

## ZECHARIAH'S MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

Text: Zech. 1:1

INTRODUCTION: Zechariah was of priestly descent and was among the group of priests who returned to Jerusalem under Zerubbabel's leadership in 536 B.C. (Neh. 12:4-16). He received his prophetic call about 16 years later, in 520. He and Haggai both prophesied in Judah at the same time. Matthew in 23:35 informs us that Zechariah the prophet was eventually assassinated by his own countrymen. Most, if not all the writings of Zech. were done within a period of 2 yrs. Some scholars believe chapters 9-12 may have been written a few years later, but there is no real proof of that theory.

Zech. had more to say about the Messiah than any other O.T. prophet except Isaiah. We will now look at Zech.'s prophecies fulfilled In Jesus Christ.

### I. THE BRANCH & THE REMOVAL OF INIQUITY, 3:8-10.

#### A. The branch identified.

There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse & a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom & understanding, the Spirit of counsel & might, the Spirit of knowledge & of the fear of the Lord. (Isa. 11:1-2)

I, Jesus have sent My angel to testify to you these things In the churches. I am the Root & the Offspring of David, the Bright & Morning Star. (Rev. 22:16).

#### B. We will learn more about the Branch in chapter 6:12-13.

#### C. The "stone" mentioned here in vs. 9-10 is probably a reference to Christ's kingdom. Cp. Dan. 2:34, 44-45.

#### D. "In that day" iniquity will be removed and men will sit under their vines and fig trees, an expression connected with the peaceful nature of Christ kingdom. See Micah 4:1-5.

### II. THE BRANCH, BUILDER OF THE TEMPLE, 6:12-13.

#### A. The high priest of the Jews at that time was a man by the name of Joshua (not the same Joshua as in the time of Moses—this is almost 1,000 years later in time.) In vs. 9-11, God orders Zech. to **crow**n Joshua the high priest to **rule over** the people. It is interesting that Joshua is the Hebrew form of the name Jesus. This Joshua was a **type** of Jesus Christ, the Branch.

B. As Joshua the high priest was involved in rebuilding the temple after the exile in Babylon, Jesus our High Priest built His spiritual temple, the church.

Psa. 127:1; 1 Cor. 3:17; 6:16; 1 Pet. 2:5

Eph 2:19-22, Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

C. As Joshua was crowned a ruler even while he served as high priest, Jesus is both our High Priest & our King simultaneously. (In this, Jesus fulfills another O.T. type, Melchizedek, Psa. 110:4; Heb. 6:20—7:2).

D. Note that it is God's High Priest & King who is to build the temple, not unbelieving Jews, as premill. preachers predict. And He has already built it.

### III. THE PEACEFUL KING, 9:9-10.

Matt 21:1-5, Now when they drew near Jerusalem, & came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, & immediately you will find a donkey tied, & a colt with her. Loose them & bring them to Me. And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' & immediately he will send them." All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: "Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, Lowly, & sitting on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.' "

### IV. THE CRUCIFIED SAVIOR, 12:10-11.

John 19:32-37, But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, & immediately blood & water came out. And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe. For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, "Not one of His bones shall be

broken." And again another Scripture says, "They shall look on Him whom they pierced."

Luke 23:27. And a great multitude of the people followed Him, and women who also mourned and lamented Him.

V. A FOUNTAIN FOR CLEANSING, 13:1. Matt. 26:28

Rev. 1:5, Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, & the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,

A. Alien sinners are washed in the blood when they confess faith & are baptized "into His death," Rom. 6:3-4.

B. Erring Christians are washed in the blood when they confess their sins and ask God's forgiveness, 1 John 1:7, 9.

VI. THE SMITTEN SHEPHERD, 13:7-9.

Matt 26:31-32, Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' "But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee.

VII. CHRIST'S FEET ON THE MOUNT OF OLIVES, 14:4.

A. This is often misinterpreted, applied to Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> coming. If it did, it would be the **only** verse to teach that Christ's feet will ever touch the earth again. **But this is NOT a prophecy of the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming.**

B. Admittedly a difficult passage, but the phrase "in that day" is used throughout chapters 12-14 to refer to the period of time from the earthly ministry of Christ until the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. The events of chapter 14 must fall within that time period.

C. Verses 1-2 are a prophecy of that destruction.

D. Verses 2b-7 speak of the salvation of the righteous remnant  
Matt 24:16-22, Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the

beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

E. It is probably no co-incidence, but Jesus was on the Mount of Olives when He foretold the destruction of Jerusalem in Matt. 24.

#### VIII. LIVING WATERS, 14:8-9.

John 4:10, Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."

John 7:37-38, On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood & cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink, he who believes in Me. As the Scripture has said, out of His heart will flow rivers of living water."

A. The living water began to flow from Jerusalem with the inspired preaching of the gospel on Pentecost of Acts 2.

B. At that time, the Lord became King over all the earth, Acts 2:30-33.

#### IX. GENTILES WORSHIP THE KING, 14:16-22.

A. The language of this section is highly figurative. The O.T. feasts & sacrifices have been abolished & will NOT be re-established, Col. 4:14-16. But they are used to **represent** N.T. worship.

B. No Canaanite in the house of the Lord—that is, all who come into God's house, the church, will be of God's spiritual Israel.

Gal 3:26-29, For you are all sons of God thrU faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

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