



**Consequences, Part Two  
Antichrist, Accepted And the Results of That Decision  
Zechariah 11:15 – 12:3**

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One of the signs of the end of the age is deception. Jesus was concerned about that and warned His disciples and us right after they asked some questions regarding the end of the age.

Matthew 24:4

“And Jesus answered them, “See that no one leads you astray.” (ESV)

What that means is that there are those actively misleading others. Satan is a liar, and that is his, and those who serve him, main calling card. By the way, if the individual you are talking to is not saved, then they are serving Satan.

That may sound harsh, but it is Biblically correct. Satan wants to make you and I as ineffective as possible. He is not beyond having others lie to you and me to convince us not to do something the Lord has laid on our heart to do. Oh, and they will also lie about us too.



He will also use others to attack us as we are in the middle of following and serving Him. If you are in ministry, you will be attacked.

If you step out to follow in faith, you will be attacked. If you give, you will be attacked. If you pray, you will be attacked. Bottom line, as believers in Christ, we will be attacked. But we have already won.

Ephesians 6:10–13

“Finally, build up your strength in union with the Lord and by means of his mighty power. Put on all the armour that God gives you, so that you will be able to stand up against the Devil’s evil tricks. For we are not fighting against human beings but against the wicked spiritual forces in the heavenly world, the rulers, authorities, and cosmic powers of this dark age. So put on God’s armour now! Then when the evil day comes, you will be able to resist the enemy’s attacks; and after fighting to the end, you will still hold your ground.” (GNB)

1 John 4:4

“But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.” (NLT)

There are only two paths. Zechariah is in the middle of depicting those two paths. He has already depicted the good shepherd who will be rejected by His own people. And he has outlined what will happen as a result.

They will reject the only way provided to them to be saved. Jesus’ words, not mine (John 8:23-24).

When you reject the truth of Jesus Christ, then what is left? Lies.

Matthew 7:13 “Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many.” (ESV)

There really are only two roads, the narrow road provided by Christ, or the broad multilane freeway run by Satan and his minions. AC/DC did not miss the truth by much. They provided the anthem of our culture all summed up in a rock song of in-your-face quasi truth mixed with lies. Highway to hell.

Livin' easy, Lovin' free, Season ticket on a one way ride, Askin' nothin', Leave me be, Takin' everythin' in my stride, Don't need reason, Don't need rhyme, Ain't nothin' I'd rather do, Goin' down, Party time, My friends are gonna be there too, yeah. I'm on the highway to hell, On the highway to hell, Highway to hell, I'm on the highway to hell. (AC/DC 1999)

This shows exactly where we are as a culture. In your face truth about the destination of those who reject Jesus Christ mixed with lies, and most do not believe it. There is not going to be a party there and I doubt those who go there, will ever see any of their friends who made the same poor decision. It is not going to be a good time for all at all.

As believers, this is what we are now fighting against. But Jesus, the good shepherd, the one who was rejected spoke a lot about hell.

Jesus chose strong and terrifying language when He spoke of hell. I believe He chose to speak this way because He loves us and wanted to warn us. So let’s not miss the point: He spoke of hell as a horrifying place, characterized by suffering, fire, darkness, and lamentation. I believe His intention was to stir a fear in us that would cause us to take hell seriously and avoid it at all costs. (Chan and Sprinkle 2011, 86)



Here in Zechariah, we have already reviewed the massive deception campaign of Satan surrounding the coming of the good shepherd, the Messiah. Jesus clearly identified Himself as the good shepherd and as Zechariah prophesied, He was rejected, and the nation destroyed.

John 10:14–15

“I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.” (ESV)

Deception, beginning with the shepherds, led to the flock rejecting Jesus and becoming the flock dedicated to destruction. The afflicted of the flock, are the remnant who are believers.

However, we have been given some views of definitive military activity on behalf of the good shepherd. Now we are going to find out that Satan has his counterfeit to the good shepherd, the foolish shepherd.

Satan counterfeits everything. This is just another lie of his being told to us in advance.

We really also need to pay attention to what Jesus tells the Jewish leadership.

John 5:39–43

“You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life. I do not receive glory from people. But I know that you do not have the love of God within you. **I have come in my Father’s name, and you do not receive me. If another comes in his own name, you will receive him.**” (ESV)

Here in John 5, right after healing a paralytic on the Sabbath, Jesus points out the unbelief in the leadership. He does so by pointing out various witnesses to the truth and ends up on why the leadership cannot deal with truth.

