

A verse by verse study

### Zechariah - Overview

#### Introduction: Ch1

Exhortation to repentance and obedience,

_ [	Don't	repeat	the	mistakes	of the	past!	1:1-6
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#### Eight Visions: Ch1-6

<ul> <li>To encourage the rebuilding</li> </ul>	1:7–6:8
<ul> <li>1. Man Riding on a Red Horse</li> </ul>	1:7–17
<ul> <li>2. Four Horns and Four Craftsmen</li> </ul>	1:18–21
<ul> <li>3. Man with a Measuring Line</li> </ul>	Chap. 2
<ul> <li>4. Joshua the High Priest</li> </ul>	Chap. 3
<ul> <li>5. The Golden Lampstand &amp; 2 Olive Trees</li> </ul>	Chap. 4
<ul> <li>6. The Flying Scroll</li> </ul>	5:1-4
<ul> <li>7. The Woman in a Basket</li> </ul>	5:5–11
8 The Four Chariots	6:1–8

## The Lord's Survey of the Earth

- The heavenly army has been sent to survey the earth
- What they find is disturbing!
- The world is 'resting', indifferent to Israel's plight
- Resting 'carelessly', without regard, in false security, arrogantly confident, boastful, saying 'peace, peace' (Jer 8:11 / 1 Thes 5:3)

### The Red Horseman

- Jesus, standing in the midst of Israel, 'in the bottom'
- "He was located "in the hollow." "a deep place,"
  This was a low time in the nation's history, a period
  of deep humiliation. The "times of the Gentiles""

- Chuck Missler

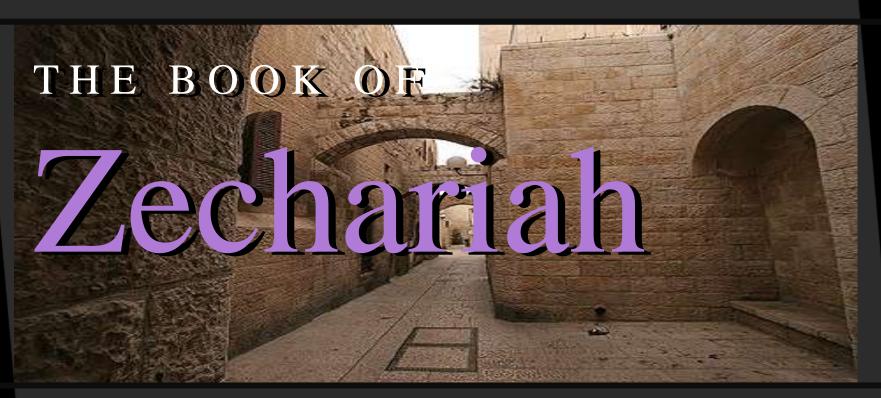
- Behind Jesus there was an army!
  - Red horses, Speckled horses & White horses (?)
  - Red horses, bright red, blinding to the sight! (?)

### Words of Comfort to Israel

- 1) The Messiah will come to Jerusalem.
  - The glory of the Lord (Shekinah) had departed: from the Holy of Holies, to the porch of the Temple, out to the eastern gate, finally up to the Mount of Olives, then ascended up to heaven (Ezek 10:18-198, 11:23)
- 2) My house shall be built in Jerusalem.
  - 4th Temple
- 3) Jerusalem's boundaries would expand
- 4) God will, once again, choose Jerusalem
  - (Rom 11:29 / Acts 15:15-16)







Chapter 2







Zechariah's Second Vision The Man With a Measuring Line

- 1 I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand.
- <sup>2</sup> Then said I, Whither goest thou? And he said unto me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what is the breadth thereof, and what is the length thereof.

Zechariah 2:1-2

- Who is the man? Nehemiah? A type?
- Q. When do you use a measuring line?
- A. When you are about to build
- Jerusalem is the focus

- <sup>3</sup> And, behold, the angel that talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him,
- <sup>4</sup> And said unto him, Run, speak to this young man, saying, Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein:
- <sup>5</sup> For I, saith the Lord, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.

