

“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.
-
-

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.**
-
- 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.
-

•
-

- **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.

Sunday, May 2, 2021

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

Sunday, April 18, 2021

If Medo-Persia is the first smith/craftsman then three remain; Greece, Rome, and Christ

Nebuchadnezzar = Babylon = Gold; Silver = Medo-Persia; Bronze = Greece; Rome = Iron+ Clay;
Christ = Stone

Daniel 2:40–45 (NKJV)

40 And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.

41 Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.

42 And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile.

43 As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.

44 And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.

45 Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure.”

God’s purposes for giving these visions was immediate , to encourage the jews to continue building, that their enemies would never completely prevail over them, and God would bring final judgment on all those who overly chastised them and Israel learns obedience through the chastisement. The time of the Gentiles from 605 b.c. to the second advent of Christ.

Daniel 2:21 (NKJV)

21 And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding.

Israel’s chastening

Hebrews 12:5–13 (NKJV)

5 And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: “My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;

6 For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.”

7 If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?

8 But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons.

9 Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live?

10 For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.

11 Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

12 Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees,

13 and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.

The Gentiles’ chastening

Isaiah 47:6–7 (NKJV)

6 I was angry with My people; I have profaned My inheritance, And given them into your hand. You showed them no mercy; On the elderly you laid your yoke very heavily.

7 And you said, ‘I shall be a lady forever,’ So that you did not take these things to heart, Nor remember the latter end of them.

i.e. Daniel 4:34–37 (NKJV)

34 And at the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever: For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, And His kingdom is from generation to generation.

35 All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven And among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand Or say to Him, “What have You done?”

36 At the same time my reason returned to me, and for the glory of my kingdom, my honor and splendor returned to me. My counselors and nobles resorted to me, I was restored to my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added to me.

37 Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all of whose works are truth, and His ways justice. And those who walk in pride He is able to put down.

Zechariah 1:16 (NKJV)

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." "

Jeremiah 33:15–26 (NKJV)

15 'In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David A Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.

16 In those days Judah will be saved, And Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name by which she will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS'

17 "For thus says the Lord: 'David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel;

18 nor shall the priests, the Levites, lack a man to offer burnt offerings before Me, to kindle grain offerings, and to sacrifice continually.' "

19 And the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying,

20 "Thus says the Lord: 'If you can break My covenant with the day and My covenant with the night, so that there will not be day and night in their season,

21 then My covenant may also be broken with David My servant, so that he shall not have a son to reign on his throne, and with the Levites, the priests, My ministers.

22 As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, nor the sand of the sea measured, so will I multiply the descendants of David My servant and the Levites who minister to Me.' "

23 Moreover the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying,

24 "Have you not considered what these people have spoken, saying, "The two families which the Lord has chosen, He has also cast them off? Thus they have despised My people, as if they should no more be a nation before them.

25 "Thus says the Lord: 'If My covenant is not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth,

26 then I will cast away the descendants of Jacob and David My servant, so that I will not take any of his descendants to be rulers over the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. For I will cause their captives to return, and will have mercy on them.' "

Romans 11:25 (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.

Even with these words plainly written a belief arose that was contrary/ that said the opposite, that God had replaced the Jews with the Church age believers.

Isaiah 1:26–27 (NKJV)

26 I will restore your judges as at the first, And your counselors as at the beginning. Afterward you shall be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city."

27 **Zion shall be redeemed with justice,** And her penitents with righteousness.

Jeremiah 31:27 (NKJV)

27 "Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, that I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man and the seed of beast.

Isaiah 60:21 (NKJV)

21 Also your people shall all be righteous; They shall inherit the land forever, The branch of My planting, The work of My hands, That I may be glorified.

Zechariah 8:3 (NKJV)

3 "Thus says the Lord: 'I will return to Zion, And dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be called the City of Truth, The Mountain of the Lord of hosts, The Holy Mountain.'

Psalms 129:5–8 (NKJV) A Song of Victory over Zion's Enemies

5 Let all those who hate Zion Be put to shame and turned back.

6 Let them be as the grass on the housetops, Which withers before it grows up,

7 With which the reaper does not fill his hand, Nor he who binds sheaves, his arms.

8 Neither let those who pass by them say, "The blessing of the Lord be upon you; We bless you in the name of the Lord!"

Psalms 122:5–8 (NKJV)

5 For thrones are set there for judgment, **The thrones of the house of David. (Justice)**

6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

7 Peace be within your walls, Prosperity within your palaces."

8 For the sake of my brethren and companions, I will now say, "Peace be within you."

Zechariah 2:4–5 (NKJV)

4 who said to him, "Run, speak to this young man, saying: 'Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls, because of the multitude of men and livestock in it.

