).

“On that day living waters shall flow out from Jerusalem, half of them to the eastern sea and half of them to the western sea. It shall continue in summer as in winter” (Zechariah 14:8).

“And he said to me, “This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah, and enters the sea; when the water flows into the sea, the water will become fresh. And wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish. For this water goes there, that the waters of the sea may become fresh; so everything will live where the river goes (Ezek. 47:8-9)

Jerusalem renamed Jehovah Shammah—the LORD is there.

A River of Life



Ezekiel and God's People

- “Ezekiel prophesied in the decades before and after the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the Temple. That cataclysmic event marks the center of his prophecy and the turning point of the book. With the city overrun and the Temple destroyed, God’s people wondered what God was doing, if his promises had failed, and if their future was gone.
- “So Ezekiel explains that God will judge the nations, just as he had judged Israel (chap. 25–32). The justice of God shows no partiality. But having judged his people Israel, God would also display his faithfulness by bringing his people back to life. In an act of powerful recreation, God’s Spirit would restore Israel (chap. 37). For the sake of his own glory, he would make a new covenant with his people that could not be broken, and he would put his own Spirit in them (chap. 36). They would live peacefully and safely under David their shepherd and God himself would be their shepherd (chap. 34). This restoration would culminate in an ideal Temple (40–46) and a new creation promised land (chap. 47–48), from which God would never again depart (43:7).
- “God makes clear that in the midst of suffering and judgment God’s people have misunderstood God’s heart. God declares, “Though I scattered them among the countries, yet I have been a sanctuary to them for a while in the countries where they have gone” (11:16). His arrival in Babylon not only marks his judgment on Jerusalem but anticipates his triumphant judgment over Israel’s enemies (chap. 38–39). His purpose is to put his Spirit within his people (36:27) and to restore them under a king like David (37:24–28). The book ends with a final glance at the restored city, which is never called Jerusalem, but rather, “The LORD is There” (48:35).

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Practical Applications and Exhortations

- Teaching about future events such as Millennial Temple means we give attention to hearing and doing what God's word says. Jesus draws applications and implications in Mark 13:28-32 after telling the disciples about the coming tribulation period in Mark 13:5-14: "Now learn the parable from the fig tree...when you see the tender branch and its leaves you know that summer is around the corner, in the same way when you see the things in vv. 5-14, you know that Jesus' return is near, right at the door."
- In vv.5-6 deception will reign, the antichrist and false prophet deceive many people and many people will claim to be Christ similar to the opening of the first seal of Rev. 6 coming of antichrist and false deceptive peace. The second seal is war and killing, **third seal is scarcity of food (connection with plunder of Israel in Ezekiel War?)**, fourth seal is massive death. Beginning of sorrows or birth pains of a woman in labor. Sorrows and pains get intense when abomination of desolation appears. A time of severe tribulation.
- To which generation? Not the generation Jesus spoke to ("let the reader understand"). The generation alive when all these things happen. Jesus spoke of the branch of fig tree putting forth leaves. When you see the events beginning to take place, Jesus return is right at the door. That generation will see all these signs (vv. 4-15).
- v. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away but Jesus words will never pass away; they are more permanent than heaven and earth.
- So be ready.