Zechariah

Introductory Matters





Dr. Andy Woods
Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church
President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Introductory Matters

1. **Title**
2. Authorship
3. Biography
4. Scope
5. Date
6. Audience
7. Place of writing



1. Title

- Named after the book's spokesman
- Hebrew: *Zekar-yah*
- LXX: *Zecharias*
- Latin: *Zecharias*
- English: Zechariah
- "Yahweh Remembers"



Introductory Matters

1. Title
2. **Authorship**
3. Biography
4. Scope
5. Date
6. Audience
7. Place of writing



2. Authorship

- Zechariah (1:1)
- Hebrew & Christian tradition
- Zechariah 9–14?
  - Matt. 27:9-10?
  - Hellenistic or Maccabean eras?
  - Unity arguments



Introductory Matters

1. Title
2. Authorship
3. **Biography**
4. Scope
5. Date
6. Audience
7. Place of writing



3. Biography

- Common name
- Son of *Berechiah* (1:1)
- Called into ministry as a youth (2:4)
- Born during Babylonian Captivity
- Taken to Israel in first return
- A priest
- Member of the Great Synagogue



Introductory Matters

1. Title
2. Authorship
3. Biography
4. **Scope**
5. Date
6. Audience
7. Place of writing



4. Scope

SCRIPTURE	SCRIPTURAL DATE	DATE
1:1	8th month, 2nd year of Darius	10 or 11/520 B.C.
1:7	24th day, 11th month, 2nd year of Darius	2/15/519 B.C.
7:1	4th day, 9th month, 4th year of Darius	12/17/518 B.C.

Introductory Matters

1. Title
2. Authorship
3. Biography
4. Scope
5. **Date**
6. Audience
7. Place of writing



5. Date

- Written immediately after the visions were given
- Zechariah 9–14?
  - 519–518 B.C.
  - 470–469 B.C.



Introductory Matters

1. Title
2. Authorship
3. Biography
4. Scope
5. Date
6. **Audience**
7. Place of writing



Three Returns

	DATE	DURATION	PERSIAN KING	JEWISH LEADER	SCRIPTURE	PURPOSE	NUMBER OF RETURNEES
1st return	538–515 B.C.	23 years	Cyrus (Isa. 44:28–45:1)	Zerubbabel	Ezra 1–6; Isaiah 44:28	Rebuilding the temple	50,000
2nd return	458–457 B.C.	2 years	Artaxerxes	Ezra	Ezra 7–10	Adorning of the temple and reforming the people	2,000
3rd return	444–432 B.C.	8 years	Artaxerxes	Nehemiah	Nehemiah	Rebuilding the wall	

Introductory Matters

1. Title
2. Authorship
3. Biography
4. Scope
5. Date
6. Audience
7. **Place of writing**



7. Place of Writing

- Temple standing
- Zech. 1:16; 3:1–4:9; 6:9-15; 8:9, 20-23; 14:16-19
- Jerusalem



Introductory Matters

8. **Occasion**
9. Structure
10. Message
11. Purposes
12. Themes
13. Unique characteristics
14. Genre
15. Christ in Zechariah



ISRAEL'S FOUR TEMPLES

1. Solomon's pre-exilic temple (Kings and Chronicles)
2. **Zerubbabel's post exilic temple (Ezra 1-6; John 2:20)**
3. Antichrist's temple (Dan. 9:27; Matt. 24:15; 2 Thess. 2:4; Rev. 11:1-2)
4. Millennial temple (Ezek. 40-48)

8. Occasion

538 B.C.	Cyrus' decree	520–518 B.C.	Ministries of Zechariah & Haggai
536 B.C.	Temple foundation laid	519 B.C.	Darius confirms Cyrus' decree
534 B.C.	Temple building interrupted	-----	Resumption of Temple building
-----	Temple project stalled for 15 years	516 B.C.	Temple completed



8. Occasion

- 538 B.C. – Cyrus' decree
- 536 B.C. – Temple foundation laid
- 534 B.C. – Temple building interrupted
- Temple project stalled for 15 years
- 520–518 B.C. – Ministries of Zechariah & Haggai
- 519 B.C. – Darius confirmation of Cyrus' decree
- Resumption of Temple building
- 516 B.C. – Temple completed



Introductory Matters

8. Occasion
9. **Structure**
10. Message
11. Purposes
12. Themes
13. Unique characteristics
14. Genre
15. Christ in Zechariah



9. Structure

I. Introductory call to repentance (1:1-6)

II. Eight-night visions (1:7–6:15)

III. Question and answers about fasting (7–8)

IV. Two burdens (9–14)

9. Structure

I. **Introductory call to repentance (1:1-6)**

II. Eight-night visions (1:7–6:15)

III. Question and answers about fasting (7–8)

IV. Two burdens (9–14)

9. Structure

I. Introductory call to repentance (1:1-6)

II. **Eight-night visions (1:7–6:15)**

III. Question and answers about fasting (7–8)

IV. Two burdens (9–14)

II. Eight Night Visions
(1:7–6:15)

1. Riders & horses among the myrtle trees (1:7-17)
2. Four horns & four craftsmen (1:18-21)
3. Man with the measuring line (2)
4. Cleansing of the High Priest Joshua (3)
5. Lampstand & olive tree (4)
6. Flying scroll (5:1-4)
7. Woman in the basket (5:5-11)
8. Four chariots (6:1-8)

