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Zechariah 14:1-21 Day of the Lord!

The book of Zechariah sweep through the history of Israel from the his time, when the nation returned from the Babylonian captivity, right on till the establishing of the millennial kingdom on earth.

The subject of this **Zechariah 14** chapter is the establishment of the millennial kingdom.

Zechariah chapter 1 dealt with the people as they had come back, were endeavoring to rebuild their city which was in rubble, to rebuild the wall, et cetera.

Zechariah came along as a great prophet of comfort and hope. His message was to tell Israel that God was going to let them rebuild. God was going to let them restore their city.

But more than that, God had an incredible future for them way off in the distance when all human history came to its climax.

Zechariah 14th chapter is the climax, the final establishment of the millennial kingdom, the end of human history.

When the Israelites come back in the end times, it seems to be the indication of Zechariah's prophecy that the whole nation will not come back initially, but a portion of them will come back. The remainder of them will stay scattered all over the nations as they were in the time of Jesus. Precisely it happened. There is a remnant that has gone back but not comparable to the amount that remains scattered around the world.

In the last days of Israel's history, we are seeing Israel regathered. They have established their nation under a grant given to them by the United Nations, international protection. They are there in unbelief as would be indicated by the prophets.

They are waiting for salvation. It can't come until Jesus returns and they look on Him whom they have pierced. Prior to that time, they will make a pact with a false Messiah.

They will make a peace pact with the foolish shepherd that **Zechariah 12** talked about it. They will make a pact with the Antichrist.

Everything will go along fine during this 7-year covenant, but in the middle of this seven-year covenant this beast, Antichrist, foolish shepherd, false Messiah will break his covenant with Israel.

When he breaks the covenant with Israel, he will require that they worship him and him alone. When the people of Israel refuse, he gathers the armies of the world together to march against Israel. Antichrist comes against Israel under the command of Satan to exterminate the Jews.

This leads then to a great siege of the city of Jerusalem and the land of Palestine that we know as the battle of Armageddon.

- We have already seen Israel beginning to be regathered.
- We have already seen them establish their state.
- We have already seen some of these things come to pass.

They are there in unbelief. Some are still scattered. We know that their mentality is such as would be looking for someone who could offer them international protection.

Now it is precisely at the siege of Jerusalem that we pick up the 14th chapter.

Here are the armies of the world gathered against Jerusalem. From chapter 13 that when the siege begins, it's basically successful to start with. There is tremendous bloodshed and devastation.

The book of Revelations says the blood will be to the depth of the horses' bridles for an area of 200 miles.

There is going to be bloodshed like the world has never seen.

There is going to be a holocaust in the land.

There is going to be a seeming victory on the part of Antichrist and his hosts.

At the point where this victory looks secure is when Christ returns. Exactly what we have in the fourteenth chapter.

The chapter opens then with the defeated Jerusalem, stripped of its possessions, stripped of its honour, conquered by the world's armies.

The conquerors in fact are reveling in their spoils, having a great old time thinking they have won their battle, just precisely when Jesus returns to turn the tide of battle totally.

Four major parts to this chapter.

- 1. The coming of the day of the Lord,**
- 2. The crowning of the Lord as King,**
- 3. The conquest of the nations, and**
- 4. The character of the kingdom.**

There is a sequence in these points.

1. The coming of the day of the Lord.

V 1, Behold, the day of the Lord is coming, And your spoil will be divided in your midst.

The opening phrase 'the day of the Lord comes' is kind of an announcement all by itself. We can almost put an exclamation mark at the end of it and start the next phrase as a new paragraph. The day of the Lord comes.

We have now reached the climax.

What is the day of the Lord?

The day of the Lord, as a term, refers to not one day but a period of time.

We say this is the day of space travel, or this is the day of existentialism, or this is the day of alcoholism, or this is the day of marital breakup, or this is the day of whatever.

We use it in that sense and that's the way it is used in this reference. This is the day of the Lord.

In other words, man has had his day, man has had his fling and now it's God's time. The Lord is going to begin to do some things.

The day of the Lord is a period of time beginning with the rapture of the church and extending through the millennial kingdom.

- It covers all kinds of events.
- It covers the tribulation time when the Lord takes back the earth.
- It covers the conquering of the nations at Armageddon.
- It covers the judgment of the nations.
- It covers the establishment of the kingdom.
- It covers the reign of Jesus Christ on earth for a thousand years.
- It covers the vanquishing of Satan.
- It covers this whole great eschatological time block from the rapture to the end of the kingdom.

