



THE BOOK OF

# Zechariah

*A verse by verse study*

# Zechariah - Overview

- Exhortation to repentance and obedience,
  - Don't repeat the mistakes of the past! Ch 1:1–6
- Eight Visions (some count 10 visions)
  - To encourage the rebuilding
- Joshua crowned as high priest
  - Messianic type Ch 6:9–15
- Jews from Bethel inquire re the fast Ch. 7, 8
- The first oracle or burden,
  - emphasizing Messiah's first advent Ch 9–11
- The second oracle or burden,
  - emphasizing Messiah's Second advent Ch 12–14

# Zechariah - Overview

- *“The scope of this final section (9 - 14) is the same as the visions of Chapters 1-6: from Zechariah’s time to the establishment of the Kingdom over Israel in blessing (Acts 1:6). The time the fasts become feasts”.*

- Chuck Missler



THE BOOK OF

# Zechariah

Chapter 11

# Chapter 11

- *“The predictions of this chapter were given long after the completion of the Temple of Zerubbabel, and address concerns in the more distant future from the prophet. There is to be a scattering of the people even after the time of Zechariah”.*

- Chuck Missler

- Following on from the previous chapter, where blessing and restoration were promised, the question is now, when will this be?
- How long will Israel have to wait?

# Chapter 11

- *“This Chapter explains why the blessings and promises of the previous chapter are in abeyance for Israel. By rejecting their true Shepherd-Messiah at his first advent, they will experience rejection themselves, climaxing in their accepting of the false shepherd in the time of their greatest woe”.*

- Chuck Missler

- There are a number of ‘desolations’ Zechariah could be speaking of in this chapter (both past and present) but the context suggests that the desolation by the Romans in A.D. 70 is in view

1 Open thy doors, O Lebanon, that the fire may devour thy cedars.

2 Howl, fir tree; for the cedar is fallen; because the mighty are spoiled: howl, O ye oaks of Bashan; for the forest of the vintage is come down.

3 There is a voice of the howling of the shepherds; for their glory is spoiled: a voice of the roaring of young lions; for the pride of Jordan is spoiled.

### **Zechariah 11:1-3**

- Cedars from Lebanon were used in the construction of the Temple
- Bashan is in Northern Israel
  - God's judgment fell on the land from the north in AD70

- *“There is one chorus of desolation, the mighty and the lowly; the shepherds and the young lions; what is at other times opposed is joined in one wailing.*
- *The pride of Jordan” are the stately oaks on its banks, which shroud it from sight, until you reach its edges, and which, after the captivity of the ten tribes, became the haunt of lions and their chief abode in Palestine...The lion lingered there even to the close of the 12th cent.”*

*- Albert Barnes*



34 Howl, ye shepherds, and cry; and wallow yourselves in the ashes, ye principal of the flock: for the days of your slaughter and of your dispersions are accomplished; and ye shall fall like a pleasant vessel.

35 And the shepherds shall have no way to flee, nor the principal of the flock to escape.

36 A voice of the cry of the shepherds, and an howling of the principal of the flock, shall be heard: for the Lord hath spoiled their pasture.

### Jeremiah 25:34-38

- Jeremiah's warning was given in advance of the Babylonian destruction...
- Zechariah's same warning is given in advance of the coming destruction by Rome

4 Thus saith the Lord my God; Feed the flock of the slaughter;

5 Whose possessors slay them, and hold themselves not guilty: and they that sell them say, Blessed be the Lord; for I am rich: and their own shepherds pity them not.

**Zechariah 11:4-5**

- Who is being instructed by God to feed this flock?
- Why feed them if they are destined for slaughter?
- Note the attitude of the 'possessors' – indifferent!
- It is as the time of the Judges (see Judg 21:25)
- Those (shepherds) who should have had care over them showed no concern

- *The Shepherd depicted by Zechariah can only be the Messiah. The reason they were called "the flock of slaughter" sprang from the fact that slaughter was their irrevocable destiny, just so long as the Jews preferred their own evil shepherds to the True One. Zechariah's instruction here to "Feed the flock" refers to Christ himself coming into the ranks of the Chosen People to instruct and lead them in the paths of righteousness. "Last of All"\* God sent his Son in the hope of averting their self-motivated dash to destruction"*

- James Coffman

\*Luke 20:13-15

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3 And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard.