- Conclusion: crowning of Joshua (6:9-15)



9. Structure

I. Introductory call to repentance (1:1-6)

II. Eight-night visions (1:7–6:15)

III. Question and answers about fasting (7–8)

IV. Two burdens (9–14)

III. Questions & Answers Concerning Fasting
(7–8)

A. Question (7:1-3)

B. Four divine answers (7:4–8:23)

1. Condemnation of empty ritualism (7:4-7)
2. Condemnation of past covenant failure (7:8-14)
3. Prediction of Jerusalem's restoration (8:1-17)
4. Prediction of future blessing (8:18-23)



9. Structure

I. Introductory call to repentance (1:1-6)

II. Eight-night visions (1:7–6:15)

III. Question and answers about fasting (7–8)

IV. Two burdens (9–14)

IV. Two Burdens
(9–14)

A. Israel's postponed deliverance due to her rejection of her Messiah (9–11)

B. Israel's future deliverance due to her acceptance of her Messiah (12–14)



Introductory Matters

8. Occasion
9. Structure
10. **Message**
11. Purposes
12. Themes
13. Unique characteristics
14. Genre
15. Christ in Zechariah



10. Message

The Messiah's future restoration of Israel and millennial reign is depicted through various divine visions, responses, and burdens, and these are given to induce hope and obedience among the beleaguered remnant.



Introductory Matters

8. Occasion
9. Structure
10. Message
11. **Purposes**
12. Themes
13. Unique characteristics
14. Genre
15. Christ in Zechariah



11. Purposes

A. To encourage the returnees to rebuild the Temple

B. To provide eschatological hope in the challenging post-exilic world

C. To prepare the returnees for Temple worship

D. To exhort the returnees toward covenant obedience



Haggai vs. Zechariah

HAGGAI	ZECHARIAH
Exhortation	Encouragement
More concrete	More abstract
Concise	Expanded
Present concern	Future concern
Take part!	Take heart!
Older activist	Younger missionary

Wilkinson and Boa, *Talk Thru the Bi*ble, p. 291

Introductory Matters

8. Occasion
9. Structure
10. Message
11. Purposes
12. **Themes**
13. Unique characteristics
14. Genre
15. Christ in Zechariah



12.Themes

A. 1st and 2nd advents

B. Temple

C. Israel's Eschatology

D. Israel's elect status

E. Covenant renewal



Abrahamic Covenant

ABRAHAMIC
Genesis
15

LAND	SEED	BLESSING
LAND **Deuteronomy** **29-30**	**DAVIDIC** **2 Samuel** **7:12-16**	**NEW** **Jeremiah** **31:31-34**







Unconditional covenant with a conditional blessing (Deut. 28; Lev. 26)

Introductory Matters

8. Occasion
9. Structure
10. Message
11. Purposes
12. Themes
13. **Unique characteristics**
14. Genre
15. Christ in Zechariah