5 For I,' says the Lord, 'will be a wall of fire all around her, and I will be the glory in her midst.' "

Psalms 46:7–11 (NKJV)

7. The Lord of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our **refuge**. Selah
8. **Come, behold the works of the Lord**, Who has made desolations in the earth.
9. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire.
10. Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!
11. The Lord of hosts is with us; **The God of Jacob is our refuge**. Selah

Flee

Isaiah 48:20–22 (NKJV)

- 20 Go forth from Babylon! Flee from the Chaldeans! With a voice of singing, Declare, proclaim this, Utter it to the end of the earth; Say, "The Lord has redeemed His servant Jacob!"
- 21 And they did not thirst When He led them through the deserts; He caused the waters to flow from the rock for them; He also split the rock, and the waters gushed out.
- 22 "There is no peace," says the Lord, "for the wicked."

Isaiah 52:11–12 (NKJV)

- 11 Depart! Depart! Go out from there, Touch no unclean thing; Go out from the midst of her, Be clean, You who bear the vessels of the Lord.
- 12 For you shall not go out with haste, Nor go by flight; For the Lord will go before you, And the God of Israel will be your rear guard.

Jeremiah 3:18 (NKJV)

- 18 "In those days the house of Judah shall walk with the house of Israel, and they shall come together out of the land of the north to the land that I have given as an inheritance to your fathers.

Zechariah 3:1–5 (NKJV) the whole of the book of Zechariah is about Jerusalem in "the time of the Gentiles"

1. **Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him.**
 2. And the Lord said to Satan, "The Lord rebuke you, Satan! **The Lord who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?**"
 3. Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and was standing before the Angel.
 4. Then He answered and spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, "Take away the filthy garments from him." And to him He said, "See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes."
 5. And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head, and they put the clothes on him. And the Angel of the Lord stood by.
- Joshua (the high priest) is a representative figure of Jerusalem/the nation of Israel**

Isaiah 1:18 (NKJV)

- 18 "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the Lord, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool."

Isaiah 43:25 (NKJV)

25. "I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins."

Micah 7:18–20 (NKJV)

- 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.

Isaiah 41:8 (NKJV)

8 **"But you, Israel, are My servant**, Jacob whom I have chosen, The descendants of Abraham My friend.

Isaiah 44:21 (NKJV)

21 "Remember these, **O Jacob, And Israel, for you are My servant; I have formed you, you are My servant;**
O Israel, you will not be forgotten by Me!

Isaiah 62:1–3 (NKJV)

1 For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, And for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, **Until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, And her salvation as a lamp that burns.**

2 **The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, And all kings your glory.** You shall be called by a new name,
Which the mouth of the Lord will name.

3 **You shall also be a crown of glory In the hand of the Lord, And a royal diadem In the hand of your God.**

Psalms 78:5 (NKJV)

5 For He established a testimony in Jacob, And appointed a law in Israel, Which He commanded our fathers,
That they should make them known to their children;

Psalms 147:19 (NKJV)

19 He declares His word to Jacob, His statutes and His judgments to Israel.

Zechariah 3:8 (NKJV)

8 'Hear, O Joshua, the high priest, **You and your companions who sit before you, For they are a wondrous sign;** For behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the BRANCH.

Isaiah 8:18 (NKJV)

18. Here am I and the children whom the Lord has given me! We are for signs and wonders in Israel From the
Lord of hosts, Who dwells in Mount Zion.

Isaiah 64:3 (NKJV)

3 When You did awesome things for which we did not look, You came down, The mountains shook at Your
presence.

Isaiah 64:6 (NKJV)

6 But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And
our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

Isaiah 61:6 (NKJV)

6 **But you shall be named the priests of the Lord**, They shall call you the servants of our God. You shall eat the
riches of the Gentiles, And in their glory you shall boast.

Isaiah 61:10 (NKJV)

10 I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, My soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the
garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks himself with
ornaments, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Joshua isn't representative of Israel or even the priesthood, but as Israel as the priesthood.

Zechariah 3:1–5 (NKJV)

1 Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him.

