

“I am zealous for Jerusalem...”

Hebrews 10:37 (NKJV)

37 “For yet a little while, And He who is coming will come and will not tarry.

Zechariah 1:1–3 (NKJV)

-1 In the eighth month of the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to Zechariah the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying, 2 “The Lord has been very angry with your fathers. 3 Therefore say to them, “Thus says the Lord of hosts: **“Return to Me,” says the Lord of hosts, “and I will return to you,” says the Lord of hosts.**

- “Return to Me,” :
- Micah 7:16–20 (NKJV) 16. The nations shall see and be ashamed of all their might; They shall put their hand over their mouth; Their ears shall be deaf. 17. They shall lick the dust like a serpent; They shall crawl from their holes like snakes of the earth. They shall be afraid of the Lord our God, And shall fear because of You. 18. Who is a God like You, Pardoning iniquity And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights in mercy. 19. **He will again have compassion on us, And will subdue our iniquities. You will cast all our sins Into the depths of the sea. 20. You will give truth to Jacob And mercy to Abraham, Which You have sworn to our fathers From days of old.**
- Malachi 3:7 Yet from the days of your fathers You have gone away from My ordinances And have not kept them. **Return to Me, and I will return to you,” Says the Lord of hosts.** “But you said, ‘In what way shall we return?’
- Luke 15:20 “And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.
- Lamentations 2:17 The Lord has done what He purposed; He has fulfilled His word Which He commanded in days of old. He has thrown down and has not pitied, And He has caused an enemy to rejoice over you; He has exalted the horn of your adversaries.

Zechariah 1:4–6 (NKJV)

- 4 “Do not be like your fathers, to whom the former prophets preached, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts: **“Turn now from your evil ways and your evil deeds.”**’ But they did not hear nor heed Me,” says the Lord. 5 “Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, do they live forever? 6 Yet surely My words and My statutes, Which I commanded My servants the prophets, Did they not overtake your fathers? “So they returned and said: ‘Just as the Lord of hosts determined to do to us, According to our ways and according to our deeds, So He has dealt with us.’ ” ”

- “Turn now from your evil ways and your evil deeds.”

- Ezekiel 18:30 “Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways,” says the Lord God. “Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin.
- Hosea 14:1 O Israel, return to the Lord your God, For you have stumbled because of your iniquity;

Zechariah 1:7–11 (NKJV)

-7 On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, which is the month Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to Zechariah the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet:

- 8 I saw by night, and behold, a man riding on a red horse, and it stood among the **myrtle trees in the hollow**; and behind him were horses: red, sorrel, and white.
- 9 Then I said, “My lord, what are these?” So the angel who talked with me said to me, “I will show you what they are.”
- 10 And the man who stood among the **myrtle trees** answered and said, “These are the ones whom the Lord has sent to walk to and fro throughout the earth.”

- 11 So they answered the **Angel of the Lord**, who stood among the **myrtle trees**, and said, "We have walked to and fro throughout the earth, and behold, all the earth is resting quietly."
- **Myrtle trees** were among the picturesque symbols of God's favor and whose branches were among other trees used to build the booths that the Israelites dwelled in during the Feast of Booths
 - Nehemiah 8:13–15 (NKJV)
 - 13 Now on the second day the heads of the fathers' houses of all the people, with the priests and Levites, were gathered to **Ezra** the scribe, in order to understand the words of the Law.
 - 14 And they found written in the Law, which the Lord had commanded by Moses, that the children of Israel should dwell in booths during the feast of the seventh month,
 - 15 and that they should announce and proclaim in all their cities and in Jerusalem, saying, "Go out to the mountain, and bring olive branches, branches of oil trees, **myrtle branches**, palm branches, and branches of leafy trees, to make booths, as it is written."
 - Isaiah 55:13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree, And instead of the brier shall come up the **myrtle tree**; And it shall be to the Lord for a name, For an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."
 - **Also signifying a change**
 - Isaiah 11:9. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord As the waters cover the sea.
 - Habakkuk 2:14 For the earth will be filled With the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, As the waters cover the sea.
- And in that they were growing in the hollow or in a low elevation/river bank or ravine typifying Israel's low estate both physically (in exile) and spiritually.
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Zechariah 1:12 (NKJV)

"12. Then the **Angel of the Lord** answered and said, "O Lord of hosts, **how long** will You not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, **against which You were angry these seventy years?**"