13. Unique Characteristics

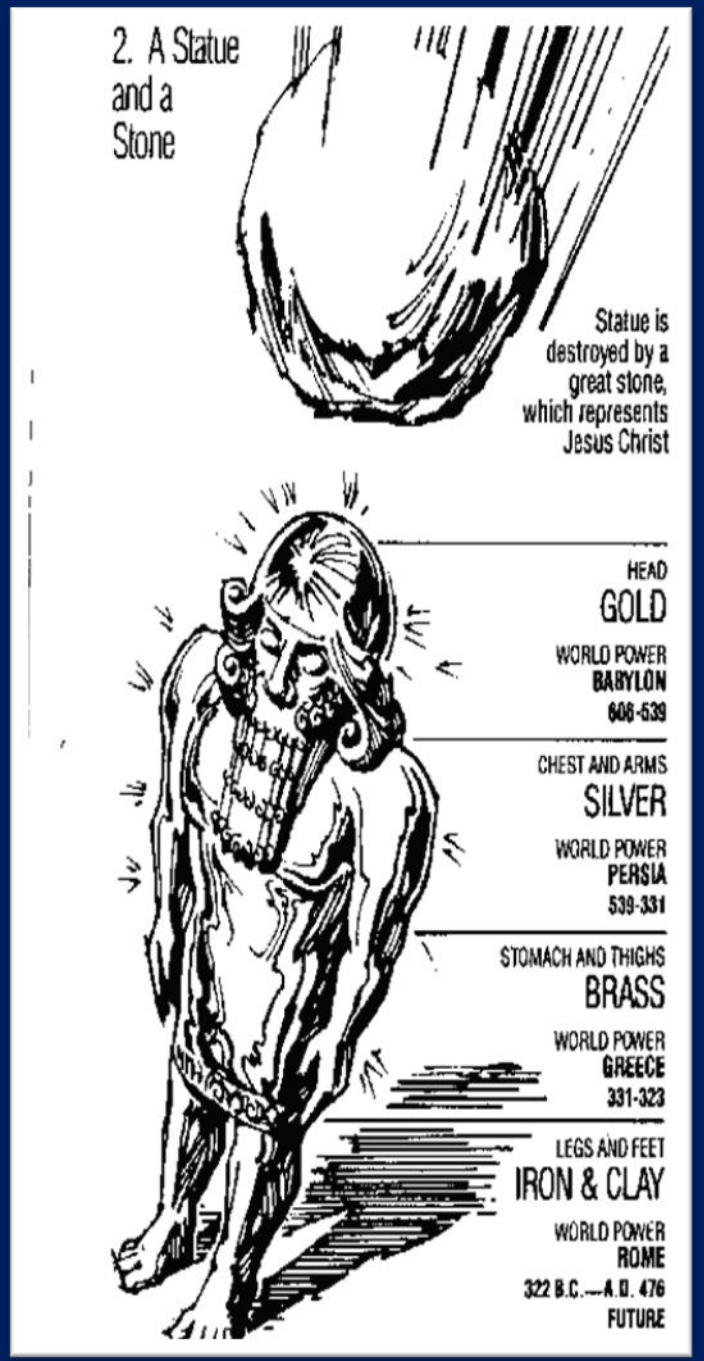
- Interpreting angel
- Longest minor prophet
- Messianic prophecies
- Multiplicity of literary styles
- Times of the Gentiles
- Israel's Eschatology

- Two burdens focused upon in the passion narratives
- Third most alluded to book in the Apocalypse
- Imputation (3:1-5)
- Summation of prophetic themes





Statue & Stone



Identification of the Four Kingdoms



Vision in Daniel: Ch. 2	Vision in Ch. 7	Vision in Ch. 8	IDENTIFICATION
HEAD of GOLD	LION		BABYLON 2:48
CHEST and ARMS of SILVER	BEAR	RAM	MEDO-PERSIA 8:20
BELLY and THIGHS of BRONZE	LEOPARD	GOAT	GREECE 8:21
LEGS of IRON	TERRIFYING and FRIGHTENING BEAST		ROME
FEET of CLAY			

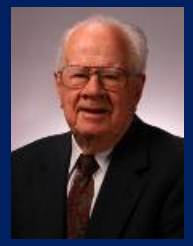
Chronology of Major Empires in Daniel

626 B.C.
600
BABYLONIA
539 B.C.
500
MEDO-PERSIA
400
330 B.C.
300
GREECE
(Including Ptolemies and Seleucids)
200
(167 B.C. Maccabees and Hasmoneans)
100
63 B.C.
ROME
A.D. 70
Fall of Jerusalem
100

Introductory Matters

8. Occasion
9. Structure
10. Message
11. Purposes
12. Themes
13. Unique characteristics
14. **Genre**
15. Christ in Zechariah

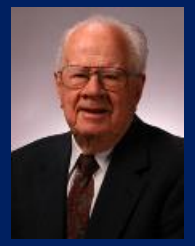




J. Dwight Pentecost

"Daniel," in *Bible Knowledge Commentary*, ed. John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck (Colorado Springs, CO: Victor, 1985), 1323.

"Apocalyptic literature in the Bible has several characteristics: (1) In apocalyptic literature a person who received God's truths in visions recorded what he saw. (2) Apocalyptic literature makes extensive use of symbols or signs. (3) Such literature normally gives revelation concerning God's program for the future of His people Israel. (4) Prose was usually employed in apocalyptic literature, rather than poetic style which was normal in most prophetic literature."



J. Dwight Pentecost

"Daniel," in *Bible Knowledge Commentary*, ed. John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck (Colorado Springs, CO: Victor, 1985), 1323.

"In addition to Daniel and Revelation, apocalyptic literature is found in Ezekiel 37–48 and Zechariah 1:7–7:8. In interpreting visions, symbols, and signs in apocalyptic literature, one is seldom left to his own ingenuity to discover the truth. In most instances an examination of the context or comparison with the parallel biblical passages provides the Scriptures' own interpretation of the visions or the symbols employed. Apocalyptic literature then demands a careful comparison of Scripture with Scripture to arrive at a correct understanding of the revelation being given."