4 What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes?

5 And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up; and break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down:

**Isaiah 5:3-7**

6 And I will lay it waste: it shall not be pruned, nor digged; but there shall come up briars and thorns: I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

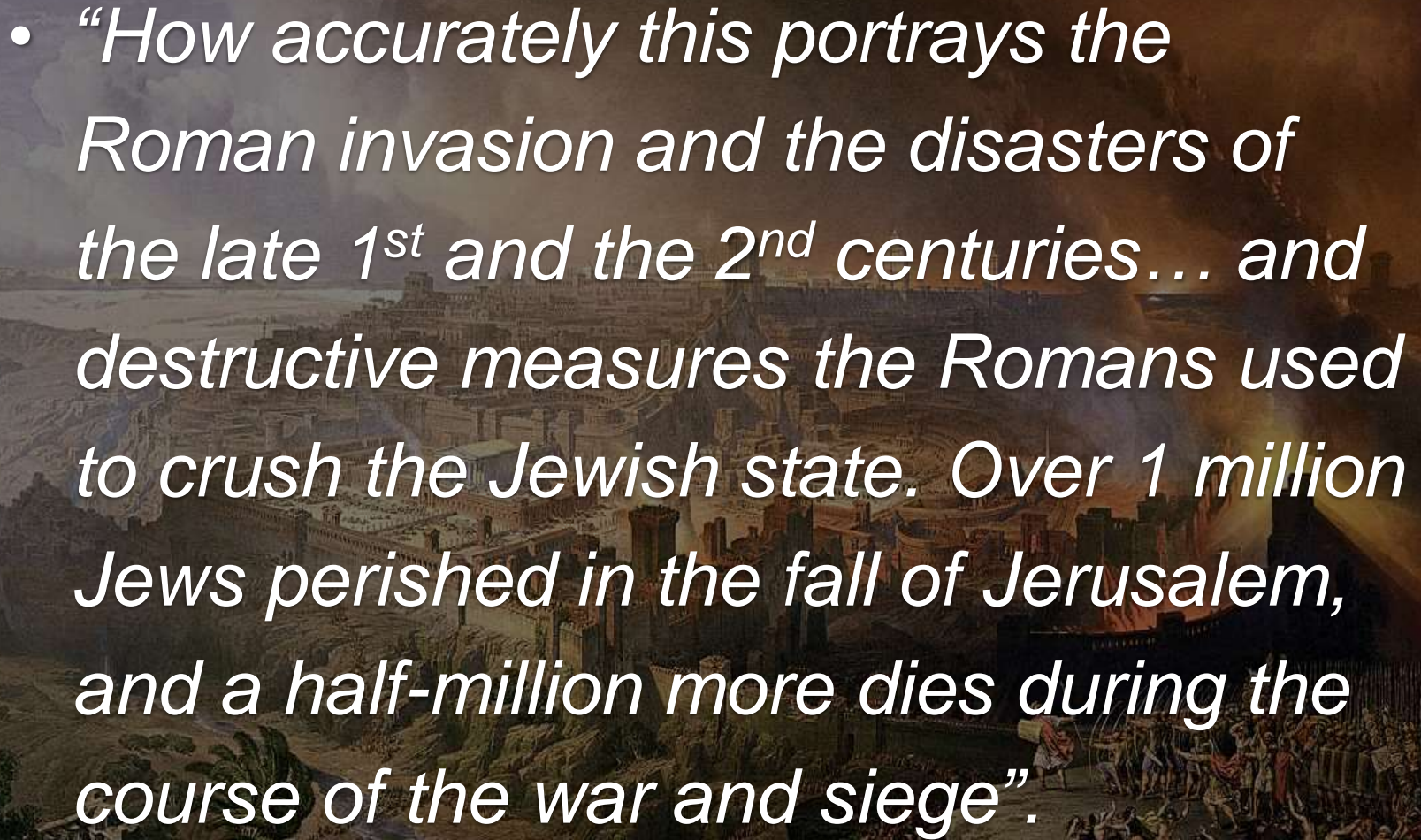
7 For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry.

**Isaiah 5:3-7**

6 For I will no more pity the inhabitants of the land, saith the Lord: but, lo, I will deliver the men every one into his neighbour's hand, and into the hand of his king: and they shall smite the land, and out of their hand I will not deliver them.

**Zechariah 11:6**

- God had made a covenant with Israel to keep the gentile nations restrained so long as Israel walked with God.
- But if they forsook that covenant God would forsake them
  - Lev 18:24-30 / Deut 4:26-31 / Deut 28

- 
- *“How accurately this portrays the Roman invasion and the disasters of the late 1<sup>st</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries... and destructive measures the Romans used to crush the Jewish state. Over 1 million Jews perished in the fall of Jerusalem, and a half-million more dies during the course of the war and siege”.*

- Chuck Missler



7 And I will feed the flock of slaughter, even you, O poor of the flock. And I took unto me two staves; the one I called Beauty, and the other I called Bands; and I fed the flock.