Zechariah 2:3-5

- The man with the measuring line is a trigger
- It will lead to Jerusalem being reinhabited

Ho, ho, come forth, and flee from the land of the north, saith the Lord: for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven, saith the Lord.
Deliver thyself, O Zion, that dwellest with the daughter of Babylon.

Zechariah 2:6-7

- Scattered Israel will return
- ...from all around the world

- <sup>8</sup> For thus saith the Lord of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.
- 9 For, behold, I will shake mine hand upon them, and they shall be a spoil to their servants: and ye shall know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me.

Zechariah 2:8-9

 The return of Israel to their land will lead to judgment upon the nations

<sup>10</sup> Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the Lord.

Zechariah 2:9-10

- The return of Israel to their land will also lead to the Messiah coming to dwell in their midst
- See also Hosea 6:1-2

- And many nations shall be joined to the Lord in that day, and shall be my people: and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto thee.
- And the Lord shall inherit Judah his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again.
- Be silent, O all flesh, before the Lord: for he is raised up out of his holy habitation.

Zechariah 2:11-13

- A man with a measuring line will come at the appointed time
- His coming will be the trigger that will lead to Jerusalem being reinhabited
- Israel will return to their land from around the world
- This will then lead to a time of judgment upon the nations
- The Messiah will come to Zion
- The nations will be silenced

## The Appointed Time

- The issue is to do with ownership of the Promised Land
- Israel has been given it, but had forced to leave it
  - Babylon 606 B.C. /
  - Rome A.D.70 / Hadrian: A.D.132-135 'Palestina'
- From that time the land changed hands a number of times
  - The Byzantines
  - Muslim caliph Umar
  - Various Muslim rulers
  - Finally, in 1517 the Ottoman Turks (Selim I)

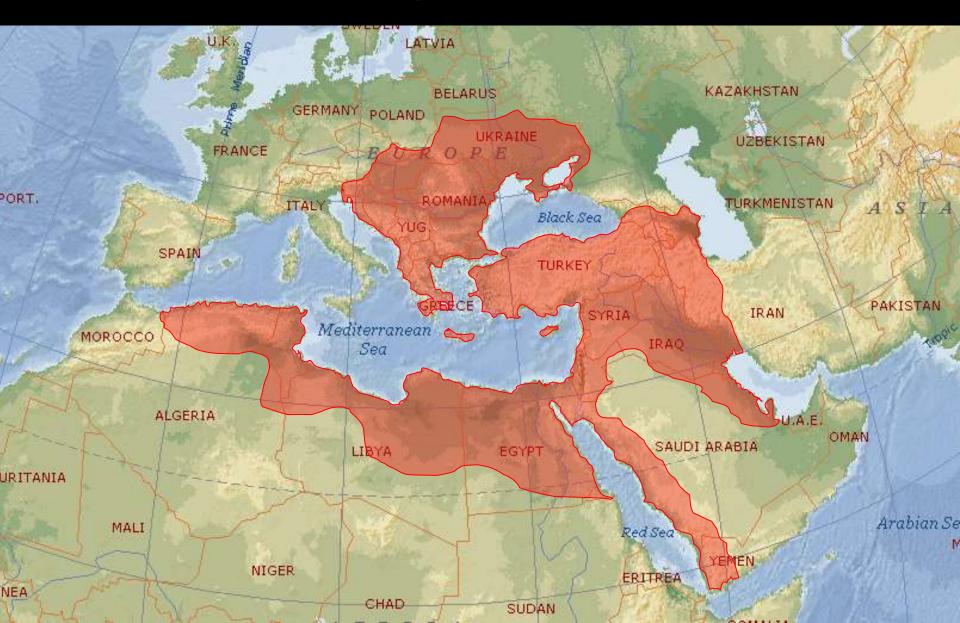
## Roman Empire 68 BC - 476 AD



# Byzantine Empire 330 - 1453



# Ottoman Empire 1517-1918



- And the LORD spake unto Moses in mount Sinai, saying,
- <sup>2</sup> Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye come into the land which I give you, then shall the land keep a sabbath unto the LORD.
- <sup>3</sup> Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof;

Leviticus 25:1-4

<sup>4</sup> But in the seventh year shall be a sabbath of rest unto the land, a sabbath for the LORD: thou shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vineyard.