Introductory Matters

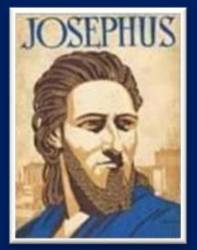
8. Occasion
9. Structure
10. Message
11. Purposes
12. Themes
13. Unique characteristics
14. Genre
15. **Christ in Zechariah**



The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ

1. A man of verifiable history
2. **A man of fulfilled prophecy**
3. A man of predictive prophecy
4. A man of unimpeachable morality
5. A man of profound teaching
6. A man of authentic miracles
7. A man of bodily resurrection





Josephus

Antiquities 18.3.3

"About this time there lived **Jesus**, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call him a man. For he was one who performed surprising deeds and was a teacher of such people as accept the truth gladly. He won over many Jews and many of the Greeks. He was **the Christ**. And when, upon the accusation of the principal men among us, Pilate had condemned him to a cross, those who had first come to love him did not cease. He appeared to them spending a third day restored to life, for **the prophets of God had foretold these things** and a thousand other marvels about him. And the tribe of the Christians, so called after him, has still to this day not disappeared."

OT Prophecies About Christ

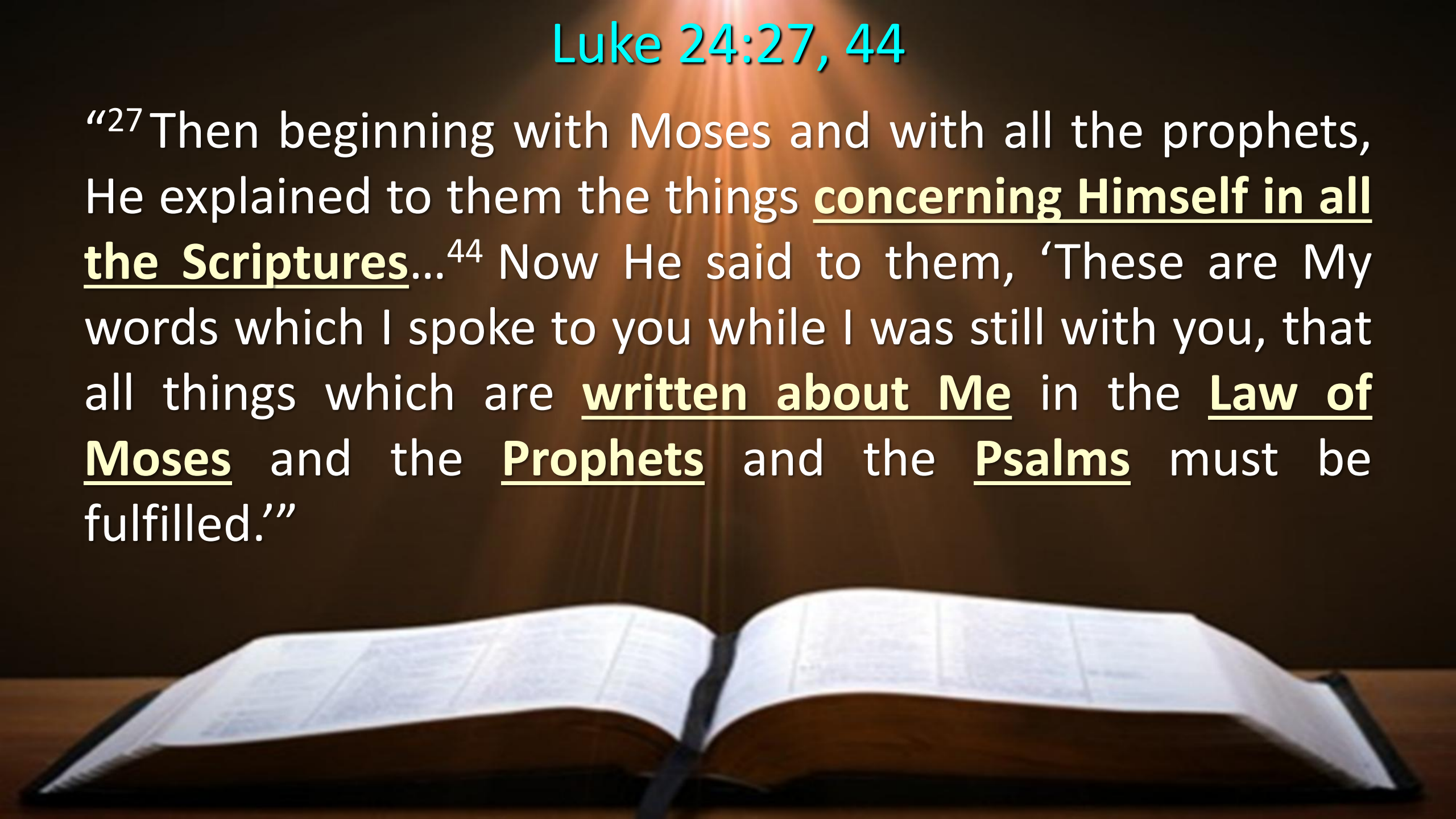
Prophecy	Scripture	Years in Advance
Manner of Birth	Isaiah 7:14	700 years
Place of Birth	Micah 5:2	700 years
Nationality	Numbers 24:17	1400 years
Tribe	Genesis 49:10	1800 years
Time of & Response to His Messiahship	Dan. 9:25-26	600 years

