

ZECHARIAH – CHAPS 10-12 – Restoration of Judah and Israel; Desolation of Israel; Prophecy of the Shepherds; The Coming Deliverance of Judah; Mourning for the Pierced One!

OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

Restoration of Judah and Israel (vs. 1-12)

Zec 10:1 Ask the LORD for rain In the time of the latter rain. The LORD will make flashing clouds; He will give them showers of rain, Grass in the field for everyone.

Zec 10:2 For the idols speak delusion; The diviners envision lies, And tell false dreams; They comfort in vain. Therefore the people wend their way like sheep; They are in trouble because there is no shepherd.

Zec 10:3 "My anger is kindled against the shepherds, And I will punish the goatherds. For the LORD of hosts will visit His flock, The house of Judah, And will make them as His royal horse in the battle.

Zec 10:4 From him comes the cornerstone, From him the tent peg, From him the battle bow, From him every ruler together.

Zec 10:5 They shall be like mighty men, Who tread down their enemies In the mire of the streets in the battle. They shall fight because the LORD is with them, And the riders on horses shall be put to shame.

Zec 10:6 "I will strengthen the house of Judah, And I will save the house of Joseph. I will bring them back, Because I have mercy on them. They shall be as though I had not cast them aside; For I am the LORD their God, And I will hear them.

Zec 10:7 Those of Ephraim shall be like a mighty man, And their heart shall rejoice as if with wine. Yes, their children shall see it and be glad; Their heart shall rejoice in the LORD.

Zec 10:8 I will whistle for them and gather them, For I will redeem them; And they shall increase as they once increased.

Zec 10:9 "I will sow them among the peoples, And they shall remember Me in far countries; They shall live, together with their children, And they shall return.

Zec 10:10 I will also bring them back from the land of Egypt, And gather them from Assyria. I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon, Until no more room is found for them.

Zec 10:11 He shall pass through the sea with affliction, And strike the waves of the sea: All the depths of the River shall dry up. Then the pride of Assyria shall be brought down, And the scepter of Egypt shall depart.

Zec 10:12 "So I will strengthen them in the LORD, And they shall walk up and down in His name," Says the LORD.

v. 1 *The latter rain* - This made plenty of all provision, and is proverbially used to signify a great blessing. Bright clouds - Bright through the lightnings which break from them. Them - The Jews.

v. 2 *delusions* - Their predictions were vain. They went - They went into captivity. *In trouble* - Oppressed and afflicted. *No shepherd* - No ecclesiastical or civil governors, that would faithfully do their duty.

v. 3 *The shepherds* - Officers in the church and state. The goats - The officers among them, who were like he - goats, that push, and wound, and trample under foot the feebler cattle. *Will visit* - In mercy. *As His royal horse* - Has given them strength and courage

v. 4 from him - From God. The cornerstone - The prince or ruler, who is in a polity as a corner - stone in buildings. The nail - Which fastens the tents of war, or the timber together in a house. The battle bow - All warlike provision. Every oppressor - Or collector of tribute. It was from God that Nebuchadnezzar mightily prevailed, and oppressed Israel; and it is from God also, that Judah grows up to such power, as to be able to cope with his adversaries, and to impose tribute on them.

v. 5 This refers to the very dark period of the Great Tribulation. God is going to undertake for His people and enable them to go through it because at the close of that period Christ will come.

v. 6 The "house of Judah" is, of course, the southern kingdom and "the house of Joseph", the northern kingdom. That is, the whole nation will share in the joyful victory and blessing of the coming Kingdom.

v. 7 Their children shall see - These blessings shall continue through your generations, to children that shall be born.

v. 8 I will hiss - Though they are now scattered far off, I will call them as a shepherd, and they shall run with speed back to the flock. As they have increased - As they did of old time.

v. 9 I will sow them - Their increase shall be like the increase of rich soil that hath much seed cast on it. The people - The Heathen. In far countries - Whithersoever they were driven. With their children - The children born to them shall live, and grow up with them. Turn again - To their city and country.

v. 10 Until no more room is found - The land shall be too narrow for them.

v. 11 He shall pass through - The whole verse is an allusion to what God had done in the two famous deliverances of his people, bringing them out of Egypt, through the Red Sea, and through Jordan, and destroying the Egyptians, and delivering them out of Assyrian bondage, and in order thereto, destroying that kingdom

v. 12 Walk up and down - Shall manage all their affairs. In his name - By power and wisdom given from above, to the glory of our God, and our Redeemer.