They are not believers. They are not looking for Messiah, not really. They have their own preconceived notions of who He is or how He would show up. A strong military figure would be more in line to what they wanted, but they also wanted to maintain their power too. This will mean disaster for the people.

He clearly tells them He is Messiah, which they decide they want to kill Him over. Things don’t improve over time as the deception from Satan draws a curtain over their eyes.

Jesus tells them that they will indeed reject Him. They do not know the Father and as such, they do not know Him.

The bad news, they will accept someone else. That someone else is described for us my Zechariah as the foolish shepherd.

Things really do not improve with the attitude and views of the religious leadership. Jesus, months later, assesses their condition.

John 8:43–45

“Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. **You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me.**” (ESV)



So, they reject their Messiah and do so because they have been deceived by the enemy. As Zechariah said, they became dedicated to destruction.

Zechariah has depicted the actions of the good shepherd on behalf of the nation and how the nation, rejected Him.

They wanted someone else.

So, now they will get someone else.

Zechariah now returns for a second season as a shepherd, but this time the scenario is very different. He is going to portray a shepherd who will arise at the end of the age. This will be someone that the leadership will listen to. They rejected Jesus, but this person will be much smoother, and they will accept him.

Zechariah 11:15–16

“And the LORD said to me, “Take again for yourself the equipment of a foolish shepherd. For behold, I am going to raise up a shepherd in the land who will not care for the perishing, seek the scattered, heal the broken, or provide for the one who is exhausted, but will devour the flesh of the fat sheep and tear off their hoofs.” (NASB 2020)

Satan is always about counterfeiting what God does. Jesus is the good shepherd. Satan will indeed have his man ready to impersonate the good shepherd, problem is, he will not have the same goals as Jesus had.

John 10:10

“**The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy**; I have come so that they may have life, and may have it abundantly.” (NET 2nd ed.)

When we read the word foolish, we tend to define it based on our western mindset. We need to define it here as the Bible defines foolish, and that term is defined in depth for us in Proverbs.

The following is a partial list of some characteristics of a fool from the book of Proverbs:

- a fool hates knowledge (Proverbs 1:22),
- takes no pleasure in understanding (Proverbs 18:2),
- enjoys wicked schemes (Proverbs 10:23),
- proclaims folly (Proverbs 12:23),
- spurns a parent’s discipline (Proverbs 15:5),
- speaks perversity (Proverbs 19:1),
- is quick-tempered (Proverbs 12:16),
- gets himself in trouble with his proud speech (Proverbs 14:3),
- mocks at sin (Proverbs 14:9),
- is deceitful (Proverbs 14:8),
- and despises his mother (Proverbs 15:20).
- A foolish child brings grief to his or her parents (Proverbs 17:25; 19:13).
- A foolish man commits sexual immorality (6:32; 7:7–12).
- A foolish woman tears down her own house (Proverbs 14:1).

The ultimate description of a fool is one who “says in his heart, ‘There is no God.’ They are corrupt, and their ways are vile; there is no one who does good” (Psalm 14:1; 53:1). (Got Questions Ministries 2014-2021)



The foolish shepherd is the one who is the antithesis of the good shepherd. The good shepherd is Jesus Christ, the Messiah. The foolish shepherd is the antichrist, the one who arises to power after the rapture of the church and signs a 7-year peace deal with the nation of Israel. A deal that will be abrogated after 3 ½ years.

He is the one who will be personally empowered by Satan (Revelation 13:2) once Satan and his minions are cast out of the heavenlies by the Archangel Michael and restricted to earth (Revelation 12:7-9).