OT Prophecies About Christ

Prophecy	Scripture	Years in Advance
Crucified Between Thieves	Isaiah 53:9	700 years
Pierced	Isaiah 53:5	700 years
No Broken Bones	Psalm 22:17	1000 years
Gamble for His Clothing	Psalm 22:18	1000 years
Buried in Rich Man's Tomb	Isaiah 53:9	700 years

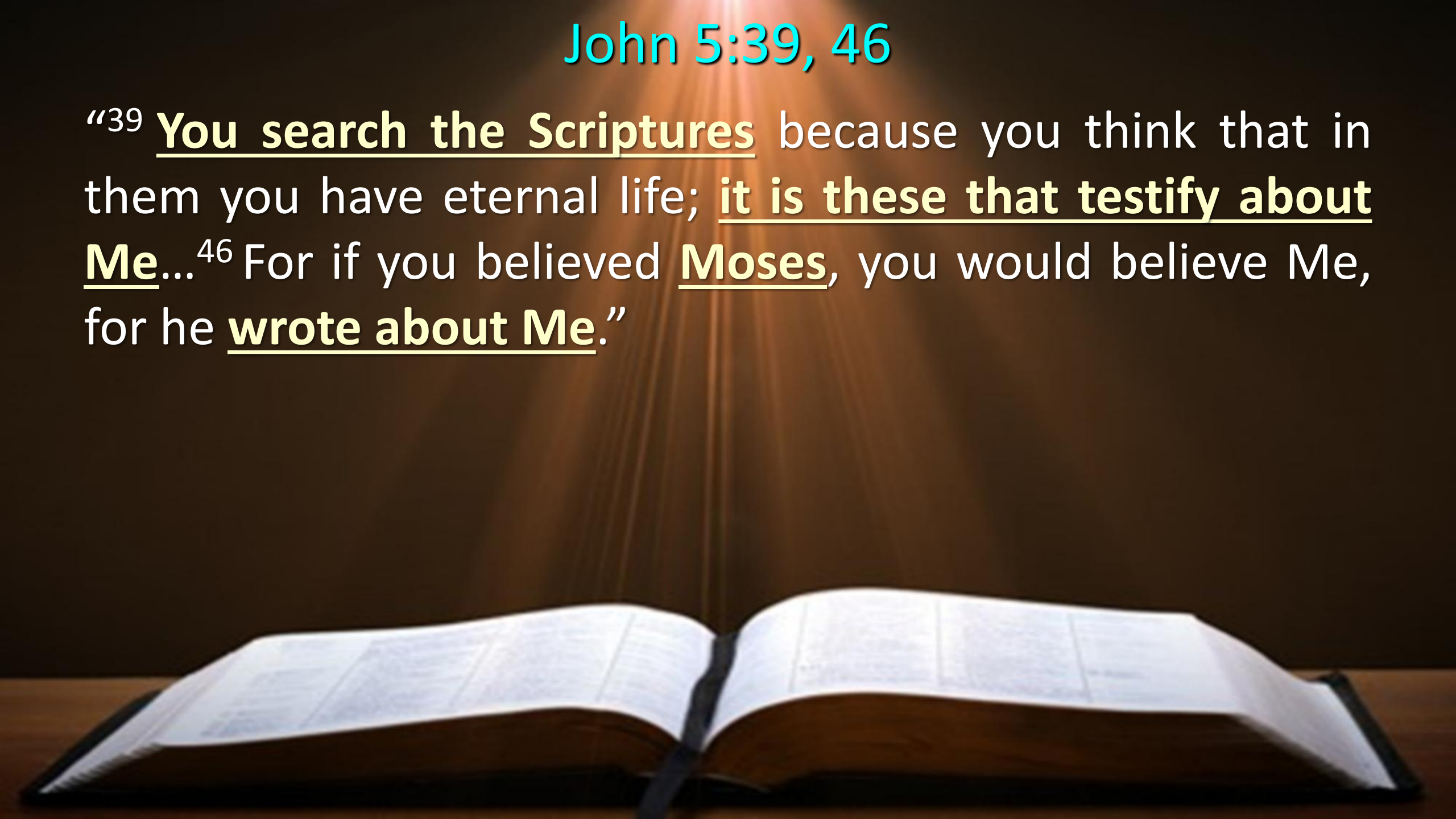
Luke 24:27, 44

“[27] Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things **concerning Himself in all the Scriptures**…[44] Now He said to them, ‘These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are **written about Me** in the **Law of Moses** and the **Prophets** and the **Psalms** must be fulfilled.’”