2 And the Lord said to Satan, “The Lord rebuke you, Satan! The Lord who has **chosen** Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?”

3 **Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and was standing before the Angel.**

4 Then He answered and spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, “Take away the filthy garments from him.” And to him He said, “**See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes.**”

5 And I said, “Let them put a clean turban on his head.” So they put a clean turban on his head, and they put the clothes on him. And the Angel of the Lord stood by.

The vision of Joshua the high priest = the priesthood that Israel is to God and the world of Israel therefore, **the cleansing of Joshua is a cleansing of Israel's priesthood.**

Satan standing to oppose/accuse the priesthood, to perpetuate God's rejection of Israel, to minimize the glory of God, to hinder God's purpose

Deuteronomy 10:8–9 (NKJV)

8 At that time the Lord separated the tribe of **Levi to bear the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister to Him and to bless in His name, to this day.**

9 Therefore **Levi** has no portion nor inheritance with his brethren; the Lord is his inheritance, just as the Lord your God promised him.)

Deuteronomy 18:5 (NKJV)

5 For the Lord your God has chosen him out of all your tribes to stand to minister in the name of the Lord, him and his sons forever.

King Hezekiah's reformation

2 Chronicles 29:6–11 (NKJV)

6 For our fathers have trespassed and done evil in the eyes of the Lord our God; they have forsaken Him, **have turned their faces away from the dwelling place of the Lord**, and turned their backs on Him.

7 **They have also shut up the doors of the vestibule, put out the lamps, and have not burned incense or offered burnt offerings in the holy place to the God of Israel.**

8 Therefore the wrath of the Lord fell upon Judah and Jerusalem, and He has given them up to trouble, to desolation, and to jeering, as you see with your eyes.

9 For indeed, **because of this our fathers have fallen by the sword; and our sons, our daughters, and our wives are in captivity.**

10 “Now it is in my heart to make a covenant with the Lord God of Israel, that His fierce wrath may turn away from us.

11 My sons, do not be negligent now, for the Lord has chosen you to stand before Him, to serve Him, and that you should minister to Him and burn incense.”

Levitical Service in re-built sanctuary

Ezekiel 44:11 (NKJV)

11 Yet they shall be ministers in My sanctuary, as gatekeepers of the house and ministers of the house; they shall slay the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister to them.

Ezekiel 44:15–16 (NKJV)

15 “But the priests, the Levites, the sons of Zadok, **who kept charge of My sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from Me**, they shall come near Me to minister to Me; **and they shall stand before Me** to offer to Me the fat and the blood,” says the Lord God.

16 “They shall enter My sanctuary, and they shall come near My table to minister to Me, and they shall keep My charge.

Isaiah 1:25–26 (NKJV)

25 I will turn My hand against you, **And thoroughly purge away your dross, And take away all your alloy.**

26 I will restore your judges as at the first, And your counselors as at the beginning. Afterward you shall be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city.”

27 **Zion shall be redeemed with justice,** And her penitents with righteousness.

The chastening of the Lord will accomplish the desired affect

Ezekiel 22:17–22 (NKJV)

17 The word of the Lord came to me, saying,

18 “Son of man, the house of Israel has become dross to Me; they are all bronze, tin, iron, and lead, in the midst of a furnace; they have become dross from silver.

19 Therefore thus says the Lord God: ‘Because you have all become dross, therefore behold, I will gather you into the midst of Jerusalem.

20 As men gather silver, bronze, iron, lead, and tin into the midst of a furnace, to blow fire on it, to melt it; so I will gather you in My anger and in My fury, and I will leave you there and melt you.

21 Yes, I will gather you and blow on you with the fire of My wrath, and you shall be melted in its midst.

22 As silver is melted in the midst of a furnace, so shall you be melted in its midst; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have poured out My fury on you.’ ”

Malachi 3:3–4 (NKJV)

3 He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; **He will purify the sons of Levi,** And purge them as gold and silver, **That they may offer to the Lord An offering in righteousness.**

4 “Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem Will be pleasant to the Lord, As in the days of old, As in former years.

1 Samuel 2:22–30 (NKJV)

22Now **Eli** was very old; and he heard everything his sons did to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who assembled at the door of the tabernacle of meeting.

23So he said to them, “Why do you do such things? For I hear of your evil dealings from all the people.

24No, my sons! For it is not a good report that I hear. You make the Lord’s people transgress.