Some commentators point to an event in 132 AD as the fulfillment of the foolish shepherd, I do not agree with that assessment but do believe he is a type of the foolish shepherd. "In the year 132 A.D., Simon bar Cochba led the second Jewish revolt against Rome. He was supported in this by many of the rabbis but most significantly, midway through the revolt, the chief rabbi, Rabbi Akiba, declared Bar Cochba to be the Messiah." (Fruchtenbaum 1998, 71)

This was actually the second rebellion post 70 AD, third in total. A previous rebellion of Jewish communities across the Empire took place in 116 AD and was put down by Rome at a large cost in lives. This rebellion, "the Bar Kokhba rebellion took the Romans three years to suppress, at great expense and bloodshed. This time, the Roman Senate was not inclined to be lenient. Circumcision was made a crime, Jews were forbidden to serve in any civic positions anywhere in the empire, Jerusalem was turned into a colony of Rome with a new legal foundation and a new temple and a new name—Aelia Capitolina (thus destroying the old shekel-based Jewish economy), and Jews were forbidden on pain of death to come even within eyesight of their former capital city. If there had been popular anti-Jewish sentiment around the Empire before, it now became official governmental policy." (Dungan 1999, 47)

The shepherd being depicted by Zechariah is one who is morally worthless, evil and corrupt. Despite having the good shepherd, the nation rejected Him and as a result they are subjected to devastating consequences. Jerusalem destroyed, thousands killed in the Empire wide rebellion and then the finality of the Bar Kokhba rebellion. Those events point to what is being prophesied for the future at the end of the age in the Day of the Lord.

Several consequences have already been seen in former verses. Now, in these last three verses of Zechariah 11, the reader is warned of another consequence. The rise of the antichrist is predicted. (Leadership Ministries Worldwide 2009, 282)

Zechariah 11:16

"For behold, I am going to raise up a shepherd in the land who will not care for the perishing, seek the scattered, heal the broken, or provide for the one who is exhausted, but will devour the flesh of the fat sheep and tear off their hoofs." (NASB 2020)

The bad news for the nation, this foolish shepherd "is allowed and appointed by God as judgment because His people forsook the true shepherd. This was fulfilled in Israel's rejection of Jesus." (Guzik 2013, Zec 11:15-16)

We read this and wonder how anyone could reject Messiah and the good things He brings. What were they thinking? But all of us have rejected Him at one time or another. The events of Genesis 3 make that the truth for each of us. As believers, we used to think we were truly free when we rebelled against Him.

Jesus changed all of that for us, but for those still in unbelief, this is reality.

In short, the judgment of God is to give us over to our freedom, to let us wander and flounder as we will, apart from the guiding and sustaining rule of his Messiah. To be free, according to the teaching of these



Scriptures, is to be free to be destroyed and die. Paradise is not unbridled freedom but obedience and service to our King. (Achteemeier 1986, 159)

This foolish shepherd is nothing like the good shepherd that the people rejected. Each of the characteristics we are given of the foolish shepherd is opposite of that of the good shepherd.

We see glimpses of this around us today as we see the never-ending parade of self-serving politicians, managers and so-called leaders who allege to be acting in our best interests, but only act in their own. Each reflecting to a small degree the one they are listening to and following.

What are the characteristics of the foolish shepherd?

The good shepherd seeks the lost sheep in order to protect them, the foolish shepherd “will not care for the perishing.” Do not expect any rescue missions to be launched after the Beast comes to the Temple and declares he is god and must be worshiped. The people will flee just as Jesus encouraged them to do in Matthew 24, but many will be lost along the way and this shepherd, does not exercise mercy at all.

The good shepherd seeks the lost sheep to maintain the flock but the foolish shepherd, wants the flock dead.

Revelation 13:7–8

“It was allowed to fight against God’s people and defeat them. It was also given authority over the people of every tribe, nation, language, and race. The beast was worshiped by everyone whose name wasn’t written before the time of creation in the book of the Lamb who was killed.” (CEV)

The good shepherd has come to seek and to save those who are lost (Luke 19:10). He wants all who have scattered to be recovered and cared for. The foolish shepherd is not interested in saving any of the refugees running from his military and heading southeast into the desert from Jerusalem.

Any who are broken or scattered are targets as far as the foolish shepherd is concerned.

The good shepherd heals the broken and provides for those who are exhausted. “God will supernaturally protect Israel from Satan’s onslaught, symbolized by a ferocious flood flowing from the dragon’s mouth (Revelation 12:14–16). Satan will use the Antichrist as his primary tool for carrying out his extermination plan.” (Hitchcock 2012, 315)

John 10:11

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” (ESV)

Jesus accomplished this on the cross and then He rose from the dead making the defeat of Satan complete. This is why the foolish shepherd, the Beast is directed towards the destruction of anything connected to God, especially His people.