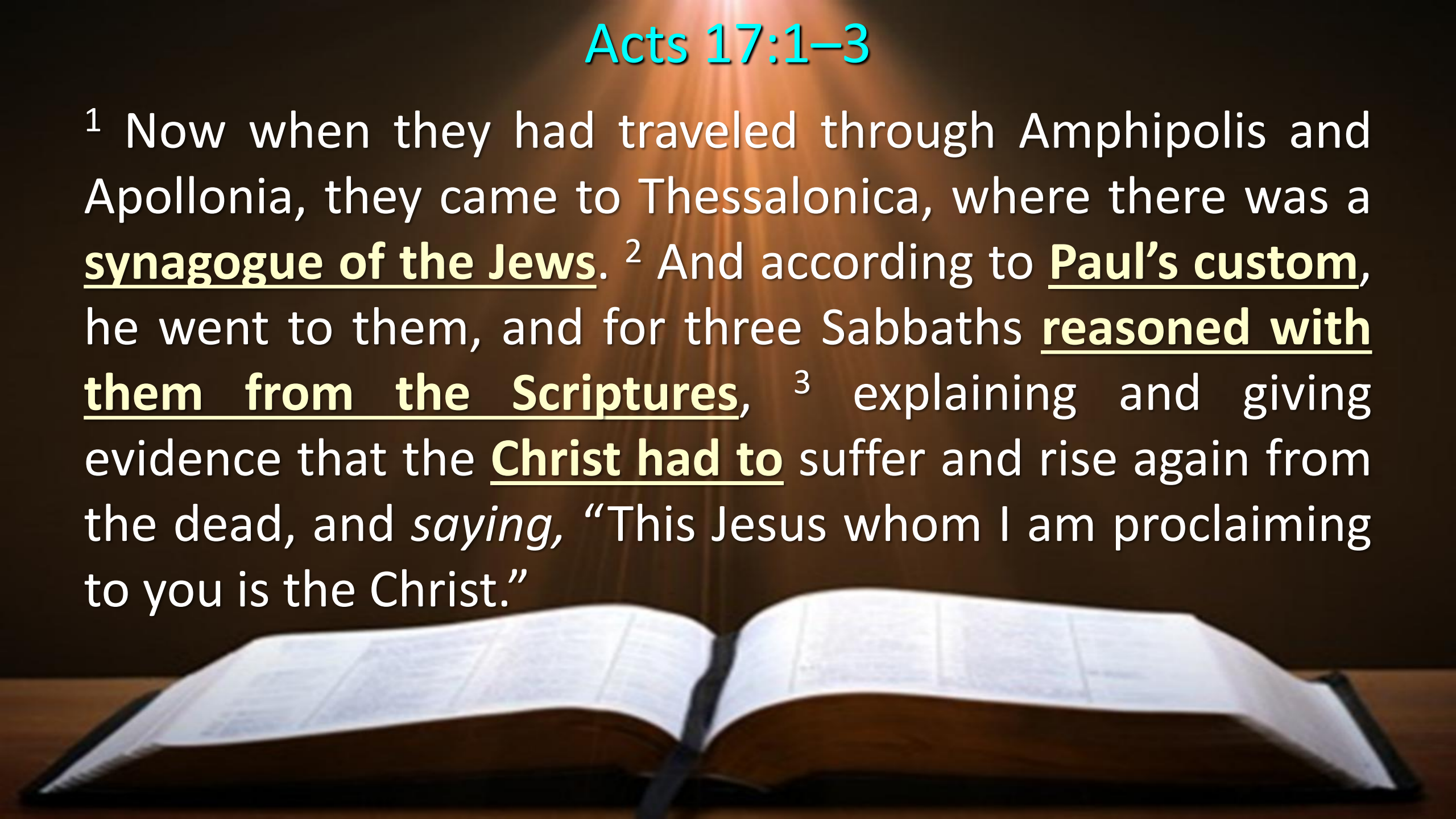
John 5:39, 46

“[39] **You search the Scriptures** because you think that in them you have eternal life; **it is these that testify about Me**…[46] For if you believed **Moses**, you would believe Me, for he **wrote about Me**.”