25 If one man sins against another, God will judge him. But if a man sins against the Lord, who will intercede for him?” Nevertheless they did not heed the voice of their father, because the Lord desired to kill them.

26And the child Samuel grew in stature, and in favor both with the Lord and men.

27 Then a man of God came to Eli and said to him, “Thus says the Lord: ‘Did I not clearly reveal Myself to the house of your father when they were in Egypt in Pharaoh’s house?’

28 Did I not choose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be My priest, to offer upon My altar, to burn incense, and to wear an ephod before Me? And did I not give to the house of your father all the offerings of the children of Israel made by fire?’

29 Why do you kick at My sacrifice and My offering which I have commanded in My dwelling place, and honor your sons more than Me, to make yourselves fat with the best of all the offerings of Israel My people?’

30 Therefore the Lord God of Israel says: 'I said indeed that your house and the house of your father would walk before Me forever.' But now the Lord says: 'Far be it from Me; for those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed.

Deuteronomy 31:9–13 (NKJV)

9 So Moses wrote this law and delivered it to the priests, the sons of Levi, who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and to all the elders of Israel.

10 **And Moses commanded them, saying: "At the end of every seven years, at the appointed time in the year of release, at the Feast of Tabernacles,**

11 **when all Israel comes to appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses, you shall read this law before all Israel in their hearing.**

12 Gather the people together, men and women and little ones, and the stranger who is within your gates, that they may hear and that they may learn to fear the Lord your God and carefully observe all the words of this law,

13 and that their children, who have not known it, may hear and learn to fear the Lord your God as long as you live in the land which you cross the Jordan to possess."

Exodus 19:5–6 (NKJV)

5 Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.

6 And you shall be to Me a **kingdom of priests and a holy nation.** ' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel."

Exodus 29:6 (NKJV)

6 You shall put the turban on his head, and put the holy crown on the turban.

Exodus 28:36–37 (NKJV)

36 "You shall also make a plate of pure gold and engrave on it, like the engraving of a signet: HOLINESS TO THE LORD

37 And you shall put it on a blue cord, that it may be on the turban; it shall be on the front of the turban.

Leviticus 8:9 (NKJV)

9 And he put the turban on his head. Also on the turban, on its front, he put the golden plate, the holy crown, as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Zechariah 3:6–10 (NKJV)

6 Then the Angel of the Lord admonished Joshua, saying,

7 "Thus says the Lord of hosts: 'If you will walk in My ways, And if you will keep My command, Then you shall also judge My house, And likewise have charge of My courts; I will give you places to walk Among these who stand here.

If you will: walk in My ways, keep My command, the reward for obedience to God is God fulfilling His purpose, promises

8 'Hear, O Joshua, the high priest, You and your companions who sit before you, For they are a wondrous sign; **For behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the BRANCH.**

An Heir to the Throne

Hebrews 3:1–6 (NKJV)

1 Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus,

2 who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house.

3 For this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house.

4 For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God.

5 And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward,
6 but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.

Zechariah 6:12–13 (NKJV)

12 Then speak to him, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts, saying: **“Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH! From His place He shall branch out, And He shall build the temple of the Lord;**

13 Yes, He shall build the temple of the Lord. He shall bear the glory, **And shall sit and rule on His throne; So He shall be a priest on His throne, And the counsel of peace shall be between them both.”** Both offices

1 Peter 2:4–10 (NKJV)

4 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious,

5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

6 Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, “Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.”

7 Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, “The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone,”

8 and “A stone of stumbling And a rock of offense.” They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.

9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

10 who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

Isaiah 11:1–5 (NKJV)

1 There shall come forth a **Rod** from the stem of Jesse, And a **Branch** shall grow out of his roots.

2 The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

3 His delight is in the fear of the Lord, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears;

4 But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked.

5 Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist.

Jeremiah 23:1–8 (NKJV)

1 “Woe to the **shepherds** who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture!” says the Lord.

2 Therefore thus says the Lord God 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 the Lord.

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 the Lord.

5 “Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord, **“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: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS

7 “Therefore, behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord, “that they shall no longer say, ‘As the Lord lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,’

8 but, ‘As the Lord 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.”

shepherds: Ezra, Nehemiah, Zechariah, Joshua

John 10:1–21 The Good Shepherd

Jeremiah 33:15–18 (NKJV)

15 'In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David A Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.