There will be no classes during the following four weeks in June (3 in June and 1 in July): Mon/Tues – June 8, 9; June 15, 16; 29,30: July 6, 7

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Desolation of Israel (vs. 1-3)

Zec 11:1 Open your doors, O Lebanon, That fire may devour your cedars.

Zec 11:2 Wail, O cypress, for the cedar has fallen, Because the mighty trees are ruined. Wail, O oaks of Bashan, For the thick forest has come down.

Zec 11:3 There is the sound of wailing shepherds! For their glory is in ruins. There is the sound of roaring lions! For the pride of the Jordan is in ruins.

Prophecy of the Shepherds (vs. 4-17)

Zec 11:4 Thus says the LORD my God, "Feed the flock for slaughter,

Zec 11:5 whose owners slaughter them and feel no guilt; those who sell them say, 'Blessed be the LORD, for I am rich'; and their shepherds do not pity them.

Zec 11:6 For I will no longer pity the inhabitants of the land," says the LORD. "But indeed I will give everyone into his neighbor's hand and into the hand of his king. They shall attack the land, and I will not deliver them from their hand."

Zec 11:7 So I fed the flock for slaughter, in particular the poor of the flock. I took for myself two staffs: the one I called Beauty, and the other I called Bonds; and I fed the flock.

Zec 11:8 I dismissed the three shepherds in one month. My soul loathed them, and their soul also abhorred me.

Zec 11:9 Then I said, "I will not feed you. Let what is dying die, and what is perishing perish. Let those that are left eat each other's flesh."

Zec 11:10 And I took my staff, Beauty, and cut it in two, that I might break the covenant which I had made with all the peoples.

Zec 11:11 So it was broken on that day. Thus the poor of the flock, who were watching me, knew that it was the word of the LORD.

Zec 11:12 Then I said to them, "If it is agreeable to you, give me my wages; and if not, refrain." So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of silver.

v. 1 Open your doors - That destruction of the Jewish church and nation, is here foretold in dark and figurative expressions, which our Lord, when the time was at hand, prophesied of very plainly. Lebanon - Lebanon, a great mountain boundary between Judea and its neighbors on the north, is here commanded to open its gates, its fortifications raised to secure the passages, which lead into Judea. That fire - Fire kindled by the enemy in the houses and buildings in Judea, and in Lebanon itself. your cedars - Palaces built with cedars.

v. 2 cypress - tree - Houses and towns built with firs. The cedar - Much less shall ye escape. O oaks - Used in that country for building palaces, cities, towns, and fortresses. The forest - Jerusalem, compared to a forest, in regard of the many and tall houses in it. In short, all are called to cry, for the miseries that will come upon all. Come down - Is laid desolate.

v. 3 Of wailing shepherds - The enemy having driven away their flocks and herds. Their glory - What was their honor. Of Jordan - The great forests on the banks of Jordan, where the young lions liked to range.

v. 4 My God - God the father speaks to Christ. Of the slaughter - Appointed to the slaughter. The Jews, during four hundred and fifty years, were a flock of slaughter to the Egyptians, Chaldeans, and afterwards the Romans.

v. 5 Whose owners - Governors. Not guilty - Think they do no ill. That sell them - For slaves. For I am rich - Profanely give God thanks, that they thrive by cruelty and oppression.

v. 6 I will give - To rob, imprison, banish, or kill each other. Of his king - The Roman Caesar, whom the Jews had chosen to be so. The land - Their king and his armies shall destroy the land.

v. 7 Bonds - The beauty of grace and glory, the bands of love and peace.

v. 8 Three shepherds in one month" were probably the false prophets.

v. 9 Then - After that time of his patient feeding the flock, and cutting off the unfaithful shepherds. Cut off - By the sword or famine. The flesh - Either live to be besieged, 'till hunger makes the living eat the dead, or by seditions and bloody intestine quarrels, destroy each other.