Leviticus 25:1-4

- It was failure to obey this rule that led to the Babylon exile for 70 years
  - See 2 Chronicles 36:21

- And thou shalt number seven sabbaths of years unto thee, seven times seven years; and the space of the seven sabbaths of years shall be unto thee forty and nine years.
- Then shalt thou cause the trumpet of the jubile to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month, in the day of atonement shall ye make the trumpet sound throughout all your land.

Leviticus 25:8-9

- 10 And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubile unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family.
- 11 A jubile shall that fiftieth year be unto you: ye shall not sow, neither reap that which groweth of itself in it, nor gather the grapes in it of thy vine undressed.

**Leviticus 25:10-11** 

- 13 In the year of this jubile ye shall return every man unto his possession.
- 14 And if thou sell ought unto thy neighbour, or buyest ought of thy neighbour's hand, ye shall not oppress one another:
- According to the number of years after the jubile thou shalt buy of thy neighbour, and according unto the number of years of the fruits he shall sell unto thee:

**Leviticus 25:13-15** 

- In the year of Jubilee (the 50<sup>th</sup> year) the Land would return to its rightful owner
- That which had been lost or sold would be returned and restored
- The present owner would be required to sell the land back to its rightful owner
- Can we really expect this ancient land rule that God gave in the TORH would still apply?
  - God never changes!

- When was the last transference of the Land of Israel?
- 1517 The Ottoman Turks
- According to the law of Jubilee, after 50 years the Land should return to its original owner
  - Yet nothing happened in 1567 (50 years later)
- But God added another 'rule' in Leviticus 28

### The Rule of Seven Times

- <sup>23</sup> And if ye will not be reformed by me by these things, but will walk contrary unto me;
- Then will I also walk contrary unto you, and will punish you yet seven times for your sins.

**Leviticus 26:23-24** 

 God introduces the rule 7x more punishment for failure to return and obey Him

#### The Seventh Jubilee

- Rather than a single Jubilee (50 years) we should be looking for the seventh jubilee (350 years)
- The Law of Jubilee and the rule of Seven times...
  - from the last transference of the Land of Israel...
  - to the 'appointed time' at which the land should be transferred back to its original owner...
- Takes us to 1867

#### The Seventh Jubilee

 "In the Jubilee, the connection between the land and its owner is restored. Up until then the original owner has no right concerning the land. He can't even walk on it without the permission of the one now occupying it. But when the Jubilee comes, the owner can again walk on his land, farm it, build on it, and dwell in it. The barriers are removed. The owner's connection to the land and the land's connection to its owner are reaffirmed and restored" - Jonathan Cahn

#### The Seventh Jubilee

- However, we have already noted that the Ottoman Turks had possession of the Land..
  - and they were not about to simply relinquish their claim on the Land!
- But God does not work according to man's dictates
- God has set Laws in motion that no man can prevent or frustrate!
- God knows the end from the beginning, and will bring to pass, in His time, according to His Divine plan, all His pleasure!

## A Missing Star

- It all began in the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem with a conflict between the Greek Orthodox and Latin clergies that oversaw the sanctuary.
- It involved a metal star that had mysteriously disappeared.
- The Russian government sided with the Orthodox clergy, while the Ottoman Empire along with France, Britain, and Sardinia, sided with the Latin clergy.
- The conflict would lead to the Crimean War.