That whole era of the end of history is the day of the Lord.

In other words, man's day is ended, and the Lord begins to take back His earth.

A great period of time when God sets up His own reign and takes the dominion away from unregenerate man. It is the day of the Lord.

At this particular point in the day of the Lord, Israel is under siege by the armies of the world. Daniel's prophecy and the

book of Revelation, there are four armies that gather against Israel.

- The army of the **north**, which probably would involve the Russian nations and some Arab confederacy, according to **Ezekiel 38**.
- There are armies coming from the **south**.
- The armies from the **west**, the revived Roman Empire.
- The armies of the **east**, perhaps some kind of Red Chinese confederacy.

All this converging on the land of Israel. This is where we begin the chapter.

There seems to be a victory.

They seem to have won their day. They seem to have accomplished their goal.

V 1, *And your spoil will be divided in your midst.*

Usually, an enemy comes in and conquers a place and then divides the spoil right in the middle of town. They will haul it off. They will escape with their booty. They will flee with their riches that they have gained.

But they have such confidence that they sit right down in the middle of Jerusalem, feeling very secure, and they begin to

divide the spoils right there on the spot, because they feel so confident that the victory has been gained.

There they are sitting there, seemingly accomplished the conquering, leisurely going about the dividing of the spoil as if they were taunting the inhabitants that were remaining in Jerusalem.

That very moment that God begins to turn the tide of the battle.

Jerusalem's extremity becomes God's opportunity.

V 2, *For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem;*

We get a little hint here of something that's going on that might be a little surprising to the nation, and that is that they are there because they have been gathered by God.

- They are not their own.
- They are not their own agency.
- They are not even really at this point accomplishing Satan's task.
- They are there under the sovereign control of God.

God has gathered them for two reasons.

1. God is going to use them as an agency to purge out the rebels among His people.

When that great battle of Armageddon comes and when those nations come and when they slaughter the ones. They are going to be dealing with the rebels in the nation Israel. They are going to be cleaning out and chastening and judging those that have been unbelieving.

God has gathered these nations with a Jewish purpose in mind and that is to act in judgment against unbelieving persons in Israel.

2. God gathers them there to ultimately punish them as well.

God gathers them to act as a judgment agency against Israel, even as there was a time in history when Israel was used as a judgment agency against the nation. To bring them to the place of judgment also.

All nations mean that there are going to be representatives from all over the world.

The armies of the world literally are going to converge in that little area. It doesn't seem so remote anymore.

Everybody in the world is very concerned.

- The Arab world is concerned about it.
- Russia is concerned about it.
- The west is concerned about it because of the tremendous resources that are there.
- The east, Red China for the first time in history over the last ten years has showed great interest in the Middle East.

It is not an impossibility by any means.

Revelation 16:13-14, *And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. ¹⁴For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.*

These demons are going to gather kings from all over the world to amalgamate in these great armies. They are all going to come against Israel. God will use them as agencies of judgment. God will gather them there to be judged themselves.

It is going to happen in Jerusalem.

This will be the focal point of the battle. We call it the battle of Armageddon because the Bible calls it that in **Revelation 16**.

They will extend from the plain Megiddo on the north, clear down to Jerusalem and beyond to the south and cover the whole land. Much of the battle will occur on the Plain of Megiddo, much of it will occur in the city of Jerusalem. So, both Megiddo and Jerusalem figure prominently in this battle.

V 2, *The city shall be taken, The houses rifled, And the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity,*

Jeremiah calls it Jacob's trouble.

Jeremiah 30:5-7, *“For thus says the Lord: ‘We have heard a voice of trembling, Of fear, and not of peace. ⁶Ask now, and see,*

Whether a man is ever in labour with child? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins Like a woman in labour, And all faces turned pale? ⁷Alas! For that day is great, So that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob's trouble, But he shall be saved out of it.

Jacob is in more trouble now than Jacob has ever been. This is it. And four things occur.

- The city is taken.
- The houses are plundered.
- The women are raped.
- Half the city is taken as prisoners of war.

It looks very bad. They are there dividing their spoil.

V 2, *But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city.*

Half are going to be spared.

Approximately a half of the Jewish people apparently at that time are going to fall under the judgment of God whereas the other half are going to be spared because most likely they are the believing remnant.