**Zechariah 11:7**

**Beauty** (“grace, or graciousness; pleasantness”); Naomi is of the same root, *Na’om*. (v.9 is an antithesis) Like a shepherd’s crook used to keep the sheep in line.

**Bands** (word has to do with making a covenant; *Hobhelim*: hobbel, bind, pledge.) A heavy stick, used to fight off wild animals or those who would try to steal the sheep.

– See Psalm 23

8 Three shepherds also I cut off in one month; and my soul loathed them, and their soul also abhorred me.

**Zechariah 11:8**

- Over 40 interpretations of this verse!
- Adam Clarke suggests: “Taking this *literally*, some think the *three shepherds* mean the *three Maccabees, Judas, Jonathan, and Simon*; others, the *three wicked high priests, Jason, Alcimus, and Menelaus*; others, the *three last princes of the Asmonean race, Alexander, Hyrcanus, and Antigonus*”.
- Missler postulates that it could refer to the leaders of Israel at the time of Christ
- Could it refer to the three ‘offices’ instituted to shepherd the nation? Prophet, Priest & King?

# God's Timing

- The Assyrians tried to destroy Jerusalem, but God prevented it
- **God DID allow the Babylonians to destroy it to fulfill His purposes and prophetic plan**
- The Persians, Greeks, and Seleucid empires all failed to destroy Jerusalem
- **God DID allow Rome to destroy it to fulfill His purposes and prophetic plan**

9 Then said I, I will not feed you: that that dieth, let it die; and that that is to be cut off, let it be cut off; and let the rest eat every one the flesh of another.

**Zechariah 11:9**

<sup>10</sup> And I took my staff, even Beauty, and cut it asunder, that I might break my covenant which I had made with all the people.

<sup>11</sup> And it was broken in that day: and so the poor of the flock that waited upon me knew that it was the word of the Lord.

### Zechariah 11:10-11

- God will no longer keep Israel in line, but rather hand them over to their enemies...

**Beauty** (“grace, or graciousness; pleasantness”); Naomi is of the same root, *Na’om*. (v.9 is an antithesis) Like a shepherd’s crook used to keep the sheep in line.

# Chastening in Love

4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,

5 To deliver such an one unto Satan **for the destruction of the flesh, that** the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

**1 Corinthians 5:4-5**

<sup>12</sup> And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver.

<sup>13</sup> And the Lord said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was prised at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the Lord.

### **Zechariah 11:12-13**

- Incredible prophecy! - 500 years before the event!
- Specific details:

# Incredible Prophecy!

- Given 500 years before the event!
- Specific details include:
  - Exact amount the Messiah was betrayed for
  - The amount was to be paid in silver
  - The transaction took place in the Temple
  - The coins were cast on the floor
  - The potter ended up with the money



# Incredible Prophecy!

- 3 Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders,
- 4 Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us? see thou to that.

**Matthew 27:3-4**

- 5 And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself.
- 6 And the chief priests took the silver pieces, and said, It is not lawful for to put them into the treasury, because it is the price of blood.
- 7 And they took counsel, and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in.
- 8 Wherefore that field was called, The field of blood, unto this day..

**Matthew 27:5-8**

9 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him that was valued, whom they of the children of Israel did value;

10 And gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord appointed me.

**Matthew 27:9-10**

- The prophecy was given by Zechariah
- ...but it was on the scroll that started with Jeremiah
- Spoken by Jeremiah?

# Significance of the details

- Silver is associated with blood/redemption
- The Tabernacle rested on sockets of silver
- Our salvation rests on the blood of Christ
- That which was purchased by the silver was a field of broken pieces of pottery
- Christ purchased the whole field to obtain the broken vessels that would be redeemed by His grace
- 30 pieces of silver was the price of a slave
  - Exodus 21:32

# The Price of Redemption

21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

**2 Corinthians 5:21**

2 So I bought her to me for fifteen pieces of silver, and for an homer of barley, and an half homer of barley:

Hosea 3:2

- The Hebrew word is: **hrK** karah denotes 'purchase' as from another
- Gomer had become a slave
- Her life was no longer her own
- In seeking to gain her life she had lost it!