## An Empire in Trouble

- The war would prove a turning point for the Ottoman Empire.
- In the course of the conflict, the empire would enter into massive loans with its European creditors, the first of several that would lead to financial disaster and bankruptcy.
- Two years after the end of the Crimean War, the sultan enacted the 'Ottoman Land Code'.
- All land now had to be registered, so it could be taxed, so he could raise money.

- It would open the door for the large-scale buying and selling of Ottoman land. . .
- …including the Land of Israel
- But according to Ottoman law, no land could be sold to foreigners outside the empire.
  - Jews were scattered throughout the world and were considered foreigners who wouldn't be allowed to purchase land.
- But the law of the Jubilee states that the land must be transferred back to its original owner.
- So, it must come about one way or another...

- Significantly, the registration of the land didn't solve the empire's financial problems.
- The situation was critical enough to cause the government to do something unprecedented...
- Nine years after the first land code, the empire enacted a new law, a new Ottoman Land Code - the land could now be purchased by foreigner
  - That would include Jews!
- With the Jubilee, those who occupy the land must release it... they must relinquish it
  - Whether they want to or not!

- The effect of the law would be almost unnoticeable at first. But in time it would change the history of the Middle East and the modern world.
- Jewish people would begin purchasing their ancient land, at times through third parties and unknown to the Ottoman authorities.
- When the authorities realised what was happening, they tried to stop it.
- They placed a ban on Jews buying land in Palestine
- But Jews simply had others buy the Land for them

- The release of the land would continue nonetheless and would prepare the way for the return of the exiles!
  - And it only happened because of the Ottoman Land Code...
  - And the Ottoman Land Code only happened because of the Ottoman debt...
  - And the Ottoman debt only happened because of the European loans...
  - And the European loans only happened because of the Crimean War.
  - And the Crimean War only happened because of the missing star!"
  - All to bring to pass God's Divine plan to restore the land to Israel "I will choose Jerusalem!"

### "I Will Choose Jerusalem"

- All events are part of the Jubilee mystery.
- The mystery doesn't cause the events but causes all things to work together for the appointed purposes.
- When did this release of the land begin?
- 1867!
- The Seventh Jubilee!



#### The Seventh Jubilee

- But the releasing of the Land was not the only Divinely appointed event to take place in 1867
  - the Seventh Jubilee...
- There would also come to Israel a 'stranger' as prophesied by Moses 3,500 years before!
- ...and there would come a man with a measuring line!
  - As foretold by Zechariah!
- All in 1867, the Seventh Jubilee
  - The 7<sup>th</sup> Jubilee after the last transference of the Land
- All in accordance with God's Divine plan
- All in keeping with His promise to choose Jerusalem!
- All of this would be the catalyst for everything that follows

22 So that the generation to come of your children that shall rise up after you, and the stranger that shall come from a far land, shall say, when they see the plagues of that land, and the sicknesses which the Lord hath laid upon it;

Deuteronomy 29:22-23

23 And that the whole land thereof is brimstone, and salt, and burning, that it is not sown, nor beareth, nor any grass groweth therein, like the overthrow of Sodom, and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboim, which the Lord overthrew in his anger, and in his wrath:

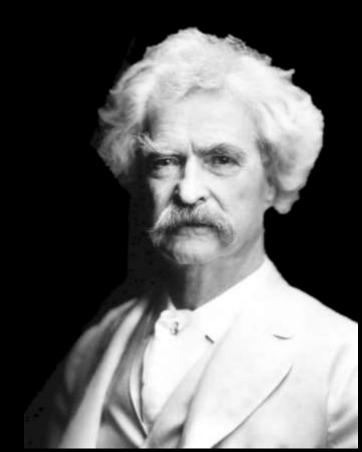
Deuteronomy 29:22-23

- Moses gave this prophecy of a stranger who would come from the ends of the earth, from a far away land.
- When he enters the land he will bear witness of its barrenness, its devastation and its desolation.
- The Hebrew word that speaks of the stranger is 'Nakri'
- It is singular, an individual.

