

Confidence

...the Lord will be your confidence, And will keep your foot from being caught. Proverbs 3:26

- Zechariah 9:1-8 (NKJV)
- **1 The burden of the word of the Lord— Against the land of Hadrach, And Damascus its resting place (For the eyes of men And all the tribes of Israel Are on the Lord);**
- **2 Also against Hamath, which borders on it, - Syria And against Tyre and Sidon, though they are very wise.**
- **3 For Tyre built herself a tower, Heaped up silver like the dust, And gold like the mire of the streets.**
- **4 Behold, the Lord will cast her out; He will destroy her power in the sea, And she will be devoured by fire. - Phoenicia**
- **5 Ashkelon shall see it and fear; Gaza also shall be very sorrowful; And Ekron, for He dried up her expectation. The king shall perish from Gaza, And Ashkelon shall not be inhabited.**
- **6 “A mixed race shall settle in Ashdod, And I will cut off the pride of the Philistines.**
- **7 I will take away the blood from his mouth, And the abominations from between his teeth. But he who remains, even he shall be for our God, And shall be like a leader in Judah, And Ekron like a Jebusite. - Phillistia**
- 8 I will camp around My house Because of the army, Because of him who passes by and him who returns. No more shall an oppressor pass through them, For now I have seen with My eyes.
 - For the eyes of men And all the tribes of Israel Are **on the Lord/Alexander III (356-323 b.c.), known as ‘Alexander the Great,’ one of the greatest leaders of all time.**
 - **The protection (deliverance) of the people of Israel (9:8)**
 - **God promised to encamp about His house (the nation of Israel) and deliver it from the oppressions of Alexander as he passed through Palestine on his way to subdue Egypt.**
 - **This was fulfilled when Jaddua, the Jewish High Priest, frightened at the hostile approach of Alexander and his armies, had a dream from God and in obedience to the instructions given in the dream, opened the gates of Jerusalem and went forth with his fellow priests and the citizens of Jerusalem to welcome Alexander. Alexander, himself prepared of God through a dream, responded by turning from his hostile intentions and showed the Jews great favor. Thus God, through two dreams, delivered His people from being crushed and broken by Alexander.**
 - **The last sentence of verse 8 was not fulfilled in Alexander’s day but it will be fulfilled at the Second Advent of Christ, when Israel will be delivered from all of her oppressors, Dan. 12:1; Zech. 12:1-9; 14:1-15; Rev. 19:19-21, and never made subject to them again, Isa. 60:12. God will finally deliver His people for He loves them and ever beholds their sufferings, 9:8; Exo. 3:7, 8.**
- Zechariah 9:9-10 (NKJV)
- 9 “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! **Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.**
 - In this context we see the contrast between a corrupt conquerer and a just Savior; Psalm 45:6-7 (NKJV)
 - 6 Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; **A scepter of righteousness** is the scepter of Your kingdom.
 - 7 **You love righteousness and hate wickedness;** Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.
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- Jeremiah 23:5 (NKJV)
- 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.
- Matthew 21:4–11 (NKJV)
- 4All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying:
 - 5“Tell the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your King is coming to you, Lowly, and sitting on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.’ ” 6 So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. 8 And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: “Hosanna to the Son of David! ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’ Hosanna in the highest!” 10 And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, “Who is this?” **11 So the multitudes said, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee.”** The answer given to the question “Who is this?” Is telling, in answering they say this is our Messiah the long awaited Savior, the One we were promised of God would come. Mark 11:1–10; Luke 19:29–38; John 12:12–15
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- 10 I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim And the horse from Jerusalem; The battle bow shall be cut off. He shall speak peace to the nations; His dominion shall be ‘from sea to sea, And from the River to the ends of the earth.’
 - The second advent - 1 Timothy 6:15 (NKJV)
 - 15 which He will manifest in His own time, He who is the blessed and only **Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords,**
- Ephesians 3:16–17 (NKJV)
- 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,
- 17 that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love,
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- Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, we have to be confident that we’re in such a state Stand: to endure (withstand) - to face and withstand with courage.
- Ephesians 3:17–21 (NKJV)
- 17 that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love,
- 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—
- 19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.
- 20 **Now to Him who** is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,
- 21 **to Him be glory** in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.
- Psalm 90:1 (NKJV)
- 1 Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Sunday, July 18, 2021

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