Satan is the one empowering the Beast and Satan’s goal is the complete destruction of the Jews and all tribulation believers. This becomes the goal of the foolish shepherd. The foolish shepherd will “devour the flesh of the fat sheep and tear off their hoofs.” It is interested only in what is in it, power, control and money. The Beast wants what they had and what they can be used for. This ominous idea does show up too.

We see this in the list of those things the Beast’s capital city is involved in trading.



Revelation 18:11–13

“Then the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn for her because no one buys their cargo any longer—cargo such as gold, silver, precious stones, pearls, fine linen, purple cloth, silk, scarlet cloth, all sorts of things made of citron wood, all sorts of objects made of ivory, all sorts of things made of expensive wood, bronze, iron and marble, cinnamon, spice, incense, perfumed ointment, frankincense, wine, olive oil and costly flour, wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and four-wheeled carriages, **slaves and human lives.**” (NET 2nd ed.)

Trading in human lives is more than human trafficking. We are talking about a trade in assassination and much more. The systematic killing of people for profit. The systematic hunting down of Jews and Tribulation believers during the Tribulation. We could also be talking about the killing of people for their organs to be transplanted into those who have power and money. Genetic manipulation to include the growing of replacement parts for the rich and powerful.

All the opposite of the good shepherd who gave His life so we could live forever with Him.

Zechariah is not drawing a pretty picture here for us. The foolish shepherd is the Satanic shepherd. His counterfeit of the real thing.

And we find out what he looks like here too.

Zechariah 11:17

“Woe to the worthless shepherd Who abandons the flock! A sword will be on his arm And on his right eye! His arm will be totally withered, And his right eye will be blind.” (NASB 2020)

At the midpoint of the Tribulation, an event takes place involving the Beast. He is assassinated, or so it seems, emerging as an it, the Beast.

Revelation 13:3–4

“One of the beast’s heads appeared to have been killed, but the lethal wound had been healed. And the whole world followed the beast in amazement; they worshiped the dragon because he had given ruling authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast too, saying: “Who is like the beast?” and “Who is able to make war against him?”” (NET 2nd ed.)

His so-called resurrection is a trick, a counterfeit. There is a reason why the Beast is called an “it” in Revelation and I believe that has to do with genetic manipulation and cybernetics. Locutus of Borg lives.

One of the characteristics a careful study of the scriptures show is that the Beast will not only be personally empowered by Satan, but he/it may also be enhanced. This is something that management books are already being written about to teach new future managers of the potential environment of the near future.

Consider a future where “human beings who are unable to quit their jobs because they rely on their employers for a lifetime supply of antivirus updates, immunosuppressive drugs, or physical maintenance for their full cyborg body. Human workers whose invasive neural interfaces allow them to dwell permanently within virtual worlds and whose physical bodies must be cared for by their employer’s biomedical support division. Neurocybernetically linked human workers who lose their personal identity and merge to form a hive mind whose members share collective sensations, emotions, and volitions. A vast, tangled, digital-physical ecosystem in which an organization’s human and synthetic employees, buildings, vehicles, manufacturing equipment, databases, products, and customers are all cybernetically linked through their participation in the ‘Internet of Being.’” (Gladden 2016, 19)



Welcome to the utopia being sought by the WEF, DARPA and others.

For this worthless shepherd, his right side remains as evidence of the assassination attempt.

This too is a counterfeit of the nail scars in Jesus' hands and feet.

By the time the Beast has this appearance though, it will be obvious to the people of Israel that they placed their trust in the wrong person. He is the counterfeit shepherd, not the good shepherd. He is worthless.

This foolish worthless individual is a required precursor for the main event yet to come, the second coming of Jesus Christ. That is the central focus of the rest of this book.

Zechariah 12:1–3

“The pronouncement of the word of the LORD concerning Israel: The LORD who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of a person within him, declares: “Behold, I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that causes staggering to all the peoples around; and when the siege is against Jerusalem, it will also be against Judah. It will come about on that day that I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples; all who lift it will injure themselves severely. And all the nations of the earth will be gathered against it.” (NASB 2020)

This is prophecy from Zechariah, and it is what the Lord has been leading up to with everything else in the book.

We have learned, because of fulfilled prophecy taking place in the lifetime of Zechariah and that which has taken place up to today, he is reliable as a prophet. When he speaks in the name of the Lord, that is indeed who he is speaking for.