v. 10 my staff, Beauty - Which was the beauty and glory of them, the covenant of God, with all the blessings of it. That I might break - Declare it null. Christ calls it his covenant, for he was the mediator of it.

v. 11 Broken - The covenant was disannulled. That waited - Believed in him, and obeyed him. Knew - Saw, and owned God in all this.

v. 12 Then I said - Upon parting, Christ seems after the manner of men, to mind them of his claims for them, and desire them to reckon with him. If ye think good - He puts it to them, whether they thought he deserved ought at their hands? So they - The rulers of the Jews, the high priest, chief priests, and pharisees. Weighed - Which was the manner of paying money in those days. Thirty pieces - Which amounts to thirty - seven shillings and six - pence, the value of the life of a slave, [Exo 21:32](#). This was fulfilled when they paid Judas Iscariot so much to betray Christ.

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Zec 11:13 And the LORD said to me, "Throw it to the potter"—that princely price they set on me. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD for the potter.

Zec 11:14 Then I cut in two my other staff, Bonds, that I might break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.

Zec 11:15 And the LORD said to me, "Next, take for yourself the implements of a foolish shepherd.

Zec 11:16 For indeed I will raise up a shepherd in the land who will not care for those who are cut off, nor seek the young, nor heal those that are broken, nor feed those that still stand. But he will eat the flesh of the fat and tear their hooves in pieces.

Zec 11:17 "Woe to the worthless shepherd, Who leaves the flock! A sword shall be against his arm And against his right eye; His arm shall completely wither, And his right eye shall be totally blinded."

The Coming Deliverance of Judah (vs. 1-9)

Zec 12:1 The burden of the word of the LORD against Israel. Thus says the LORD, who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him:

Zec 12:2 "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem.

Zec 12:3 And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it.

Zec 12:4 In that day," says the LORD, "I will strike every horse with confusion, and its rider with madness; I will open My eyes on the house of Judah, and will strike every horse of the peoples with blindness.

v. 13 The LORD - God the Father. Cast it - As being so little, it would hardly purchase any thing but what was the cheapest among them. A goodly price - God upbraids the shepherds of his people, who prized the great Shepherd no higher. Cast them to the potter - Or rather, cast them into the house of the Lord for the potter; all which the Jewish rulers acted over.

v. 14 Then - So soon as I saw what value they put upon me. I cut asunder - Christ did it really, the prophet did it in the type. Break - Declare it broken. The brother - hood - That friendship which had been among them. Judah - The two tribes, and the remnant of the ten tribes.

v. 15 Take for yourself - O Zechariah, personate a shepherd quite different from him thou hast represented.

v. 16 Who will not care - Who seeks not out those that are lost. The young one - Which are most apt to perish through weakness. Nor heal - But leaves it to die of its wounds. That stand still - Not able to go forward. Will eat - Feast on the fattest of the flock. Tear their claws - Tear off their skin unto the very nails; in brief, a sluggish, negligent, covetous, riotous, oppressive, and cruel government, is shadowed out by a foolish shepherd.

v. 17 The worthless shepherd - To them that are but the images of shepherds. Who leaves - Casts off the care of the flock. The sword - Of the enemy, shall break his strength and be - fool his counsels. Dried up - They that have gifts which qualify them to do good, if they do it not, they will be taken away. They that should have been workmen, but were slothful, and would do nothing, will justly have their arm dried up. And they that should have been watchmen, but were drowsy, will justly have their eye blinded.

v. 1 In chapter 12 a description of this Great Tribulation period, and it is presented to us like this—"The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel." The word *burden* here means "a prophecy, a judgment." A judgment is coming to them—it is a burden in that sense. This prophecy had to do with the siege of Jerusalem which precedes the Battle of Armageddon.

v. 2 Jerusalem - That weak, unwallled city, and much more the church which is the antitype of Jerusalem. In the siege - Now when all this is in readiness, and no visible means of escape, then will God make them drink the wine of astonishment.

v. 3 In that day - The day of the full accomplishment of this prophecy is a day known to the Lord. A very heavy stone - Too heavy for them, though many join together to remove it.

v. 4 I will open My eyes - I will watch over my people for good. This eye of God open upon his people, is his wise, powerful, gracious providence for them. With blindness - All their warriors in their consults shall have as little of foresight, as a blind man hath of sight.