16 In those days Judah will be saved, And Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name by which she will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS'

17 "For thus says the Lord: 'David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel;

18 **nor shall the priests, the Levites, lack a man to offer burnt offerings before Me, to kindle grain offerings, and to sacrifice continually.'** "

9 For behold, the stone That I have laid before Joshua: Upon the stone are seven eyes. Behold, I will engrave its inscription,' Says the Lord of hosts, 'And I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

10 In that day,' says the Lord of hosts, 'Everyone will invite his neighbor Under his vine and under his fig tree.' "

The destruction of Babylon by the hand of the Medes (the first horn)

Jeremiah 51:1–5 (NKJV)

1 Thus says the Lord: "Behold, I will raise up against Babylon, Against those who dwell in Leb Kamai, A destroying wind.

2 And I will send winnowers to Babylon, Who shall winnow her and empty her land. For in the day of doom They shall be against her all around.

3 Against her let the archer bend his bow, And lift himself up against her in his armor. Do not spare her young men; Utterly destroy all her army.

4 Thus the slain shall fall in the land of the Chaldeans, And those thrust through in her streets.

5 For Israel is not forsaken, nor Judah, By his God, the Lord of hosts, Though their land was filled with sin against the Holy One of Israel."

Jeremiah 51:11 (NKJV)

11 Make the arrows bright! Gather the shields! The Lord has raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes. For His plan is against Babylon to destroy it, Because it is the vengeance of the Lord, The vengeance for His temple.

Jeremiah 51:20–24 (NKJV)

20 "You are My battle-ax and weapons of war: For with you I will break the nation in pieces; With you I will destroy kingdoms;

21 With you I will break in pieces the horse and its rider; With you I will break in pieces the chariot and its rider;

22 With you also I will break in pieces man and woman; With you I will break in pieces old and young; With you I will break in pieces the young man and the maiden;

23 With you also I will break in pieces the shepherd and his flock; With you I will break in pieces the farmer and his yoke of oxen; And with you I will break in pieces governors and rulers.

24 "And I will repay Babylon And all the inhabitants of Chaldea For all the evil they have done In Zion in your sight," says the Lord.

Jeremiah 51:25 (NKJV)

25 "Behold, I am against you, **O destroying mountain**, Who destroys all the earth," says the Lord. "And I will stretch out My hand against you, Roll you down from the rocks, **And make you a burnt mountain**.

Jeremiah 23:7–8 (NKJV)
7 “Therefore, behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord, “that they shall no longer say, ‘As the Lord lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,’
8 but, ‘As the Lord 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.”

Sunday, May 30, 2021

Zechariah 4:1–3 (NKJV)

1 Now the angel who talked with me came back and wakened me, as a man who is wakened out of his sleep.
2 And he said to me, “What do you see?” So I said, “I am looking, and there is a lampstand of solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the stand seven lamps with seven pipes to the seven lamps.
3 Two olive trees are by it, one at the right of the bowl and the other at its left.”

Exodus 25:31–37 (NKJV)

31 “You shall also make a lampstand of pure gold; the lampstand shall be of hammered work. Its shaft, its branches, its bowls, its ornamental knobs, and flowers shall be of one piece.
32 And six branches shall come out of its sides: three branches of the lampstand out of one side, and three branches of the lampstand out of the other side.
33 Three bowls shall be made like **almond blossoms** on one branch, with an ornamental knob and a flower, and three bowls made like **almond blossoms** on the other branch, with an ornamental knob and a flower—and so for the six branches that come out of the lampstand.
34 On the lampstand itself four bowls shall be made like **almond blossoms**, each with its ornamental knob and flower.
35 And there shall be a knob under the first two branches of the same, a knob under the second two branches of the same, and a knob under the third two branches of the same, according to the six branches that extend from the lampstand.
36 Their knobs and their branches shall be of one piece; all of it shall be one hammered piece of pure gold.
37 You shall make seven lamps for it, **and they shall arrange its lamps so that they give light in front of it.**

Numbers 17:8 (NKJV)
8 Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses went into the tabernacle of witness, and behold, the rod of Aaron, of the house of Levi, had sprouted and put forth buds, had produced blossoms and yielded ripe almonds.

Exodus 35:14 (NKJV)

14 also the lampstand for the light, its utensils, its lamps, and the oil for the light;

1 Kings 7:49 (NKJV)

49 the lampstands of pure gold, five on the **right side and five on the left in front of the inner sanctuary**, with the flowers and the lamps and the wick-trimmers of gold;

Jeremiah 1:11–12 (NKJV)

11 Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying, “Jeremiah, what do you see?” And I said, “I see a branch of an almond tree.”