That means we need to listen carefully to what he has to say.

Up to this point the discussion which began in chapter 11 has been about the shepherd that Israel would reject and the one they would accept. The foolish shepherd is the one who we know as the antichrist or the Beast. He is still providing prophecy to the nation of Israel and by saying so here He is implying that the broken staff is being talked of as if it is still whole. But the staff was broken and only the Lord can repair it.

Here the Lord reemphasizes that and the very first thing the Lord does is declare that He is the creator.

There is also another reason for referencing Israel here, that is what these three chapters are about. Yes, the nation did indeed reject the Good Shepherd, but He came to redeem all mankind include the remnant of the Jews who believe. God is not done with Israel, not at all and in these three chapters we will see those things He still has in store for His own people.

That is another reason why this meshes well with Revelation, since after the end of chapter 3, it is no longer about the church but about Israel. This is about the Day of the Lord which begins when the church is removed.

The Day of the Lord, therefore, is a period of time. It includes the Great Tribulation Period and the millennial kingdom, which means that it is over a thousand years in length. (McGee 1997, 972)

The next three chapters, also sometimes referred to as the little apocalypse of Zechariah, are not only about Israel, but also about judgement on the nations of the world. As such YAHWEH is identified as the





creator of everything and as such, has the right to enact judgment on Israel as well as on the nations of the world.

All of the realms to be judged are referenced. He is the one who created the heavens, which witnessed the rebellion of some of the unseen realm. He created the earth which was the scene for the fall of man in Genesis 3 and the corruption of man in Genesis 6, both involving rebel divine beings. We learn here that God has been and still is deeply involved in His creation. He is immanent in His creation, and He is also transcendent over His creation.

These are two terms used in theology that books have been written about. Let me quickly summarize them for you.

When Scripture uses the “up there” language, theologians call it transcendence. When Scripture speaks of God “down here” with us, the theologians speak of immanence. (Frame 2006, 13)

He is both, as shown here in Zechariah 12, at the same time. Yes, He laid out the heavens and yes, the earth as well. That is big “out there” kind of stuff. But He did all of that for us, who He formed the spirit of.

When we say God is immanent in His creation, we are saying “God is always distinct from the world, for he is the Creator and we are the creature. Yet, he is clearly revealed in the world (Ps. 19:1; Rom. 1:18–21). God does come to be with creatures, and that’s something wonderful and precious.” (Frame 2006, 13)

When we say He is transcendent over His creation, it does not mean He is so high we cannot know Him, but our language is limiting in trying to describe Him, that we do know. But we do know God Most High is one of His names. “When Scripture speaks of God as “high,” “exalted,” “lifted up,” it is not saying that he lives far away from us so that we can’t know him. Rather, it’s saying that God is King, that he is Lord. In other words, biblical transcendence is God’s lordship attributes of control and authority.” (Frame 2006, 13)

In other words, He is Lord over all. “God’s lordship means that he controls everything and speaks with absolute authority. There is also a third element to God’s lordship, and in some ways this is the deepest and most precious. That element is his commitment to us and, therefore, his presence with us.” (Frame 2006, 12)

Finally, there is the issue that man, created as a physical being, also has a spiritual component as well. That spirit, in those who do not believe, is also in rebellion to YAHWEH.

What we see here in Zechariah 12:2 are attributes of God beyond what we have already discussed. We also see here that He as Creator, is the omnipotent (all-powerful) omniscient (all knowing) God who creates with a word.

He is wisdom, He is knowledge. “The first thing to remember about God is that he is Lord, Yahweh, the I AM. As the Lord, he is the personal, holy, head of the covenant. He is in full control of the world he has made, speaks to us with absolute authority, and commits himself to us as Immanuel, God with us.” (Frame 2006, 14)

As creator of everything out of nothing in the beginning, the Lord is able to re-create a new heavens and a new earth, including forming a new society in the prophet’s own day out of the existing chaos of post-exilic Judah. He also creates individual human beings, ‘form[ing] the spirit of man within him’, which means that he can remake individuals as well as society as a whole. In that re-creating work, Jerusalem will be the instrument of his judgement upon the nations. (Duguid 2010, 169-170)



Zechariah 12:2–3

“Behold, I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that causes staggering to all the peoples around; and when the siege is against Jerusalem, it will also be against Judah. It will come about on that day that I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples; all who lift it will injure themselves severely. And all the nations of the earth will be gathered against it.” (NASB 2020)

I find it amazing that in our present day, the nations of the world continue to try and figure out what to do with Jerusalem.