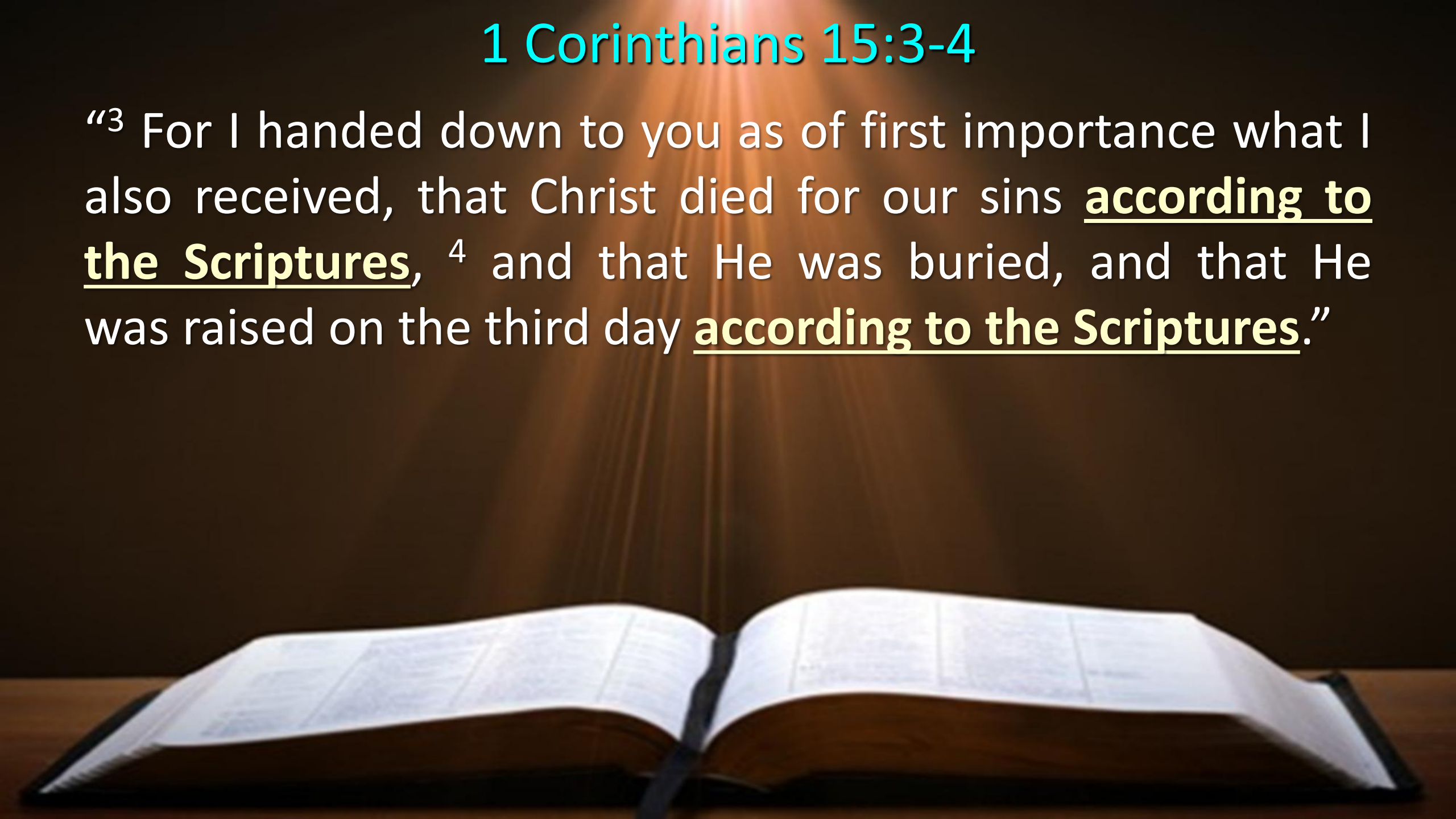
Acts 17:1–3

[1] Now when they had traveled through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a **synagogue of the Jews**. [2] And according to **Paul's custom**, he went to them, and for three Sabbaths **reasoned with them from the Scriptures**, [3] explaining and giving evidence that the **Christ had to** suffer and rise again from the dead, and *saying,* "This Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you is the Christ."



1 Corinthians 15:3-4

“3 For I handed down to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins **according to the Scriptures**, 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day **according to the Scriptures**.”



Christ in Zechariah

GENERAL

- the angel of the Lord (3:1-2)
- the righteous branch (3:8; 6:12-13)
- the servant (3:8)
- the stone with seven eyes (3:9)
- the King-Priest (6:13)
- the cornerstone, tent peg, and the bow of battle (10:4)



Christ in Zechariah

FIRST ADVENT

- the humble king riding on a donkey (9:9-10; Matt 21:1-8; John 12:14-16)
- the rejected good shepherd sold for thirty pieces of silver (11:4-13; Matt 26:14-16; 27:9-10)
- the one the Jews pierced (12:10; John 19:37; 20:24-27)
- the smitten good shepherd (13:7)



Christ in Zechariah

SECOND ADVENT

- the one who will be accepted by Israel (12:10–13:1; Rom 11:26)
- the one who cleanses Israel (13:1)
- the coming judge (14)
- the destroyer of Israel's enemies (14:3, 12-15; Rev 19:11-16)
- the one who will split the Mount of Olives (14:4)
- the one who will reign from Jerusalem (14:9, 16; Rev 20:4-6)