- 2 Chronicles 36:21 to fulfill the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her Sabbaths. As long as she lay desolate she kept Sabbath, **to fulfill seventy years.**
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- Jeremiah 25:8–12 (NKJV)
- 8 "Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts: 'Because you have not heard My words, 9 behold, I will send and take all the families of the north,' says the Lord, 'and Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant, and will bring them against this land, against its inhabitants, and against these nations all around, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, a hissing, and perpetual desolations. 10 Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones and the light of the lamp. 11 And this whole land shall be a desolation and an astonishment, **and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.** Jeremiah 12 'Then it will come to pass, when seventy years are completed, that I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the Chaldeans, for their iniquity,' says the Lord; 'and I will make it a perpetual desolation.
- Jeremiah 29:8–10 (NKJV)
- 8 For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let your prophets and your diviners who are in your midst deceive you, nor listen to your dreams which you cause to be dreamed. 9 For they prophesy falsely to you in My name; I have not sent them, says the Lord. 10 For thus says the Lord: **After seventy years are completed at Babylon**, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place.
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Sunday, April 11, 2021

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- **Feast of Tabernacles / Booths**

- Leviticus 23:40–43 (NKJV)
- 40 And you shall take for yourselves on the first day the **fruit** of beautiful trees, branches of palm trees, the boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook; and you shall rejoice before the Lord your God for seven days. 41 You shall keep it as a feast to the Lord for seven days in the year. It shall be a statute forever in your generations. You shall celebrate it in the seventh month. 42 You shall dwell in booths for seven days. All who are native Israelites shall dwell in booths,
- 43 that your generations may know that I made the children of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.' "
- This feast is going to be kept during the millennium ; for what purpose? As a memorial. They didn't have walled cities to live in for protection; their reliance was upon God who delivered them, to protect them

Sunday, April 4, 2021

Zechariah 1:7 (NKJV)

7. On the **twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, which is the month Shebat, in the second year of Darius**, the word of the Lord came to Zechariah the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet:

Haggai 1:1 (NKJV)

1 In the **second year of King Darius, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month**, the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying,

Zechariah 1:12 (NKJV)

12 Then the **Angel of the Lord answered and said**, "O Lord of hosts, **how long will You not have mercy** on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which You were angry these seventy years?"

Leviticus 24:16

And whoever blasphemes the name of the Lord shall surely be put to death. All the congregation shall certainly stone him, the stranger as well as him who is born in the land. When he blasphemes the name of the Lord, he shall be put to death.

Psalms 6:3

My soul also is greatly troubled; But You, O Lord—how long?

Psalms 10:13

Why do the wicked renounce God? He has said in his heart, "You will not require an account."

Psalms 44:16

Because of the voice of him who reproaches and reviles, Because of the enemy and the avenger.

Psalms 74:2 (NKJV)

2Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old, **The tribe of Your inheritance, which You have redeemed— This Mount Zion where You have dwelt.**

Exodus 15:13–16 (NKJV)

13You in Your mercy have led forth The people whom You have ^{redeemed}; You have guided them in Your strength To Your holy habitation.

14"The people will hear and be afraid; Sorrow will take hold of the inhabitants of Philistia.

15Then the chiefs of Edom will be dismayed; The mighty men of Moab, Trembling will take hold of them; All the inhabitants of Canaan will melt away.

16Fear and dread will fall on them; By the greatness of Your arm They will be as still as a stone, Till Your people pass over, O Lord, Till the people pass over Whom You have purchased.

Colossians 1:12–14 (NKJV)

12. giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

13. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

14. in whom we have ^{redemption} **through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.**

Psalm 74:18

Remember this, that the enemy has reproached, O Lord, **And that a foolish people has blasphemed Your name.**

Psalm 74:22

Arise, O God, plead **Your own cause**; Remember how the foolish man reproaches You daily.

Psalm 79:5

How long, Lord? Will You be angry forever? Will Your jealousy burn like fire?

Psalm 79:12

And return to our neighbors sevenfold into their bosom **Their reproach with which they have reproached You, O Lord.**

Psalm 80:4

O Lord God of hosts, How long will You be angry **Against the prayer of Your people?**

Importunity

Psalm 82:2

How long will you judge unjustly, And show partiality to the wicked? Selah

Psalm 89:46

How long, Lord? Will You hide Yourself forever? Will Your wrath burn like fire?

Psalm 89:51

With which Your enemies have reproached, O Lord, With which they have reproached the footsteps of Your anointed.

Psalm 90:13

Return, O Lord! How long? And have compassion on Your servants.

Psalm 94:3

Lord, how long will the wicked, How long will the wicked triumph?

Luke 11:5–13 (KJV 1900)

5And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves;

6For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him?

7And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee.

8I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth.

9And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

10For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

11If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?

12Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?

13If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Luke 18:1–8 (NKJV)

1Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,

2saying: "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man.

3Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, 'Get justice for me from my adversary.'

4And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, 'Though I do not fear God nor regard man,

5yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.' "

6Then the Lord said, "Hear what the unjust judge said.

7And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?

8I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

Psalms 50:14–23 (NKJV)

14Offer to God thanksgiving, And pay your vows to the Most High.

15Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me."

16But to the wicked God says: "What right have you to declare My statutes, Or take My covenant in your mouth,

17Seeing you hate instruction And cast My words behind you?

18When you saw a thief, you consented with him, And have been a partaker with adulterers.

19You give your mouth to evil, And your tongue frames deceit.

20You sit and speak against your brother; You slander your own mother's son.

21These things you have done, and I kept silent; You thought that I was altogether like you; But I will rebuke you, And set them in order before your eyes.

22"Now consider this, you who forget God, Lest I tear you in pieces, And there be none to deliver:

23 Whoever ^{offers} praise glorifies Me; And to him who orders his conduct aright I will show the salvation of God."

Zechariah 2:8 (NKJV)

8 For thus says the Lord of hosts: "He sent Me after glory, to the nations which plunder you; for he who touches you touches the apple of His eye.

Perhaps only a Temple guild as self-confident as Asaph could write so realistically concerning the tragedy of 587 b.c., the destruction of the Temple and the Exile of Israel, all the while sustaining faith in the covenant upon which Yahweh seems to have reneged (v. 20). For these various reasons Psalm 74, along with Psalm 79, enables Jewish people to commemorate national tragedies, so that the absent God can be tracked down by intuitions of faith. Such catastrophes as the breaching of the city walls by the Babylonians (2 Kings 25:3–4), the burning of the Temple (2 Kings 25:8–10), and the murder of Gedaliah by fellow Israelites (2 Kings 25:25) were commemorated by days of mourning and fasting during the Exile and afterward (Zech. 7; 8:19), eventually subsumed in the one day of Yom Kippur (Lev. 16). Very different from prophecy, this psalm never puts any blame on the people's sins; it is too close to the agony to speculate about the cause of such a tragedy.

@book{Mays_1988,place={San Francisco},title={Harper's Bible commentary},publisher={Harper & Row},year={1988},pages={467–468}}

the Temple is put to the torch. In **Isa. 63:7–64:11** the agony of such moments turns into the question "Why do you remain silent, Lord?"

@book{Mays_1988,place={San Francisco},title={Harper's Bible commentary},publisher={Harper & Row},year={1988},pages={468}}

Sunday, April 11, 2021

Zechariah 1:15–17 (NKJV)

15 I am exceedingly angry with the nations at ease; For I was a little angry, And they helped—but with evil intent."

16 "Therefore thus says the Lord: "I am returning to Jerusalem with mercy; My house shall be built in it," says the Lord of hosts, "And a surveyor's line shall be stretched out over Jerusalem." "

17 "Again proclaim, saying, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts: "My cities shall again spread out through prosperity; The Lord will again comfort Zion, And will again choose Jerusalem." "

Jeremiah 29:10 (NKJV)

10 For thus says the Lord: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place.

Ezra 6:14,15 (NKJV)

14 So the elders of the Jews built, and they prospered through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. And they built and finished it, according to the commandment of the God of Israel, and according to the command of Cyrus, Darius, and Artaxerxes king of Persia.

15 Now the temple was finished on the third day of the month of Adar, which was in the sixth year of the reign of King Darius.

Haggai 1:4 (NKJV)

4"Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple to lie in ruins?"

The certainty of God's temple being built is evinced by His anger that they put it off for a time

Zechariah 4:9 (NKJV)

9 "The hands of Zerubbabel Have laid the foundation of this temple; His hands shall also finish it. Then you will know That the Lord of hosts has sent Me to you.

2 Chronicles 36:23 (NKJV)

23 Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the Lord God of heaven has given me. And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem which is in Judah. Who is among you of all His people? May the Lord his God be with him, and let him go up!

Ezra 1:2 (NKJV)

2 Thus says **Cyrus king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the Lord God of heaven has given me.** And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem which is in

Judah. Isaiah 44:26–28 (NKJV)

26 Who confirms the word of His servant, And performs the counsel of His messengers; Who says to Jerusalem, 'You shall be inhabited,' To the cities of Judah, 'You shall be built,' And I will raise up her waste places;

27 Who says to the deep, 'Be dry! And I will dry up your rivers';

28 Who says of Cyrus, 'He is My shepherd, And he shall perform all My pleasure, Saying to Jerusalem, "You shall be built," And to the temple, "Your foundation shall be laid." '

Daniel 2:36-45

The image that king Nebuchadnezzar saw in his dream is an image depicting the succession of world powers starting with Babylon, then Media, Persia, Greece. Yet in the future, before it came to pass

Isaiah 40:1–2 (NKJV)

1 "Comfort, yes, comfort My people!" Says your God.