- The prophecy specifies the time it was to be fulfilled by the Hebrew word "Akharone"
  - 'a coming generation', specifically 'the latter'
- So, this prophecy of a stranger coming to the Land refers to the end times.
- According to Moses, the stranger would come to the Land before another specific event:
- In fact, it would be a precursor to...
- The regathering of the people to the Land:

- In the year 1867 a 'stranger' from America boarded a steamship for a voyage that would take him around the world,
- He ended up in the Land of Israel, #
- ...specifically, the City of Jerusalem.
- The individual in question 'just happened' to be a journalist, and he kept a notebook of his journey.

- The stranger was none other than Mark Twain
  - Known as the father of American literature.
  - Author of Huckleberry Finn / Tom Sawyer



Upon arriving in the Land he wrote:

"Rags, wretchedness, poverty and dirt...Lepers, cripples, the blind ...

To see the number of maimed, malformed and diseased humanity that throng the holy places..."

- According to Moses the stranger would say: The whole land is brimstone, salt...
- So, Twain would bear witness:

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"...all desolate and unpeopled...

...miles of desolate country

...the far-reaching desolation

...the waste of a limitless desolation..."
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- According to the prophecy the stranger would say:
   "All the land is ... a burning waste"
- Or, as another translation puts it, "your land has become a scorching desert".
- So, Twain would write:
  - "It is a scorching, arid, repulsive, solitude.
  - Such roasting heat, such oppressive solitude, and such dismal desolation cannot surely exist elsewhere on earth...
  - Nowhere in all the waste around was there a foot of shade, and we were scorching to death

- The prophecy in Deuteronomy says that the land will become devoid of anyone to sow it,
- Twain wrote:
  - "All it's land is unsown... One may ride 10 miles, hereabouts, and not see ten human beings"
    "...these unpeopled deserts, these rusty mounds of barrenness, that never, never, never do shake the glare from their harsh outlines..."
  - "There is not a solitary village throughout its whole extent
  - not for thirty miles in either direction"

- Moses also prophesied that the Land would not bring forth produce "nor does it bear..."
- In the Hebrew the word *Tzamach* is used, which specifically refers to 'sprouting',
- Twain bears witness to the Land's inability to sprout vegetables, writing:

"The valleys are unsightly deserts fringed with a feeble vegetation... a desert, paved with lose stones, void of vegetation, glaring in the fierce sun... this blistering, naked, treeless Land"

- The prophecy states that the stranger who comes will specifically speak of grass, or rather the absence of it: "no grass grows in it"
  - or as one translation: "not even a blade of grass"
- Twain, in his notebook almost quotes scripture word for word! :

"No sprig of grass is visible"

- Mark Twain was a skeptic, and it is certain he had no intention of fulfilling a 3,500 year old Biblical prophecy,
- Yet in addition to the things already noted, scripture foretells that in the day of the Stranger it will be said:

27 And the anger of the Lord was kindled against this land, to bring upon it all the curses that are written in this book:

**Deuteronomy 29:27** 

Incredibly, Mark Twain wrote:

"Palestine sits in sackcloth and ashes. Over it broods the spell of a curse! ...Palestine is desolate and unlovely. And why should it be otherwise? Can the curse of the Deity beautify a land?"

Mark Twain's words appeared in articles across
 America and beyond and would become a witness to his generation, thus fulfilling the prophecy!

