



rethink
BUILDING A CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW

RETHINK: THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

THE CONTEXT

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THE TEXT: MATTHEW 21:1-24:2

Now when they (Jesus and His Disciples) drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives then Jesus sent two Disciples, ²saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me. ³ And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them." ⁴ All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Prophet, saying: ⁵"Tell the Daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, lowly, and sitting on a donkey, colt, the foal of a donkey (ZECHARIAH 9:9).'" (MATTHEW 21:1-5)

- "Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the Sheep of My Pasture!" says Yahweh. ² Therefore thus says Yahweh Elohim of Israel against the shepherds who feed My People: "You have scattered My Flock, driven them away, and not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for the evil of your doings," says Yahweh. ³ "But I will gather the Remnant of My Flock out of all countries where I have driven them, and bring them back to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase." ⁴ I will set up Shepherds over them who will feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor shall they be lacking," says Yahweh.

⁵ "Behold, the Days are coming," says Yahweh, "that I will raise to David a Branch of Righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the Earth." ⁶ In His Days, Judah will be saved and Israel will dwell safely; now this is His Name by which He will be called: YAHWEH OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. ⁷ "Therefore, behold, the Days are coming," says Yahweh, "that they shall no longer say, 'As Yahweh lives who brought up the Children of Israel from the land of Egypt,' ⁸ but, 'As Yahweh lives who brought up and led the Descendants of the House of Israel from the north country and from all the countries where I had driven them.' And they shall dwell in their own land." (JEREMIAH 23:1-8)

- Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, ⁶saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." ⁷ And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." ⁸ The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a Word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹ For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he

comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." ¹⁰ When Jesus heard it, He marveled and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!" ¹¹ And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the Kingdom of Heaven. ¹² But the Sons of the Kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." (MATTHEW 8:5-12)

- And certain men came down from Judea and taught the Brethren, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." ² Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and dispute with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem, to the Apostles and Elders, about this question.

³ So, being sent on their way by the Church, they passed through Phoenicia and Samaria, describing the conversion of the Gentiles; and they caused great joy to all the Brethren. ⁴ And when they had come to Jerusalem, they were received by the Church and the Apostles and the Elders; and they reported all things that God had done with them. ⁵ But some of the sect of the Pharisees who believed rose up, saying, "It is necessary to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the Law of Moses."

⁶ Now the Apostles and Elders came together to consider this matter. ⁷ And when there had been much dispute, Peter rose up and said to them: "Men and Brethren, you know that a good while ago God chose among us, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the Word of the Gospel and believe." ⁸ So God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He did to Us, ⁹ and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. ¹⁰ Now therefore, why do you test God by putting a yoke on the neck of the Disciples which neither our Fathers nor we were able to bear? ¹¹ But we believe that through the Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved in the same manner as they."

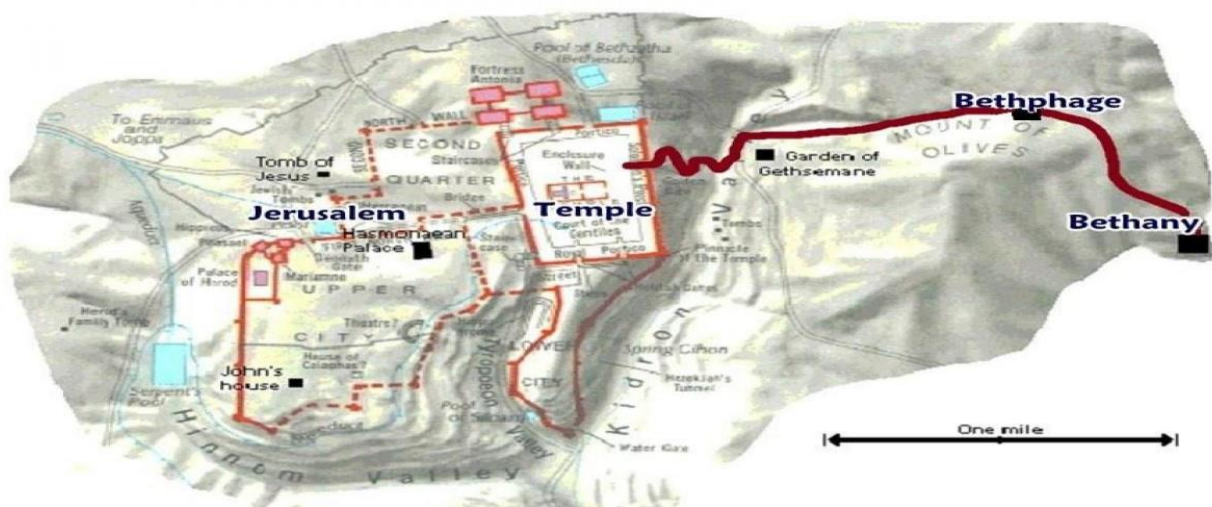
¹² Then all the multitude kept silent and listened to Barnabas and Paul declaring how many miracles and wonders God had worked through them among the Gentiles. ¹³ And after they had become silent, James answered, saying, "Men and Brethren, listen to me:" ¹⁴ Simon has declared how God at the first visited the Gentiles to take out of them a People for His Name. ¹⁵ And with this the Words of the Prophets agree, just as it is written: ¹⁶ 'After this I will return and will rebuild the Tabernacle of David, which has fallen down; I will rebuild its ruins, and I will set it up; ¹⁷ so that the rest of Mankind may seek Yahweh, even all the Gentiles who are called by My Name, says Yahweh who does all these things.' ¹⁸ "Known to God from eternity are all His works. ¹⁹ Therefore I judge that we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God" . . . (ACTS 15:1-19)