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Zec 12:5 And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart, 'The inhabitants of Jerusalem are my strength in the LORD of hosts, their God.'

Zec 12:6 In that day I will make the governors of Judah like a firepan in the woodpile, and like a fiery torch in the sheaves; they shall devour all the surrounding peoples on the right hand and on the left, but Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place—Jerusalem.

Zec 12:7 "The LORD will save the tents of Judah first, so that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem shall not become greater than that of Judah.

Zec 12:8 In that day the LORD will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; the one who is feeble among them in that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like God, like the Angel of the LORD before them.

Zec 12:9 It shall be in that day that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

Mourning for the Pierced One! (vs. 10-14)

Zec 12:10 "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

Zec 12:11 In that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning at Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo.

Zec 12:12 And the land shall mourn, every family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves;

Zec 12:13 the family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of Shimei by itself, and their wives by themselves;

Zec 12:14 all the families that remain, every family by itself, and their wives by themselves.

v. 5 The inhabitants of Jerusalem - Though but few, and poor, yet they shall be my strength. Not in their own power, but in the power of the Almighty Lord of all.

v. 6 Like a firepan - A hearth on which fire is thoroughly kindled. In her own place - Not built as Nineveh, Babylon, or Rome, in some place near old cities, but in the very same place where old Jerusalem stood.

v. 7 The tents - The unfenced places, the open country, the cottages, or tents. First - First the weaker are saved, next the stronger. The glory - That the illustrious house of David, and the glorious citizens of Jerusalem may not boast of their power, policy and courage.

v. 8 like David - A mighty man of valor. The house of David - Those of the royal line shall be for prudence, and prowess in the conduct of the armies of Israel, most excellent; expressed here in an hyperbole. like the angel - the angel of the Lord, like Christ who is captain of our salvation.

v. 9 I will seek - I will purposely and effectually do it.

v. 10 I will pour - This was fulfilled on Christ's exaltation, when he sent the Comforter to his disciples, it is daily performed to the children of God, and will be continually, 'till we are brought to be with Christ forever. The house of David - The whole family of Christ, his house who was the seed of David, and who is called David, Eze 37:24. The spirit of grace - Which is fountain of all graces in us. Pierced - Every one of us by our sins pierced him, and many of the Jews literally. Mourn - They shall literally lament the crucifying of the Lord Jesus. In bitterness - True repentance will bitterly lament the sins which brought sorrows and shame upon our Lord.

v. 11 In that day - When the Jews shall mourn for their sins, and for that great sin, crucifying the Lord of glory. A great mourning - A mourning exprest by the greatest the Jews ever were acquainted with, and which for its greatness grew into a proverb. The mourning for Josiah slain at Hadadrimmon, a town in the valley of Megiddo.

v. 12 The house of Nathan - The royal family in both branches of it, Solomon's and Nathan's.

v. 13 The house of Levi - This tribe was the most bitter persecutors of Christ, they hired the traitor, they sought witness; the high priest, (head of that family) condemned him to die, for all which they shall one day reckon with God, and therefore above other tribes they are particularly named as chief mourners for their cruelty to Christ.

v. 14 This will be a real mourning. What great sin have they committed? They had rejected their Messiah when He came the first time. Think what it will be like when He comes the second time and there are those who have heard the gospel message but have turned it down. May I say to you, that day is coming on this earth when He will come again. Today if you will hear His voice, harden not your heart. Open up your heart and receive Christ as your Savior.

AT YOUR NAME! (YAHWEH YAHWEH)

At Your name the mountains shake and crumble

At Your name the oceans roar and tumble

At Your name angels will bow. The earth will rejoice

Your people cry out

[Chorus:]

Lord of all the earth, we shout Your name, shout Your name. Filling up the skies with endless praise, endless praise. Yahweh, Yahweh! We love to shout Your name, oh Lord

At Your name the morning breaks in Glory

At Your name Creation sings Your story

At Your name angels will bow

The earth will rejoice Your people cry out

[Chorus]

There is no one like our God

We will praise You, praise You

There is no one like our God

We will sing, we will sing [x3]

[Chorus x2]