- And the timing was right on cue!
- It was when the Land was at it's most desolate, these events would be the prophetic key to set the stage for the redemption of the land and the return of its exiles - the Children of Israel!
- But there was another prophecy that was to be fulfilled before they could return.
- Just after Israel's return from Captivity in Babylon, Zechariah recorded the vision of 'a man with a measuring line'

#### The Jubilee Mystery

- "What must happen after the stranger's journey?
- The Jewish people must come back from their exile to the land. So then, the land must be made ready for their return. So, in accordance with ancient ordinance, the Ottoman Empire begins to release the land; the one occupying the land must release it.
- The stranger's journey began on June 8, 1867.
- The release began on June 10, 1867!
- So, of all the years and days of human history, the relinquishing of the land begins two days after the stranger's journey begins". - Jonathan Cahn

- That's why after two thousand years everything began in that particular year.
  - That's why the stranger had to undertake his journey in that particular year.
  - That's why the land had to be measured out in that particular year.
  - That's why the ancient city lying in the dust for two thousand years had to be found in that particular year.
  - And that's why the land had to be released at that exact time.

- It all had to happen in 1867 because 1867 was the year of Jubilee,
- ...the year of measuring, of transferring, of
- uncovering, and of relinquishing and release.
- It all happened in the year of the Jubilee, and in the seventh Jubilee, the 'complete Jubilee'

- "The Jubilee represents the setting in motion of God's purposes. It sets the stage. It inaugurates the course. It sets in motion the train of events that must take place in the coming period...The time until the next Jubilee. So then what took place in the Jubilee of 1867 would set in motion a train of events. A train of prophetic purposes that, with the passage of time, would become increasingly manifest"
  - Jonathan Cahn

- 1 Then I raised my eyes and looked, and behold, a man with a measuring line in his hand. So I said, "Where are you going?"
- 2 And he said to me, "To measure Jerusalem, to see what is its width and what is its length."

Zechariah 2:1-2

 Just as a builder uses a measuring line as he is planning to build, to prepare the foundation, so God did this with Israel, not just in Nehemiah's day, but in recent times also.

- What happens when you are about to take possession of a piece of land or a property?
- A survey has to be completed
- 'The land must be defined or redefined, its length, its breadth, its borders, its parameters. And if there's no existing survey, then a survey must be made. The land must be defined, mapped out . . . measured and so the measuring line. So in the days of Zechariah, when the Jewish people were returning to the land, the man with the measuring line comes to the city in a vision. And his appearance is a sign of what is yet to take place. It happened in the ancient world. So too it would happen again in the modern. The ancient sign would again manifest in the world . . . in modern times. The man with the measuring line would again come to Jerusalem. And his appearance would be a sign of what was yet to come'.
  - Jonathan Cahn

- The name of the man was Charles Warren.
  - He was a former head of the Metropolitan Police, and had served as an Officer in the British army as a member of the Royal Engineers.
  - The skills he learnt in so doing proved to be invaluable, for he was later recruited by the Palestine Exploration Fund and sent to the land of Israel on a mission to survey and map out Jerusalem, to measure the Holy City.
- The Land at that time was under the control of the Ottoman Turks who were suspicious of his activities. He was always being watched.

- Nevertheless: "Warren's work would constitute the first extensive excavation of biblical Jerusalem, the first extensive measuring of the biblical foundations of the Temple Mount and of the city itself. It would usher in a new age of biblical archaeology".
- Remember the Jubilee?
  - That which was lost must be restored
- The boundaries of the Land given by God to Moses, the inheritance allotted to the Children of Israel had long since been forgotten.
- Now they were being rediscovered!

- His mission was not just to survey Jerusalem as it was then but as it once was:
- "To measure its ancient parameters, the boundaries of ancient Jerusalem, the biblical city, to locate its ancient walls and borders, to uncover its foundations"
  - To restore that which had been lost!
- In order to do that, he had to dig through centuries of ruins and earth to get to the city's biblical foundations.

- Jonathan Cahn states:
- "In the Jubilee the connection between the land and its original owner is restored. And so the consequences of Warren's work were to restore and strengthen the long-lost connection of the Jewish people to the land. And with every restored connection, the idea that the Jewish people, after almost two thousand years, might somehow return to their homeland began to move one more step out of the realm of fantasy."