12 Then the Lord said to me, **“You have seen well, for I am ready to perform My word.”**

Revelation 4:5 (NKJV)

5 And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

Revelation 1:12–13 (NKJV)

12 Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands,
13 and **in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man**, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band.

Matthew 5:14–16 (NKJV)

14 “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

15 Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Instead of telling Zechariah the interpretation of the vision, the angel tells the purpose of the vision: Jeremiah 51:25 (NKJV)

Sunday, May 2, 2021

25 "Behold, I am against you, **O destroying mountain**, Who destroys all the earth," says the Lord. "And I will stretch out My hand against you, Roll you down from the rocks, And make you a burnt mountain.

Isaiah 2:2 (NKJV)

2 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the Lord's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it.

Micah 4:1 (NKJV)

1 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the Lord's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And peoples shall flow to it.

Sunday, May 30, 2021- cont.

Zechariah 4:6-10 (NKJV)

6 So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the Lord of hosts.

7 'Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone With shouts of "Grace, grace to it!" ' "

8 Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying:

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.

10 For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice to see The plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. They are the eyes of the Lord, Which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth."

Zechariah 3:9-10 (NKJV)

9 For behold, the stone That I have laid before Joshua: Upon the stone are seven eyes. Behold, I will engrave its inscription,' Says the Lord of hosts, 'And I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

10 In that day,' says the Lord of hosts, 'Everyone will invite his neighbor Under his vine and under his fig tree.' "

2 Chronicles 16:9 (NKJV)

9 For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him. In this you have done foolishly; therefore from now on you shall have wars."

Revelation 4:5 (NKJV)

5 And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

And I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day. Zechariah 3:9 (NKJV)

9 For behold, the stone That I have laid before Joshua: Upon the stone are seven eyes. Behold, I will engrave its inscription,' Says the Lord of hosts, 'And I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

Jeremiah 50:20 (NKJV)

20 In those days and in that time," says the Lord, "The iniquity of Israel shall be sought, but there shall be none; And the sins of Judah, but they shall not be found; For I will pardon those whom I preserve.

Numbers 23:21 (NKJV)

21 "He has not observed iniquity in Jacob, Nor has He seen wickedness in Israel. The Lord his God is with him, And the shout of a King is among them.

Isaiah 43:25 (NKJV)

25 "I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins.

Isaiah 44:22 (NKJV)

22 I have blotted out, like a thick cloud, your transgressions, And like a cloud, your sins. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you."

Sunday, June 6, 2021

RECAP:

The golden oil is the Spirit of God

The two olive trees are Joshua and Zerubbabel

The two branches are the two offices: Priest and King

The stone is the stone of completion that ties the strength of the wall (Jesus Christ)

The Angel of God is the pre-incarnate Christ

The **Mountain** is the opposition of the pagan people, the discouragement of the builders and lack of funds

Zerubbabel would finish the temple by means of divine power - the Holy Spirit

The enabling power/the oil would be poured into Zerubbabel and Joshua the two offices Priest and King and then into the Lampstand - Israel

The pre-incarnate Christ was sent for this purpose to vindicate the work

Zechariah 4:10 (NKJV)

10 For who has despised the day of small things? For these **seven rejoice to see** The plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. They are the eyes of the Lord, Which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth." In righteousness -the plumb line

Haggai 2:1-5 (NKJV)

1 In the seventh month, on the twenty-first of the month, the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet, saying:

2 "Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, saying:

3 'Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? In comparison with it, is this not in your eyes as nothing?

4 Yet now be strong, Zerubbabel,' says the Lord; 'and be strong, Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; and be strong, all you people of the land,' says the Lord, 'and work; for I am with you,' says the Lord of hosts.

5 'According to the word that I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt, so My Spirit remains among you; do not fear!'

Zechariah 5:1-4 (NKJV)

1 Then I turned and raised my eyes, and saw there a flying scroll.

2 And he said to me, "What do you see?" So I answered, "I see **a flying scroll. Its length is twenty cubits and its width ten cubits.**"

3 Then he said to me, "This is the curse that goes out over the face of the whole earth: '**Every thief shall be expelled,' according to this side of the scroll**; and, '**Every perjurer shall be expelled,' according to that side of it.**"

4 "I will send out the curse," says the Lord of hosts; "It shall enter the house of the thief And the house of the one who swears falsely by My name. It shall remain in the midst of his house And consume it, with its timber and stones."