Earlier **Zechariah 12** had told us that two out of three would die of the whole nation. Two out of every three throughout the whole nation would perish.

Here, half out of the city of Jerusalem.

In that judgment the ungodly perish and the remnant is spared so that they can enter into God's kingdom.

The remnant that is spared so that God will populate His kingdom with His believing people.

Now it looks very bleak at this point left with half of the people.

V 3, *Then the Lord will go forth And fight against those nations, As He fights in the day of battle.*

Now God doesn't allow the enemy to destroy the true remnant, those who are of faith in the Messiah and those who are ready to put their faith in the Messiah.

Those who are people of faith. Those who are like those baptized by John the Baptist, a people prepared for His coming. God moves in and He goes forth to fight against those nations.

This is the direct personal intervention of the Lord Himself. God comes in an hour when an apparent disaster is looming, an hour that looks like victory for the Antichrist forces.

Exodus 15:3, *The Lord is a man of war; The Lord is His name.*

God is called all over the place in the Old Testament the Lord of armies, the Lord of hosts.

God is fighting for Israel.

We see God in His armour, as it were.

God comes again.

God comes to fight against the nations as when He fought in the day of battle.

When was the day of battle?

The day of battle was when **Joshua won the victory at Gibeon.**

The day of battle was when **Canaan was conquered.**

The day of battle was the **great defeat of Sisera by Barak.**

There were many days of battle when God won, when God fought for His people.

As God did then, so He will do in that future as well.

God is like Joseph, who made himself known to his brothers in their hour of deepest distress.

God will come in the great time of Jacob's trouble. He will come out of the sky to fight for His people.

When He comes, God will come in the form of Jesus Christ.

The summary of the first 3 verses is that we have the nations assembled to war against Jerusalem. The city has been taken and plundered. The spoil is being divided in the city. Half of the people remain. Suddenly the Lord arrives to fight.

V 4, And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, Making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south.

Where is God going to return?

The Mount of Olives.

Mount of Olives where Christ is going to come. From one valley on one side of the Mount of Olives clear to Bethany on the other side of the Mount of Olives is a journey of two miles.

It is not a very big mount to the east of the city.

V 3 it says the Lord, Jehovah is going to come, **El Gibbor**, the mighty man, Jehovah is going to come. He is going to come, and His feet are going to stand on the Mount of Olives.

What a tremendous statement this is about the deity of Jesus Christ.

How is it that Jehovah's feet could ever stand on the Mount of Olives?

How is it that Jehovah even has feet?

We know, He who came in human form will come again in human form.

Acts 1:11, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

Christ will come in the same physical literal personal visible form as when He left to that mount.

All through Old Testament history Mount of olives is special.

You go through the history of the Mount of Olives, you find some incredible events that occur on that place.

The final overthrow of the Davidic kingdom, the final time when the kingdom was overthrown and split and divided into Israel and Judah happened here.

It is known as the beginning of the times of the Gentiles that occurred Ezekiel looked in his vision.

Ezekiel 11:23, *And the glory of the Lord went up from the midst of the city and stood on the mountain, which is on the east side of the city.*

When God left, when His kingdom was divided and God departed from His people, He left from the Mount of Olives.

How wonderful it is to think of what that mountain could tell us if it could see and talk.

- That same mountain on which Jesus shed so many tears night after night.
- That same mountain would know the denting of His knees as He prayed there night after night after night.
- That same mountain that heard precious conversations that He held with His disciples.
- That mountain that witnessed agony and the bloodshed.

- That mountain that must have been right there watching when He came out of the grave.
- That mountain that knew in the days of His flesh the weary feet as they walked its paths.
- That mountain some day is going to receive those same feet.

Jesus is coming to the Mount of Olives.

V 4, *And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, Making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south*

An earthquake.

God sometimes uses earthquakes to announce His arrival.

Micah 1:2-4, *Hear, all you peoples! Listen, O earth, and all that is in it! Let the Lord God be a witness against you, The Lord from His holy temple. ³For behold, the Lord is coming out of His place; He will come down And tread on the high places of the earth. ⁴The mountains will melt under Him, And the valleys will split Like wax before the fire, Like waters poured down a steep place.*

Nahum 1:5, *The mountains quake before Him, The hills melt, And the earth heaves at His presence, Yes, the world and all who dwell in it.*

When God starts tramping around in the end times, there is going to be some shaking going on.

The book of Revelation talks about similar things.