 "After nearly two thousand years of exile, the man with the measuring line reappeared in Jerusalem as a sign that God was about to bring about a restoration. A measuring line is used when one is about to build something. So then the reappearance of the man with the measuring line in the person of Charles Warren was a sign that God was about to act, to move again, to build something . . . to rebuild that which once was and had fallen . . . the nation of Israel!"

- "And when else do you use a measuring line?"
- When there's about to be a transference of land.
- So when the man with the measuring line appeared in Jerusalem, it was a sign that the land was going to be transferred ... back to the original owner. The land was being prepared for the return. So it was in ancient times when the prophet Zechariah revealed the meaning of the measuring line: "A measuring line will be stretched over Jerusalem . . . And the LORD will again comfort Zion and again choose Jerusalem"

- When the Jewish people lost their homeland and their Holy City in the first century, the Romans tried to erase every connection between the land of Israel and the people of Israel.
- They remade Jerusalem into a pagan city and called it Aelia Capitolina.
- And to further eradicate the connection of the Jewish people to their homeland, they renamed the land of Israel Palaestina, meaning the land of the Philistines.

- The erasing was so successful that for most of two thousand years the land of Israel would simply be known as Palestine.
- The Jews were even banned from setting foot in their Holy City.
- "So the owner was cut off from his land. And the other powers who would follow the Romans in occupying the land and the city would do similarly, obscuring the connection of the land to its people. But when the Jubilee comes, the connection between the owner and the land is restored, and that which was lost is regained". JC

- Charles Warren, "the man with the measuring line", didn't only measure Jerusalem.
- In order to map out ancient Jerusalem, he had to dig it up.
  - So he came with more than surveying equipment; he came with shovels and pickaxes.
- He uncovered the walls of the ancient city, ancient gates, and chambers.
- He uncovered what was hidden under the Temple Mount.

- But it was something else ...
- ...something he didn't plan on, something he would stumble upon, that would end up being his most dramatic discovery.
- It happened while he was crawling through one of Jerusalem's rock chambers with his assistant.
- He 'stumbled' upon a shaft.
- The shaft would lead to the discovery of an ancient city, a city hidden in the dust for two thousand years.

- For ages everyone thought the Biblical city of Jerusalem was inside the walls we see today.
  - Some of it was.
- But the original city of Jerusalem, the Biblical core, was outside the gates we know today
- Warren found it.
- He literally uncovered the core and Biblical city of Jerusalem that had lain hidden for nearly two thousand years, the city of David and Solomon, Isaiah, and Jeremiah. A city that had been lost for two thousand years

- "In the mystery of the Jubilee what has to take place? That which is lost, must be found, and the land must be restored to its original owner. So the Jerusalem that was lost was found again and this marked the beginning of the restoration of Jerusalem to the Jewish people. And according to the mystery of the Jubilee, the original connection between the owner and the land, Biblical Jerusalem and the Jewish people, was renewed".
  - Jonathan Cahn

- The shaft that Warren discovered linked up with Jerusalem's ancient water system.
- Why is that significant?
- It was through Jerusalem's ancient water system that King David's soldiers first entered Jerusalem and thus by which the nation first came into possession of the city.
- Warren's discovery thus renewed that ancient connection.
- This all happened in 1867!
  - The year of Jubilee!

• "So, Jerusalem is hidden in the earth for two thousand years, and of all the years to begin emerging . . . it happens in 1867 . . . the same year everything else happens! Remember the prophecy, The stranger comes to the land, and then what happens? The return, the regathering. The land was being readied. And the discovery was in the autumn of 1867. Why is that significant? Because it was in the autumn of 1867 that the stranger came to the land ...and to the city . . . and dwelt in the same dwelling place as Warren". JC

- Charles Warren would be called the pioneer of Jerusalem archaeology.
- He would lay the foundation for the uncovering of ancient Jerusalem.
- And with each uncovering, the connection between the Jewish people and the land would be revived, restored, and renewed.
- His measuring and mapping out of Jerusalem would prove so successful that it would open the door for a greater mission.