The flying scroll is showing the swiftness of the judgments/ cursings

Written on both sides similar to the writing of the law on the two tablets of stone.

Exodus 32:15 (NKJV)

15 And Moses turned and went down from the mountain, and the two tablets of the Testimony were in his hand. **The tablets were written on both sides; on the one side and on the other they were written.**

The dimensions of the scroll were in accordance to the holiness of the temple: entrance/ vestibule of the sanctuary the same dimensions

1 Kings 6:2–3 (NKJV)

2 Now the house which King Solomon built for the Lord, its length was sixty cubits, its width twenty, and its height thirty cubits.

3 The vestibule in front of the sanctuary of the house was twenty cubits long across the width of the house, and the width of the vestibule extended ten cubits from the front of the house.

In that the curse goes out over the face of the whole earth showing the extent of its reach and the completeness of its execution suggests that the curse, though it had an immediate fulfillment in purifying Israel it also had a future ultimate fulfillment in the millennium reign of Christ where sin would be done away with

4 “I will send out the curse,” says the Lord of hosts; “It shall enter the **house of the thief** And the **house of the one who swears falsely by My name**. It shall remain in the midst of his house And consume it, with its timber and stones.”

house of the thief the house of the one who deals falsely with his neighbor

house of the one who swears falsely by My name the house of the one who lacks sincerity with God; not specific of the two mentioned sins but of the condition of the heart/ being false

Exodus 20:15 (NKJV)

15 “You shall not steal.

Leviticus 19:11 (NKJV)

11 ‘You shall not steal, nor deal falsely, nor lie to one another.

As God purifies the leadership of Israel so He purifies the congregation

expelled: purged, ousted, banished

Some say the promise of God here is contingent on righteousness, but more importantly it looks like the point is, although God is allowing their return to the land He gave them sin will still be judged.

Zechariah 5:5–11 (NKJV)

5 Then the angel who talked with me came out and said to me, “Lift your eyes now, and see what this is that goes forth.”

6 So I asked, “What is it?” And he said, “It is a basket that is going forth.” He also said, “This is their resemblance throughout the earth:

7 Here is a lead disc lifted up, and this is **a woman sitting inside the basket**”;

8 then he said, “**This is Wickedness!**” And he thrust her down into the basket, and threw the lead cover over its mouth.

9 Then I raised my eyes and looked, and there were two women, coming with the wind in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork, and they lifted up the basket between earth and heaven.

10 So I said to the angel who talked with me, “Where are they carrying the basket?”

11 And he said to me, “To build a house for it in the land of Shinar; when it is ready, the basket will be set there on its base.”

Ezekiel 36:24–29 (NKJV)

24 For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land.

25 Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.

26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

27 I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

28 Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.

29 I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. I will call for the grain and multiply it, and bring no famine upon you.

Ezekiel 37:23 (NKJV)

23 They shall not defile themselves anymore with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions; but I will deliver them from all their dwelling places in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them. Then they shall be My people, and I will be their God.

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.

Zechariah 13:1–3 (NKJV)

1 "In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness.

2 "It shall be in that day," says the Lord of hosts, "that I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, and they shall no longer be remembered. I will also cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to depart from the land.

3 It shall come to pass that if anyone still prophesies, then his father and mother who begot him will say to him, 'You shall not live, because you have spoken lies in the name of the Lord.' And his father and mother who begot him shall thrust him through when he prophesies.

Zechariah 14:20–21 (NKJV)

20 In that day "HOLINESS TO THE LORD" shall be engraved on the bells of the horses. The pots in the Lord's house shall be like the bowls before the altar.

21 Yes, every pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be holiness to the Lord of hosts. Everyone who sacrifices shall come and take them and cook in them. In that day there shall no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the Lord of hosts.

Genesis 11:1–9 (NKJV)

1 Now the whole earth had one language and one speech.

2 And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there.

3 Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar.

4 And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."

5 But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built.

6 And the Lord said, "Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them.

7 Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech."

8 So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city.

Sunday, May 2, 2021

9Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

Revelation 18:1–2 (KJV 1900)

1 And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.

2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, And is become the habitation of devils, And the hold of every foul spirit, And a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.