Revelation 16:18-20, *And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. ¹⁹Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath. ²⁰Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.*

A worldwide catastrophe generated by a supernatural cosmic earthquake when the feet of Jesus Christ hit the Mount of Olives.

Not like the baby born in the manger the first time He came. He comes in worldwide power and immediately the world is going to know He arrived.

Many of them are going to scream for the rocks and the mountains to fall on them to hide them from His face because they know He comes in judgment.

When Jesus comes, the mountain is going to be split and it's going to split from Jerusalem a flat valley going right straight out straight to the east.

Although it fortifies the city in some sense as a protection, it also confines the people in the city with having an easy way to escape. Because if they did escape, they would have to go all the way down this side, all the way up that side and over the top making it difficult.

The Lord Jesus hits the mountain, splits the thing wide open, creates a valley and God's people Israel can flee right through that open pass.

Joel chapter 3 indicates that that valley is the Valley of Jehoshaphat and Joel calls it the Valley of Decision.

Into that valley God is going to gather all the nations and judge them, after His people have fled to safety. There is going to be some kind of devastation occur to the armies of the world as they attempt. After Israel flees down that open channel, as they attempt to pursue Israel, just as Pharaoh's army did. When they tried to cross the sea that God opened for Israel, that whole thing is going to come crashing down on them. When God acts in mighty judgment right while they are in the Valley of Decision.

God creates a valley.

V 5, Then you shall flee through My mountain valley, For the mountain valley shall reach to Azal. Yes, you shall flee As you fled from the earthquake In the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Thus the Lord my God will come, And all the saints with You.

It is the valley of My mountains. In other words, there was one mountain there and no valley, but I made a valley and two mountains by splitting it. He formed it by splitting Olive.

It is His valley, His mountains. They will flee through that channel.

The word **Azal** in Hebrew means near.

The location very near to Israel on the east was an area known as Azal. The valley is going to split wide open right up near the city.

So, you don't have to run a long way down and up any hills to get to that open channel of escape. That thing is going to split right open right up near the city so that there will be immediate access.

They will flee for the valley of the mountains will reach to Azal.

V 5, Yes, you shall flee As you fled from the earthquake In the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Thus the Lord my God will come, And all the saints with You.

Amos 1:1, *The words of Amos, who was among the sheepbreeders of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel, two years before the earthquake.*

Apparently, it was an awful earthquake, and the people had to flee. You are going to flee in that day just like you fled at the time of the earthquake in Uzziah's day.

V 5, *Thus the Lord my God will come, And all the saints with You.*

A great statement of the deity of Jesus Christ.

It is His feet on the Mount of Olives. The angel said this same Jesus shall so come in like manner as you have seen Him go. You saw Him leave physically, personally, bodily, literally, visibly from the Mount of Olives. That's the way He will return.

The same Jesus is here called the Lord my God. He is going to come.

Revelation 19.

When He comes, He is coming to win a battle.

He is coming to judge the ungodly.

Revelation 19:11-13, *Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.* ¹²*His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.* ¹³*He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.*

We know it is Christ.

Revelation 19:14-16, *And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.* ¹⁵*Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.* ¹⁶*And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.*

What an incredible scene.

Now Zechariah sees the same scene in another manifestation, in another vision, another revelation from God.

V 5, *Thus the Lord my God will come, And all the saints with You.*

When Jesus comes, He will be accompanied by the saints. This indicates several groups of people.

The term saints used in some of the Old Testament passages to the righteous among Israel.

Other times it is used to refer to angels who are also called holy ones.

We understand from Paul's use of the Greek term for "saint" that it is used to refer to Christians.

When Jesus comes in that great wonderful day of triumph,

He is going to be accompanied by the angels.

He is going to be accompanied by the church.

He is also going to be accompanied by the Old Testament saints who at that time will be resurrected to be gathered with Him to constitute the army of righteous people coming out of heaven.

You are going to be there!

I am sure you are going to be there.

1 Thessalonians 3:13, *so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.*

Colossians 3:4, *When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.*

Jude 1:14, *Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints,*

Basically, saints can refer to angels, can refer to Old Testament saints, and refer to New Testament saints. Certainly, the angels will be with Him. That may be the primary reference of these texts.

The church will be with Him because that must be the only reference indicated in **Colossians 3:4**.

It is possible that at that very moment the resurrection of the bodies of the Old Testament saints will occur and they will accompany Him as well.