- The next decade would thus see the mapping out of the entire land.
- The survey would cover the area from Dan to Beersheba, the same borders given in the Bible to identify the land of Israel.
- And as they measured and mapped out the land, they discovered long-lost places, sites, and cities of Bible times.
- And with every discovery the connection between the Jewish people and the land was further restored and strengthened.

 All this would in turn be part of the building of momentum for a greater restoration that would take place in the following century...

- Zechariah's prophecy foretells that the 'man with the measuring line' wasn't there just to measure Jerusalem but to give a prophetic word.
- The word would concern the restoration of Jerusalem, a call to the exiles of Israel to return to the land and to the blessings that would await them there.

- After measuring Jerusalem and uncovering its ancient pathways, Warren returned to England.
- He would be led to write down a vision concerning the land and its future.
- It was not only a vision but a specific plan on how the vision could come to fruition.
- It was called Land of Promise.
  - Keep in mind the state of the land when Warren penned his words. It was the time of the stranger and the barren, grassless desolation.
  - That makes what he wrote all the more prophetic and stunning

- He wrote that the debt incurred by the Ottoman
   Empire could be used to bring about the return of the
   Jewish people to the land.
- He envisioned the Jewish people again learning how to farm the land.
- He believed the land could be watered and that the planting of trees would change the land's ecosystem.
- The deserts, he wrote, could be made to blossom!

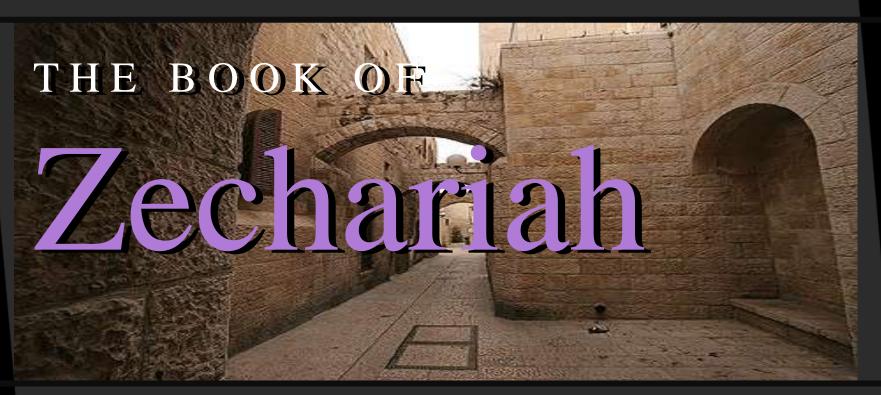
 "Where Twain could barely see how the land could support the most meager of populations, Warren wrote of a future where the land could accommodate millions of Jewish people. And yet even with such numbers, he believed that the new Jewish nation could attain a standard of living equal to that of the most advanced nations. With the return of the Jewish people and the blessings of God, the land known to the world as Palestine could again become the 'land flowing with milk and honey' as in the days of the Bible. Warren's vision was amazingly prophetic and, in the year and decades that followed, would come to pass" - JC

- Warren knew the biblical prophecies of Israel's rebirth, and it was those prophecies that gave him the confidence to envision what seemed otherwise unimaginable.
- By so doing, he would pen what is considered the first detailed vision and plan for the establishment of a Jewish state in the land of Israel.

- "The Ottoman Land Code of 1867 would set in motion a series of events that would lead to Israel's restoration. By the early twentieth century large tracts of the land had been purchased for the return of the Jewish people,
- When Twain and Warren came to Jerusalem in 1867, the Jewish people constituted a minority in that city. But within just a few years they had become the majority. Then just three years after Twain's visit and one year after the publishing of his book came the founding of Mikveh Yisrael. Mikveh Yisrael was the first school established to teach Jewish people how to farm the land. It was the first time in nearly two thousand years that Jewish people were being taught how to sow and reap the Promised Land, the first sign of a redemption that would transform the country." - JC







To be continued...