⁶ So the Disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. ⁸ And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna (Save now!) to the Son of David! 'Blessed is He who comes in the Name of Yahweh!' Hosanna in the Highest ([PSALMS 118:24-25](#))!" ¹⁰ And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the City was moved, saying, "Who is this?" ¹¹ So the multitudes said, "This is Jesus, the Prophet, from Nazareth of Galilee." ([MATTHEW 21:6-11](#))

- "[Yahweh your Elohim will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your Brethren. Him you shall hear,](#) ¹⁶ according to all you desired of Yahweh your Elohim in Horeb in the Day of the Assembly, saying, 'Let me not hear again the Voice of Yahweh my Elohim, nor let me see this Great Fire anymore, lest I die.' ¹⁷ "And Yahweh said to me: 'What they have spoken is good. ¹⁸ [I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their Brethren, and will put My Words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him.](#) ¹⁹ [And it shall be that whoever will not hear My Words, which He speaks in My Name, I will require it of him](#) ([DEUTERONOMY 18:15-19](#)).
- Then those men, when they had seen the sign ([of the feeding of the five thousand](#)) that Jesus did, said, "[This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the World.](#)" ¹⁵ Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him King, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone ([JOHN 6:14-15](#)).
- Now as the lame man who was healed held on to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the porch which is called Solomon's, greatly amazed. ¹² So when Peter saw it, he responded to the people: "Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? Or why look so intently at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? ¹³ [The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our Fathers, glorified His Servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let Him go.](#) ¹⁴ [But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you,](#) ¹⁵ [and killed the Prince of Life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses.](#) ¹⁶ And His Name, through faith in His Name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

¹⁷ "Yet now, brethren, I know that you did it in ignorance, as did also your Rulers. ¹⁸ But those things which God foretold by the mouth of all His Prophets, that the Christ would suffer, He has thus fulfilled. ¹⁹ Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the Presence of the Lord, ²⁰ and that He (God) may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, ²¹ whom Heaven must receive until the Times of Restoration of All Things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His Holy Prophets since the World began.

²² For Moses truly said to the Fathers, 'Yahweh your Elohim will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your Brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you. ²³ And it shall be that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people (DEUTERONOMY 18:18-19).' ²⁴ Yes, and all the Prophets, from Samuel and those who follow, as many as have spoken, have also foretold these days. ²⁵ You are Sons of the Prophets, and of the Covenant which God made with our Fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your Seed all the families of the Earth shall be blessed (GENESIS 22:18).' ²⁶ To you first, God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities." (ACTS 3:11-26)



JESUS CLEANSSES THE TEMPLE

Then Jesus went into the Temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the Temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. ¹³ And He said to them, "It is written, 'My House shall be called a House of Prayer (ISAIAH 56:7),' but you have made it a 'Den of Thieves.'"

¹⁴ Then the blind and the lame came to Him in the Temple, and He healed them ([MATTHEW 21:12-14](#)).

- Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And He found in the Temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. ¹⁵ When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the Temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables. ¹⁶ And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's House a House of Merchandise!" ¹⁷ Then His Disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Your House has eaten Me up ([PSALMS 69:9](#))." ([JOHN 2:13-17](#))

JESUS' AUTHORITY QUESTIONED AND REJECTED

But when the Chief Priests and Scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the Temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant ¹⁶ and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read, 'Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise' ([PSALMS 8:2](#))?" ¹⁷ Then He left them and went out of the City to Bethany, and He lodged there (And in the daytime, He was teaching in the Temple, but at night He went out and stayed on the Mountain called Olivet. Then early in the morning, all the people came to Him in the Temple to hear Him, LUKE 21:37-38) . . .