At this very time when Christ comes and all the saints are with Him riding on the white horses with the white robes and this fantastic glory comes out of heaven.

At this very time the remnant of Israel is going to look up and they are going to see Him whom they pierced. They are going to mourn for Him as an only son.

Precisely at this moment that the events of chapter 12 take place, when they look on Him whom they have pierced, when a fountain of blessing is opened, when they repent.

V 6, *It shall come to pass in that day That there will be no light; The lights will diminish.*

When Jesus comes, all the stars and the suns of heaven are going to go out. Heaven is going to just be black all the lights are going to go out.

This is discussed all over the Old Testament. This is not something just extracted out of this one text. Repeatedly the Old Testament talks about the day when God changes the patterns of heaven.

Isaiah 13:9-10, *“Behold, the day of the Lord comes, Cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, To lay the land desolate; And He will destroy its sinners from it. ¹⁰For the stars of heaven and their constellations Will not give their light; The sun will be darkened in its going forth, And the moon will not cause its light to shine.*

Isaiah 24 talks about it.

Joel 3 talks about it.

Matthew 24 talks about it.

Revelation 6:12-14, *I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. ¹³And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. ¹⁴Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place.*

At that moment Israel is going to turn and look. They are going to believe, and they are going to turn to their Messiah. They are going to be wonderfully saved and spared judgment and gathered into the kingdom.

What does the rest of the world do?

Revelation 6:16-17, and said to the mountains and rocks, *“Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! ¹⁷For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?”*

The unbelievers scream in fear and terror.

The remnant is redeemed.

The nation is redeemed.

V 7, *It shall be one day Which is known to the Lord— Neither day nor night. But at evening time it shall happen That it will be light.*

In Hebrew one here means one day, the only one of its kind, one unique day like no other day.

The whole of nature is just going to go into an imbalance. The whole thing is out of perspective. All that we understand is night and day is going to be ended at that point.

All the stars fall. The suns and the moons are all gone. Christ comes, and it's a new kind of day. God will become day so that

even when it's evening it will be light because He will be coming in blazing glory.

When He comes, His whole blazing glory will fill the kingdom, fill the earth.

Here He comes, the blazing Son of righteousness with healing in His beams. Blazing out of heaven and for all who fall into that light in faith, there will be instant salvation.

V 8, And in that day it shall be That living waters shall flow from Jerusalem, Half of them toward the eastern sea And half of them toward the western sea; In both summer and winter it shall occur.

Jerusalem's going to be dramatically changed.

Right in the middle of Jerusalem, which is Mount Moriah where the temple would be, right in the middle underneath that rock somehow God's going to crack open the ground and create a gushing spring that's going to send rivers running both directions, east and west.

One toward the Dead Sea to the east.

One toward the west.

Living waters means "gurgling, running, flowing, rushing, bubbling water," not stagnant water.

Ezekiel said that in the millennial earth there will be life giving streams gushing out of the sanctuary.

God will just split the temple ground open. He will just split that rock Moriah and send that thing going in both directions.

Read **Ezekiel 47:1-12**, God's going to crack open Jerusalem and send the waters going to the former sea.

The former sea is the Dead Sea. It literally means eastern. The hinder sea, the Mediterranean, and the water will flow in two directions, perennially in summer and winter throughout the kingdom.

This is real water because Isaiah says the desert will blossom like a rose.

There doesn't need to be water under there. God can create it at the time He needs it.

Also, it is a picture too, of how blessings are going to flow. Jerusalem will become the center of the world and blessing will just flow in all directions.

2. The crowning of the Lord as King.

V 9, *And the Lord shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be— "The Lord is one," And His name one.*

The first thing that happens when He arrives, He is going to have a coronation.

The Lord is not only going to be the King in heaven, but in that day He is going to be the King on earth.

This is a promised reality. The King is coming. He is going to be King.

Do you know how many religions there will be in the world in the kingdom?

Just one.

Anybody who begins to start another one will be dealt with by the rod of iron with which Christ rules.

The worldwide monotheism, one religion, all the systems of Satan are over. Unique and incomparable one God, the only wise God and our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, Him and Him alone will the world worship.

In that day there will be one Lord and His name will be one.

V 10, *All the land shall be turned into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be raised up and inhabited in her place from Benjamin's Gate to the place of the First Gate and the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king's winepresses.*

When Christ comes this tremendous earthquake takes place and He creates this valley running east. Mount Moriah somehow is split, and water starts to flow everywhere.