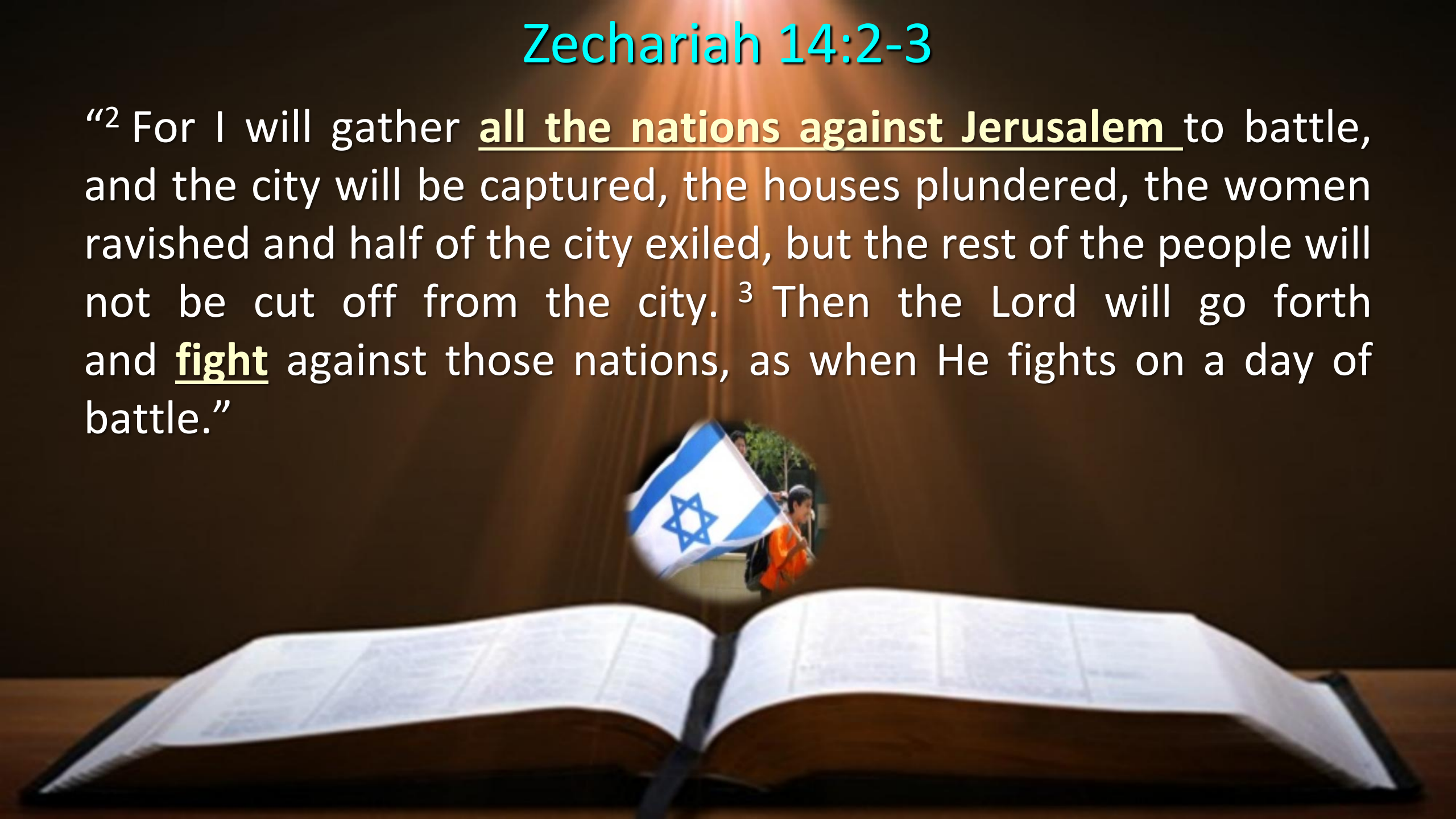
Romans 11:25-26

“[25] For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery—so that you will not be wise in your own estimation—that a **partial hardening** has happened to Israel **until** the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; [26] and so **all Israel will be saved**; just as it is written, ‘The Deliverer will come from Zion, He will remove ungodliness from Jacob.’”



Zechariah 14:2-3

“2 For I will gather **all the nations against Jerusalem** to battle, and the city will be captured, the houses plundered, the women ravished and half of the city exiled, but the rest of the people will not be cut off from the city. 3 Then the Lord will go forth and **fight** against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle.”



Zechariah 14:16-18

“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. 17 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. 18 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.”



Isaiah 2:2-3

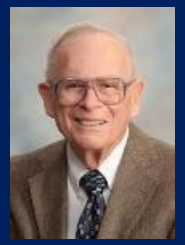
“Now it will come about that In the last days The mountain of the house of the LORD Will be established as the chief of the mountains, And will be raised above the hills; And all the nations will stream to it.[3] And many peoples will come and say, ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To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



Revelation 20:7-9

“7 When the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison, 8 and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore. 9 **And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city**, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them.





Robert Thomas

Four Views on the Book of Revelation, page 207.

"At the end of the Millennium that city will be Satan's prime objective with his rebel army, because Israel will be a leader among the nations."



Conclusion

Introductory Matters

1. Title
2. Authorship
3. Biography
4. Scope
5. Date
6. Audience
7. Place of writing



Introductory Matters

8. Occasion
9. Structure
10. Message
11. Purposes
12. Themes
13. Unique characteristics
14. Genre
15. Christ in Zechariah