His people are back in the Land and just this week, in celebration of the Feast of Tabernacles, a Levitical choir of over 1000 reenacted the Temple choir of 2000 years ago. “Amid the historic Huldah Steps, which served as the entrance to the Temple Mount during its existence, the Levites, divided by their vocal ranges, echoed songs from the Psalms, reminiscent of those sung during the Sukkot holiday in ancient times.” (Klein 2023)

There appears to also be a growing move in Israel to rebuild the Temple.

An organization in Jerusalem, the Chozrim L'Har movement has vowed that sacrifices would resume soon and the Third Temple would be built on the Temple Mount.

"It is time to build a third Jewish Temple and renew sacrifices," the religious organization said. "Dear government and Arabs, you are messing with the wrong generation," it further warned. (Jerusalem Post Staff 2023)

The United Nations is deep into the Jerusalem issue as well, just as prophesied here.

Is Jerusalem becoming a cup of staggering? In April of this year, the UN issued the following statement. The international community must take immediate action to stop Israel's forced evictions and displacement of Palestinians in East Jerusalem as part of Israel's annexation and “de-Palestinianization” of the city, UN-appointed independent rights experts said on Thursday. (UN News 2023)

In neighbourhoods adjacent to the Old City of Jerusalem, an estimated 150 Palestinian families are currently at risk of forced eviction and displacement by Israeli authorities and settlers. Over the past decades, hundreds of Palestinian properties in occupied East Jerusalem have been taken over by settlers, in part due to a law that claims to allow the transfer of pre-1948 Jewish property to the “original Jewish owners” or their “heirs”, the experts said. The current legislation helps settler organizations expropriate Palestinian properties through a manipulation of the law, they added. “This is lawfare in action,” they said. “The law is discriminatory and acquisitive by design, and no such right to restitution exists for the over 1 million Palestinians and their descendants who were displaced and dispossessed from Jerusalem, Israel, and the rest of the West Bank and Gaza as of 1947 and in 1967.” (UN News 2023)

The prophecy of Zechariah is beginning to be fulfilled. “As these Gentile nations come against Jerusalem, they will begin to drink from this vast cup, hoping to derive pleasure from it; but after drinking, they will run away reeling and staggering, no longer in control as they thought they would be.” (Fruchtenbaum, The Messianic Bible Study Collection 1983, 5)

There is global concern about Jerusalem, yet as we continue to witness, those nations that engage, sometimes reel at what is taking place as they choose to accept the lies.

This is all about a yet future siege of Israel by the nations of the world, but we see aspects of this siege already becoming visible as we are moving closer to the Tribulation. We are so close to the rapture of the



church; the shadows of those future events are already evident to anyone who looks at them through the lens of prophecy.

This siege is related to the rejection of the good shepherd and the acceptance of the foolish one.

This is about some aspects of a future battle we call the Campaign of Armageddon.

This takes place at the end of the Tribulation. Prophetically, we are being taken to that point in history yet to take place where the armies of the nations are beginning to be marshalled together for a final solution to what they see as Israel, but what Satan, who is the one calling the shots at this point globally, sees as the final attempt to prevent Messiah from coming again.

If all His people are exterminated, then there is nothing for Him to return to. This has been the goal of Satan ever since Genesis 3. He believed that God would immediately zap Adam and Eve ending his possible rival for power.

Ever since then it has been moves by the unseen realm to corrupt mankind to the point that no humans are left for messiah to come from, to the destruction of the line of David from which He is to come from (2 Kings 11:1-3).

The flood was the answer to that first major attempt. The hiding of a baby in the Temple was the solution to the second.

When Jesus arrived on the scene, Satan thought by killing the Messiah, that would solve his problem, it didn't. Since then, it has been all about destroying His people the Jews and believers.

Why events such as the holocaust? That was another move by Satan, to eliminate Jews from the planet. If there are no Jews left, then there would be no one who would be able to pray and ask for Messiah to deliver them. We are going to see the futility of that idea here in Zechariah.

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