²³ Now when He came (the next day) into the Temple, the Chief Priests and the Elders of the People confronted Him as He was teaching, and said, "By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority?" . . .

^{22:15} Then the Pharisees went and plotted how they might entangle Him in His talk. ¹⁶ And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the Way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men. ¹⁷ Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, "Why do you test Me, you hypocrites . . .

²³ The same day the Sadducees, who say there is no Resurrection, came to Him and asked Him, ²⁴ saying: "Teacher, Moses said that if a man dies, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife and raise up offspring for his brother. ²⁵ Now there were with us seven brothers. The first died after he had married, and having no offspring, left his wife to his brother. ²⁶ Likewise the second also, and the third, even to the seventh. ²⁷ Last of all the woman died also. ²⁸ Therefore, in the Resurrection, whose wife of the seven will she be? For they all had her" . . .

³⁴ But when the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. ³⁵ Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" . . .

⁴¹ While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, ⁴² saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David." ⁴³ He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord' (Adonai), saying: ⁴⁴ 'Yahweh said to my Lord (Adonai), "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool" (PSALMS 110:1-7)?' ⁴⁵ If David then calls Him 'Lord' (Adonai), how is He his son?" ⁴⁶ And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore . . .

^{23:1} Then Jesus spoke to the multitudes and to His Disciples, ² saying: "The Scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. ³ Therefore whatever they tell you to observe, that observe and do, but do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do . . . (MATTHEW 21:15 – 23:36).

JESUS LAMENTS OVER JERUSALEM

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the Prophets and stones those who are sent to Her! How often I wanted to gather your Children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! ³⁸ See! Your House is left to you desolate . . . (MATTHEW 23:37-38).

- On that very day some Pharisees came, saying to Him, "Get out and depart from here, for Herod wants to kill You." ³² And He said to them, "Go, tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I shall be perfected.'³³ Nevertheless I must journey today, tomorrow, and the day following; for it cannot be that a Prophet should perish outside of Jerusalem. ³⁴ "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the Prophets and stones those who are sent to Her! How often I wanted to gather your Children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing! ³⁵ See! Your House is left to you desolate" (LUKE 13:31-35)

³⁹ For I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the Name of Yahweh!' " (MATTHEW 23:39)

- . . . And assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the Name of Yahweh!'" (LUKE 13:35)
- Now as they heard these things, He spoke another parable, because He was near Jerusalem and because they thought the Kingdom of God would appear immediately. ¹² Therefore He said: "A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return (after a long time). ¹³ So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, 'Do business till I come.'¹⁴ But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We will not have this man to reign over us.'

¹⁵ "And so it was that when he returned (after a long time), having received the kingdom, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading. ¹⁶ Then came the first, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned ten minas.'¹⁷ And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.'¹⁸ And the second came, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned five minas.'¹⁹ Likewise he said to him, 'You also be over five cities.'

²⁰ "Then another came, saying, 'Master, here is your mina, which I have kept put away in a handkerchief. ²¹ For I feared you, because you are an austere man. You collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.'²² And he said to him, 'Out of your own mouth I will judge you, you wicked servant. You knew that I was an austere man, collecting what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow. ²³ Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?' ²⁴ "And he said to those who stood by, 'Take the mina from him, and give it to him who has ten minas.'²⁵ (But they said to him, 'Master, he has ten minas.') ²⁶ 'For I say to you, that to everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have,

even what he has will be taken away from him. ²⁷ But bring here those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, and slay them before me.” (LUKE 19:11-27)

- Now the Chief Priests, the Elders, and all the Council sought false testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, ⁶⁰ but found none. Even though many false witnesses came forward, they found none. But at last two false witnesses came forward ⁶¹ and said, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the Temple of God and to build it in three days.’” ⁶² And the High Priest arose and said to Him, “Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?” ⁶³ But Jesus kept silent. And the High Priest answered and said to Him, “I put You under oath by the Living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!” ⁶⁴ Jesus said to him, “It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power (of God), and coming on the Clouds of Heaven.” (MATTHEW 26:59-64)

JESUS PREDICTS THE DESTRUCTION OF THE TEMPLE

Then Jesus went out and departed from the Temple, and His Disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the Temple. (It was adorned with beautiful stones and donations, LUKE 21:5). ² And Jesus said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.” (MATTHEW 24:1-2)

- In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of Median descent, who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans— ² in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood from the Books the number of years which, according to the Word of Yahweh to Jeremiah the Prophet (JEREMIAH 25:11-12 & 29:10), must pass before the Desolations which had been pronounced on Jerusalem would end; and it was seventy years.