2 "Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, That her warfare is ended, That her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received from the Lord's hand Double for all her sins."

Isaiah 51:22–23 (NKJV)

22 Thus says your Lord, The Lord and your God, Who pleads the cause of His people: **"See, I have taken out of your hand The cup of trembling, The dregs of the cup of My fury; You shall no longer drink it.**

23 But I will put it into the hand of those who afflict you, Who have said to you, 'Lie down, that we may walk over you.' And you have laid your body like the ground, And as the street, for those who walk over."

Isaiah 54:7–10 (NKJV)

7"For a mere moment I have forsaken you, **But with great mercies I will gather you.**

8With a little wrath I hid My face from you for a moment; **But with everlasting kindness I will have mercy on you," Says the Lord, your Redeemer.**

9 “For this is like the waters of Noah to Me; For as I have sworn That the waters of Noah would no longer cover the earth, So have I sworn That I would not be angry with you, nor rebuke you.

10 For the mountains shall depart And the hills be removed, **But My kindness shall not depart from you, Nor shall My covenant of peace be removed,” Says the Lord, who has mercy on you.**

Jeremiah 31:31–34 (NKJV)

31 “Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah —

32 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the Lord.

33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

34 No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”

Daniel 9:24 (NKJV)

24 “Seventy weeks 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 Most Holy.**

Romans 11:25–32 (NKJV)

25 For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel **until** the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.

26 **And so all Israel will be saved**, as it is written: **“The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;**

27 For this is My covenant with them, When I take away their sins.”

28 Concerning the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but concerning the election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers.

29 **For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.**

30 For as you were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience,

31 even so these also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you they also may obtain mercy.

32 For God has committed them all to disobedience, **that He might have mercy on all.**

Ezekiel 40:1–5 (NKJV)

1 In the twenty-fifth year of our captivity, at the beginning of the year, on the tenth day of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was captured, on the very same day the hand of the Lord was upon me; and He took me there.

2 In the visions of God He took me into the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain; on it toward the south was something like the structure of a city.

3 He took me there, and behold, there was a man whose appearance was like the appearance of bronze. He had a line of flax and a measuring rod in his hand, and he stood in the gateway.

4 And the man said to me, "Son of man, look with your eyes and hear with your ears, and fix your mind on everything I show you; for you were brought here so that I might show them to you. Declare to the house of Israel everything you see."

5 Now there was a wall all around the outside of the temple. In the man's hand was a measuring rod six cubits long, each being a cubit and a handbreadth; and he measured the width of the wall structure, one rod; and the height, one rod.
After the city and the temple had been destroyed

Lamentations 2:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ The Lord has done what He purposed; He has fulfilled His word Which He commanded in days of old. He has thrown down and has not pitied, And He has caused an enemy to rejoice over you; He has exalted the **horn** of your adversaries.

Zechariah 1:18–21 (NKJV)

18 Then I raised my eyes and looked, and there were **four horns**.

19 And I said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these?" So he answered me, "These are the horns that have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem."

20 Then the Lord showed me four craftsmen.

21 And I said, "What are these coming to do?" So he said, "These are the horns that scattered Judah, so that no one could lift up his head; **but the craftsmen are coming to terrify them(the four horns)**, to cast out the horns of the nations that lifted up their horn against the land of Judah to scatter it."

The context that defines the interpretation is found in parallel passages/contemporaries

They do represent the four world-ruling Gentile powers (**Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome**) prophesied in (Daniel chapters 2 and 7) to persecute and scatter the Jews throughout "The Times of the Gentiles," a period of time reaching from 605 b.c., to the Second Advent of Christ.

And starting with the Medo-Persian world power each successive world power was used to defeat the previous world world power. Each in their respective times served 2 purposes. As horns they scattered Israel and as craftsmen they allowed rebuilding

Jeremiah 48:25 (NKJV)

25 The horn of Moab is cut off, And his arm is broken," says the Lord.

Daniel 8:3 (NKJV)

3 Then I lifted my eyes and saw, and there, standing beside the river, was a ram which had two horns, and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last.

Daniel 8:5 (NKJV)

5 And as I was considering, suddenly a male goat came from the west, across the surface of the whole earth, without touching the ground; and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes.

Daniel 8:9 (NKJV)

9 And out of one of them came a little horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Glorious Land.