# The Price of Redemption

- Gomer was put up at auction.
- There were three ways that one could become a slave:
  - by conquest;
  - by birth;
  - and by debt.
  - (We are slave by all three!)
- Slaves were always sold naked.
  - So are we.
- According to Exodus 21:32 the price for a slave was 30 shekels of silver

<sup>2</sup> So I bought her to me for fifteen pieces of silver,  
and for an homer of barley, and an half homer of  
barley:

Hosea 3:2

- The price Hosea pays is 15 (shekels) of silver
  - But that is only half the required price...
- He then adds 1 ½ homer's of barley



# The Price of Redemption

- *According to Ezekiel 45:11, the homer contained **ten baths** or **ephahs**, and a lethech was a half homer. Consequently, the prophet gave fifteen shekels of silver and fifteen ephahs of barley; and it is a very natural supposition, especially if we refer to 2 Kings 7:1; 2 Kings 16:18, that **at that time an ephah of barley was worth a shekel**, in which case the whole price would just amount to the sum for which, according to Exodus 21:32, it was possible to purchase a slave, and was paid half in money and half in barley. – Keil & Delitzch*

# The Price of Redemption

- Why is this significant?
- Firstly, note that the price was *paid in full*
- Secondly, if Hosea had possessed 30 shekels, he would no doubt have paid all in shekels
- The fact he didn't shows he gave *all he had* to purchase Gomer!
- This is what Christ has done!
- He has paid the price for Israel's (and our) redemption in full – Tetelestai!
- He gave all He had!

# The Price of Redemption

- 5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:
- 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:
- 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:
- 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

**Philippians 2:5-8**

14 Then I cut asunder mine other staff, even Bands, that I might break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.

**Zechariah 11:14**

- One thing the Lord does when we are not walking with Him is to take away our peace

**Bands** (word has to do with making a covenant; *Hobhelim*: hobbel, bind, pledge.) A heavy stick, used to fight off wild animals or those who would try to steal the sheep.

- In contrast: *“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee”*. – **Isaiah 26:3**

15 And the Lord said unto me, Take unto thee yet the instruments of a foolish shepherd.

16 For, lo, I will raise up a shepherd in the land, which shall not visit those that be cut off, neither shall seek the young one, nor heal that that is broken, nor feed that that standeth still: but he shall eat the flesh of the fat, and tear their claws in pieces.

### **Zechariah 11:15-16**

- Zechariah here speaks of 'another' shepherd who will not care for the sheep...
- ..but instead, will seek to devour the sheep!

**17** Woe to the idol shepherd that leaveth the flock! the sword shall be upon his arm, and upon his right eye: his arm shall be clean dried up, and his right eye shall be utterly darkened.

**Zechariah 11:17**

- We are here introduced (yet again) to 'Antichrist'

**43** I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.

**John 5:43**

17 Woe to the idol shepherd that leaveth the flock!  
the sword shall be upon his arm, and upon his right  
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43 I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me  
not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will  
receive.

**John 5:43**

- 1 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.
- 2 But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.
- 3 To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.

**John 10:1-3**



- 4 And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.
- 5 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.
- 6 This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them.

**John 10:4-6**

- 7 Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.
- 8 All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them.
- 9 I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.
- 10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

**John 10:7-10**

- 11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.
- 12 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.
- 13 The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.

**John 10:11-13**

**17** Woe to the idol shepherd that leaveth the flock!  
the sword shall be upon his arm, and upon his right  
eye:his arm shall be clean dried up, and his right eye  
shall be utterly darkened.

**Zechariah 11:17**

- Revelation 13:3 tells us that Antichrist will receive a fatal head wound.... but will 'rise again'
- Does this verse describe the effects of the injury he sustains?
- It is provocative that it is his hand (arm) and forehead (head) that are affected... precisely the place his follower's will receive his mark!



THE BOOK OF

# Zechariah

Chapter 12

1 The burden of the word of the Lord for Israel, saith the Lord, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him.

2 Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem.

3 And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.



# A Cup of Trembling

- Jerusalem is mentioned over 800x in the Bible...
- Jews, Muslims, Christians (Catholic's) have all laid claim to this ancient city
- The is the constant source of world attention and divide's opinion like no other city on earth!



# A Cup of Trembling

- Significantly, Jerusalem has become all that God said it would be...
- But the most overlooked claim in regard to Jerusalem is the God says it is His city!
- He will ultimately 'cut in pieces' all the nations of the earth that gather themselves together against it.
- At some point yet future, a confederacy of nations will lay siege to Judah and Jerusalem
  - (with the intent of destroying the Jews)



<sup>4</sup> **In that day,** saith the Lord, I will smite every horse with astonishment, and his rider with madness: and I will open mine eyes upon the house of Judah, and will smite every horse of the people with blindness.

<sup>5</sup> And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart, The inhabitants of Jerusalem shall be my strength in the Lord of hosts their God.