³ So I directed my attention to Adonai Elohim to seek Him by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes. ⁴ I prayed to Yahweh my Elohim and confessed, and said, “Oh, Adonai, the great and awesome El, who keeps His Covenant and faithfulness for those who love Him and keep His Commandments, ⁵ we have sinned, we have done wrong, and acted wickedly and rebelled, even turning aside from Your Commandments and Ordinances. ⁶ Moreover, we have not listened to Your Servants the Prophets, who spoke in Your Name to our Kings, our Leaders, our Fathers, and all the People of the Land. ⁷” Righteousness belongs to You, Adonai, but to us open shame, as it is this day—to the men of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and all Israel, those who are nearby and those who are far away in all the countries to which You have driven them, because of their unfaithful deeds which they have committed against You.

⁸ Open shame belongs to us, Adonai, to our Kings, our Leaders, and our Fathers, because we have sinned against You. ⁹ To Adonai our Elohim belong compassion and forgiveness, because we have rebelled against Him; ¹⁰ and we have not obeyed the Voice of Yahweh our Adonai, to walk in His Teachings which He set before us through His Servants the Prophets. ¹¹ Indeed, all Israel has violated Your Law and turned aside, not obeying Your Voice; so the curse has gushed forth on us, along with the oath which is written in the Law of Moses the Servant of Elohim, because we have sinned against Him. ¹² So He has confirmed His Words which He had spoken against us and against our Rulers who ruled us, to bring on us great disaster; for under the entire Heaven there has not been done anything like what was done in Jerusalem.

¹³ Just as it is written in the Law of Moses, all this disaster has come on us; yet we have not sought the favor of Yahweh our Adonai by turning from our wrongdoing and giving attention to Your Truth. ¹⁴ So Yahweh has kept the disaster in store and brought it on us; for Yahweh our Adonai is righteous with respect to all His deeds which He has done, but we have not obeyed His Voice. ¹⁵ "And now, Adonai, our Elohim, You who brought Your People out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand and made a name for Yourself, as it is this day—we have sinned, we have been wicked.

¹⁶ Adonai, in accordance with all Your righteous acts, let now Your anger and Your wrath turn away from Your City, Jerusalem, Your Holy Mountain; for because of our sins and the wrongdoings of our Fathers, Jerusalem and Your people have become an object of taunting to all those around us. ¹⁷ So now, our Elohim, listen to the prayer of Your servant and to his pleas, and for Your sake, Lord, let Your face shine on Your Desolate Sanctuary. ¹⁸ My Elohim, incline Your ear and hear! Open Your eyes and see our Desolations and the City which is called by Your Name; for we are not presenting our pleas before You based on any merits of our own, but based on Your great compassion. ¹⁹ Adonai, hear! Adonai, forgive! Adonai, listen and take action! For Your own sake, my Elohim, do not delay, because Your City and Your people are called by Your name."

²⁰ Now while I was speaking, praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before Yahweh my Elohim for the Holy Mountain of my Elohim, ²¹ yes, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the Vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering. ²² And He informed me, and talked with me, and said, "O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you the skill to understand. ²³ At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand the Vision:

²⁴ "Seventy weeks (of years, 490 years) are determined for your People and for your Holy City, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make Reconciliation

for iniquity, to bring in Everlasting Righteousness, to seal up Vision and Prophecy, and to anoint the Holy of Place.

²⁵ "Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the Word to restore and build Jerusalem (JEREMIAH 29:10) until an anointed king (King Cyrus, ISAIAH 44:28, 45:1,13, and EZRA 1:1-4) there shall be seven weeks (49 years); and for sixty-two weeks (434 years), the street and the wall shall be built again, even in troublesome times.

²⁶ "And after the sixty-two weeks (483 years) an anointed shall be cut off and he will be no more; ²⁷ Then a coming prince shall confirm a covenant with many (of the Jews) for one week; and on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the end is poured out on the desolate which is determined; but in the middle of the week, he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering; and the people of a coming prince (the Romans) shall destroy the City and the Sanctuary (in 70 A.D.). The end of it shall be with a flood, and desolations are determined until the end of the war."
(DANIEL 9:1-27)