The judgment of nations takes place. As a result of this great earthquake from Geba, which is way in the north, to Rimmon, which is way in the south, is going to become like the Arabah.

What is Arabah?

The Arabah is the name of the valley that is the deepest valley in the world.

It runs from way south of the Dead Sea, way south, where it may be as high in some places as **300 feet** above sea level, down to the Dead Sea where it is **1300 feet** below sea level, and all the way to the Sea of Galilee where at the Sea of Galilee it is **650 feet** below sea level.

It is the lowest longest and flattest valley in the world.

It is the flattest valley of any valley that is low cause it's the only valley that low.

All the terrain around Jerusalem from Geba on the north to Rimmon on the south is going to be flattened and lowered to be made like that valley so that Jerusalem will literally stick up like a solitaire diamond on a ring. Incredible.

God is going to rebuild that city, and He gives the dimensions here.

From Benjamin's gate on the north, the northeast, northwest, southwest and so forth. He is going to give it back its dimensions that it once knew in its glory.

It's not going to be some little village like it was in Zechariah's time. He is going to make it like some huge diamond.

The whole land made flat, and Jerusalem lifted up.

The implication of the Hebrew is peacefully inhabited. What a day.

People aren't just going to live in that city they are going to live in all the countryside around about.

Zechariah 2:4 where it says the city is going to be so big you can't hardly measure it. They are going to live all around it but Jerusalem will be like a crown.

V 11, *The people shall dwell in it; And no longer shall there be utter destruction, But Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.*

No more destruction.

No more curse.

Why?

No more idolatry.

No more apostasy.

Not only is the Lord crowned, but the city is crowned, and it becomes the jewel of the earth.

Christ is crowned King and sits on the throne in that city. So, the coming of the day of the Lord and the crowning of the Lord as King.

3. The conquest of the nations.

V 12-14, *And this shall be the plague with which the Lord will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, Their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, And their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths. ¹³It shall come to pass in that day That a great panic from the Lord will be among them. Everyone will seize the hand of his neighbour, And raise his hand against his neighbour's hand; ¹⁴Judah also will fight at Jerusalem. And the wealth of all the surrounding nations Shall be gathered together: Gold, silver, and apparel in great abundance.*

We have seen some glorious positive results.

What will happen to the godless people?

a) A deadly plague.

V 12, *And this shall be the plague with which the Lord will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh*

shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, Their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, And their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.

It is God who gives life. God breathed into man, and he became a living soul.

It is God who can withdraw life. God at this point will withdraw life so fast and so complete that they will rot and become skeletons before they are able to even fall to the ground.

That is how fast God will withdraw life and deal with the ungodly. That really constitutes the judgment of the nations.

Those are the ones that He says depart into everlasting punishment. While the others who are remnants who have seen Him and believed are the sheep.

V 15, *Such also shall be the plague On the horse and the mule, On the camel and the donkey, And on all the cattle that will be in those camps. So shall this plague be.*

There is going to be a plague that not only takes care of the people but all their possessions and animals and everything.

b) A great confusion.

V 13, *It shall come to pass in that day That a great panic from the Lord will be among them. Everyone will seize the hand of his neighbour, And raise his hand against his neighbour's hand;*

They will confuse themselves and they literally will lay hold everyone on the hand of his neighbor and his hand shall revolt against the hand of his neighbor.

There will be such confusion at that moment that those who are not instantly hit with the plague are going to find themselves killing each other.

Terrible confusion, attacking and slaughtering each other.

Judges 7, Gideon. They broke the pitchers and blew the trumpets and lit the lights and the army of the Midianites all killed each other. Will be something of that.

c) Super strength to Judah.

Superhuman strength is given to Judah. Judah shall fight at Jerusalem. Somehow God is going to give to Judah a great strength and Judah is going to fight and win.

A plague for some, a confused suicide by the nations and a superhuman strength given to Judah.

V 14, *Judah also will fight at Jerusalem. And the wealth of all the surrounding nations shall be gathered together: Gold, silver, and apparel in great abundance.*

The tables are turned immediately. The wealth of all the nations is going to be gathered and brought into the hands of God's people.

Ultimately all the wealth of the world will come into the hands of the Lord and His people in His kingdom. That is the promise.

4. The character of the kingdom.

Now that all the ungodly are judged, Christ is on the throne.

The land is flattened.

Jerusalem is a solitary diamond on the globe.