### **Zechariah 12:4-5**

- ‘In that day...’ occurs 20x in Zechariah
  - 6 times in Chapter 12
- It is a connotative reference to ‘the Day of the LORD’
- Denotatively it refers to the final climactic battle

6 In that day will I make the governors of Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left: and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, even in Jerusalem.

7 The Lord also shall save the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem do not magnify themselves against Judah.

**Zechariah 12:6-7**

– See Jer 49:14 / Joel 3:11 / Rev 19:17

8 In that day shall the Lord defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God, as the angel of the Lord before them.

9 And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

### **Zechariah 12:8-9**

- We have seen God defend Jerusalem on a number of occasions in history:
  - **Against the Assyrians / Alexander / in 1948 / 1967**
- God will again intervene in History to preserve His people and city

<sup>10</sup> And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

**Zechariah 12:10**

- Israel's national repentance will lead to national restoration
- They will recognize Yeshua as their Messiah
- When will this occur?

<sup>15</sup> I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early.

Hosea 5:15

- Though given in the context of the coming Assyrian invasion, the prophetic overtones of this verse are clear!
- When did God 'leave His place'?
- The Incarnation!
- It will be at the hand of 'The Assyrian' **Is 10:24, 14:25** that Israel will in great affliction
- That will cause Israel to seek God 'earnestly'

# Future National Repentance

- 1 Come, and let us return unto the Lord: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.
- 2 After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

Hosea 6:1-2

# Acts 15 Council

<sup>13</sup> And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me:

<sup>14</sup> Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.

<sup>15</sup> And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written,

<sup>16</sup> After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up:

Acts 15:13-16

# Blindness Removed

- When will Israel's blindness be removed?

<sup>25</sup> For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

Romans 11:25



# Fullness of the Gentiles

When will the fullness of the Gentiles be come in?

- Some think it will be the Rapture

However, two difficulties:

- Gentiles continue 'coming in' (are saved) during the Tribulation
- Israel's blindness is not lifted at the time of the Rapture
- In fact: We know from John 5:43 that Israel will accept 'Antichrist' staying in spiritual blindness – for the first three & half yrs of the Tribulation

# Fullness of the Gentiles

If we ask:

When is the fullness of the Gentiles come in?

(When are the last Gentiles saved?)

# Fullness of the Gentiles

<sup>1</sup> And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.

2 And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

Revelation 15:1-2

- No one saved from this point?

# Fullness of the Gentiles

If we now ask:

When will Israel's blindness be removed?

# Fullness of the Gentiles

<sup>15</sup> I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early.

Hosea 5:15

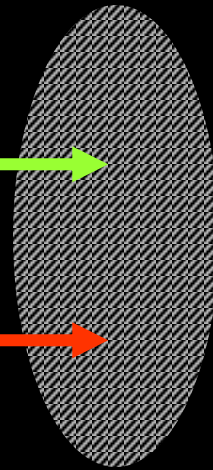
- Israel's affliction will occur from the midpoint of the Tribulation onwards

# Fullness of the Gentiles

Israel's Blindness



Last Gentiles Saved



Beginning of Sorrows

Great Tribulation

7yrs of Tribulation

10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

**Zechariah 12:10**

10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me **את** whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn...

Zechariah 12:10

וְשָׁפַכְתִּי עַל-בֵּית דָּוִד וְעַל יוֹשְׁבֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם רוּחַ  
חַן וְתַחֲנוּנִים וְהִבִּיטוּ אֵלַי **אֶת** אֲשֶׁר-דָּקְרוּ וְסָפְדוּ עָלָיו כ  
מִסֵּפֶד עַל-הַיָּחִיד וְהֵמַר עָלָיו כְּהֵמַר עַל-הַבְּכוֹר:

- Hebrew: Aleph (א) and Tau (ת)
- Greek equivalent: Alpha (Α) and Omega (Ω)
- *“They will look upon me, the Alpha and Omega, whom they have pierced...”*





<sup>11</sup> In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon.

**Zechariah 12:11**

- The mourning in Jerusalem will be on account of the acknowledgment of their (Israel's) national sin
- Haadrimmon is a compound name of two of the Syrian gods.
  - It was a place 4 miles from Megiddo
- These 'gods' had been defeated by Israel causing great mourning
  - acknowledgment that you have been wrong is hard!

12 And the land shall mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart;

13 The family of the house of Levi apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart;

14 All the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart.

### **Zechariah 12:12-14**

- The king, the Prophet, the priest and all people will be in mourning and repentance.
  - Shimei: see 2 Sam 16:5-13 & 2 Sam 19:16-20



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*To be continued ...*