Jesus is reigning on the throne.

The people of God have received Jesus Christ.

The remnant is ready to take their kingdom.

The character of the kingdom. And this is simple.

V 16, *And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.*

This is going to be the believing remnant out of the nations. There will be believing Gentiles. Because Revelation 7 says so many Gentiles are going to be saved you can't even count them. The Lord's not going to come down and destroy them.

They are literally going to come out of those nations which came against Jerusalem, though they themselves did not agree with what their nation did. They were believing, or else they turned when Christ came. But these people from the nations will go up from year to year to year to worship the King, the Lord of host, and keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

The Feast of Tabernacles celebrated the time when God tabernacled with Israel in the wilderness. Here it is fulfilled.

In that day God comes down and His glory again tabernacles with His people, and so they celebrate that feast again. Annually the people of the world are going to come to keep the feast.

V 17, *And it shall be that whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, on them there will be no rain.*

If people from nations don't come, if nations rebel, God's going to turn off the rain and it won't rain.

If it doesn't rain, they will have a drought. If they drought, they are going to have a disaster. There would be one nation that would say, "We don't mind if it doesn't rain, we don't depend on rain."

That nation would be Egypt. Because Egypt might say, "we have the Nile is fed by those little lakes in the mountains and they drip the water down and the Nile comes. Winter rains way away in the mountains in the south and the snow. When they all melt, they cause this Nile to inundate the land.

Without that wave they couldn't exist, and now they have channeled it into canals. It still occurs. So, Egypt says, "maybe we will be a little smug and we won't mind if it rains."

V 18-19, *If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they shall have no rain; they shall receive the plague with which the Lord strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. ¹⁹This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.*

God says if the rain doesn't get you, the plague will. This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

When God sets up His kingdom and He reigns, He says the world is going to worship. It is not going to be optional. Today it's optional. This is the optional age. That won't be.

A rod of iron will come to judge sinners.

They will keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

They will celebrate again the time when God came in His glory and tented with His people.

When they wandered in their tents, which the tabernacles refer to, how the glory of God led them every day and every night and dwelt in the tabernacle, it will be that again.

V 20-21, *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. ²¹Yes, 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.*

Holiness to The Lord this phrase was very special.

This was engraved in one place in Israel's history. The high priest Aaron had a turban. On the front of his turban was a gold plate, and engraved on that gold plate were the words Holiness to The Lord.

What did it mean?

It meant that there was something about that man that set him apart from every other man.

He was an uncommon man.

He was especially holy.

He was unique.

There was no one like this high priest holiness unto the Lord.

But he says in that day every single thing that exists is going to be just as holy as the high priest. Even the little bells that ding on the horses are going to say, "Holiness to The Lord."

It is going to be a holy kingdom.

It isn't going to be like it is in the world today.

There aren't just going to be a few holy people.

It is going to be a holy world in that day.

Even the bells on the horses are going to say, "Holiness to The Lord."

Even the common pots and pans are going to be just as sacred as the altar bowls.

When you go to your kitchen get their pots and pans, they will be just as holy as the headdress of the high priest. There will be no secular and sacred in that world. There will only be sacred.

V 21, In that day there shall no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the Lord of hosts.

What has God got against Canaanites?

Why does He say that?

The word Canaanite is a byword. It is a title.

A figure of speech referring to a morally and spiritually unclean person. The Canaanites were unclean, morally and spiritually.

The word Canaanite became a proverb in Israel for a degenerate person. In the kingdom there won't be a degenerate person.

Anybody who comes along that way, the Lord will judge. The whole world will be holiness unto the Lord.

The Lord wants a holy people.

He has called His church to be holy.

He wants a holy church.

Conclusion:

The theme of Zechariah is Christ. He is the theme.

In chapter 1 He is the **riding one**.

In chapter 2 He is the **measuring one**.

In chapter 3 He is the **cleansing one**.

In chapter 4 He is the **empowering one**.

In chapter 5 He is the **judging one**.

In chapter 6 He is the **crowned one**.
In chapter 7 He is the **rebuking one**.
In chapter 8 He is the **restoring one**.
In chapter 9 He is the **kingly one**.
In chapter 10 He is the **blessing one**.
In chapter 11 He is the **shepherding one**.
In chapter 12 He is the **returning one**.
In chapter 13 He is the **smitten one**.
In chapter 14 He is the **reigning one**.

Zechariah saw Christ. I hope you caught his vision.