

**“Here Comes Messiah”
Zechariah 9-14**

Minor Prophets: Message 17

March 21, 2010

Vineland Park Baptist Church, Hueytown, Alabama

Jim Gunn

Zechariah, whose name means “God Remembers”, is one of the last three OT writing prophets. Zechariah ministered with Haggai and followed Haggai by only two months. While Haggai’s ministry was short it was effective. Zechariah ministered for three years in Judah. Malachi follows Haggai and Zechariah by about 90 years and closes the OT.

Then the world will wait for nearly five centuries until John the Baptist appears as the forerunner of Christ. John and Jesus are fulfilling the words of the prophets.

In Chapters 1-8, Zechariah gives us eight “Visions in the Night” whereby the LORD of hosts gave assurance to Zerubbabel the governor and to Joshua the high priest that “the earth was resting quietly.” That meant that the people could continue to rebuild the temple without interference from their enemies. At the end of Zechariah Chapter 8 it is 515 B.C. and worship in the temple has resumed.

Zechariah has dealt with the past, “God Remembers,” then he turns to the future from his time and makes some of the most amazing prophecies concerning Messiah. Frankly, we shouldn’t call these prophecies “amazing” because whatever the LORD says through His prophets must surely come to pass.

“It is thus that the whole Scripture hangs together and divine predestination is shown in every minute and unseen part.” CDA

“God foreknows because He predestinates!” thunders Luther.

“Here Comes Messiah”!

The NT interprets the OT and that principle is given to us by the Apostle Peter. “All the prophets from Samuel, as many have spoken, have foretold of those days” (Acts 3:24), and, “Unto us the prophets did minister the things which are now reported unto you...” (1 Peter 1:12). Peter, James, John, Paul, all the NT writers all inspired by the Holy Spirit, interpret the OT prophets.

Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. Rev 19:10

E.g. the vision of the Man with the Measuring Line pictures a city far too vast to be taken as the literal Jerusalem. The NT gives us Jesus claiming to be the Temple. The temple is no longer one made of stones, the Temple is Christ. The city of Jerusalem is Mount Zion, the heavenly Jerusalem; Christ and His Church.

Zechariah, like Ezekiel, was a priest. Zechariah is the grandson of Iddo, a priest who was among the captives in Babylon who came to Jerusalem.

And Zechariah was evangelical as he opens his prophecy with a call to repentance.

Zech 1:4

Thus says the LORD of hosts: “Turn now from your evil ways and your evil deeds.”

This message is not intended to be a verse-by-verse exposition but rather to emphasize the prophecies about Messiah.

Chapter 9

1 “The burden of the word of the LORD
Against the land of Hedrach....”

The “burden” of a prophet was his message or his oracle from God.

Hedrach represents Persia, the world power at the time of Zechariah. This is a prophecy of the overthrow of Persia by Greece led by Alexander the Great.

Daniel’s interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar’s dream is right on schedule. There were to be four world powers: Babylon the power at the time of the dream, now Medo-Persia, and then Greece. Rome will follow on God’s infallible schedule.

Strong's Hebrew dictionary does not give a meaning for "Hedrach" but 19th century Hengstenberg, famous for his Christology of the Old Testament, says it is a name which denotes in the Hebrew the strong becoming weak, and was used prophetically concealing the identity of Persia to avoid unnecessary offence to the ruling power under which the Jews were being permitted to re-establish themselves in Palestine.

If you follow on a map the path of countries listed in verses 9:1-8 you will see that it is the route taken by Alexander the Great as he conquered the then known world.

Alexander moves down the coast of Asia Minor: Damascus, Hamath, Tyre and Sidon, Ashkelon, Gaza, Ekron, Ashdod, and Philistia until he comes to Judea and in the providence of God he passes it by.

After announcing the overthrow of the Persian Empire the prophet Zechariah looks to the future beyond Greece where the Roman Empire is in control but then even further to the final world Kingdom of God in Christ. But this kingdom is not to be an earthly kingdom with geographical boundaries; it is a kingdom of the souls of men and women submitted to King Jesus.

Remember that the prophet Daniel had been given the ability to interpret God's providential outline for the future of the kingdoms of this world.

A quick review of Daniel's interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream should help us to see the importance of Zechariah's prophecy. King Nebuchadnezzar was troubled and called for his wise men to tell him the meaning of his dream. The wise men said, Okay, tell us what you dreamed and we will tell you what it means. Nothing doing said the king; you tell me what I dreamed and its meaning.

O king; no one can do that! The king was so angry that he ordered that all the wise men of Babylon be killed. But Daniel went to Arioch and asked for permission to interpret Nebuchadnezzar's dream. Read all of Daniel 2 for this fascinating account of God's power to turn the hearts of kings.

Dan 2:24-35

²⁴ Therefore Daniel went to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise *men* of Babylon. He went and said thus to him: "Do not destroy the wise *men* of Babylon; take me before the king, and I will tell the king the interpretation."

²⁵ Then Arioch quickly brought Daniel before the king, and said thus to him, "I have found a man of the captives* of Judah, who will make known to the king the interpretation."

²⁶ The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, "Are you able to make known to me the dream which I have seen, and its interpretation?"

²⁷ Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, "The secret which the king has demanded, the wise *men*, the astrologers, the magicians, and the soothsayers cannot declare to the king. ²⁸ But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days. Your dream, and the visions of your head upon your bed, were these: ²⁹ As for you, O king, thoughts came *to your mind while* on your bed, *about* what would come to pass after this; and He who reveals secrets has made known to you what will be. ³⁰ But as for me, this secret has not been revealed to me because I have more wisdom than anyone living, but for *our* sakes who make known the interpretation to the king, and that you may know the thoughts of your heart.

³¹ "You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor *was* excellent, stood before you; and its form *was* awesome. ³² This image's head *was* of fine gold [Babylon], its chest and arms of silver [Medo-Persia], its belly and thighs of bronze [Greece], ³³ its legs of iron [Rome], its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. ³⁴ You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. ³⁵ Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth. [The Gospel Kingdom of Christ]

Then in verse 44:

Dan 2:44

And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.

And how is this kingdom going to conquer its subjects?

'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,'
Says the LORD of hosts. Zech 4:6

The Holy Spirit, says Jesus, is like the wind or Elijah's still small voice

With that we will look at the several prophecies regarding King Jesus.

In 9:9-17, Zechariah prophesies about the Kingdom of Christ.

Christ's kingdom is not one of world domination but lowly and humble where people willingly submit to King Jesus.

The King is coming!

Zech 9:9

⁹"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, your King is coming to you;
He *is* just and having salvation,
Lowly and riding on a donkey,
A colt, the foal of a donkey.

All four Gospels record the Triumphal Entry of King Jesus into Jerusalem.

Let's read Matthew's account of this event.

[Cf. Mark 11:1-10; Luke 19:29-38; John 12:12-15]

Matt 21:1-5

Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose *them* and bring *them* to Me. ³ And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them."

⁴ All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying:

⁵"*Tell the daughter of Zion,
'Behold, your King is coming to you,
Lowly, and sitting on a donkey,
A colt, the foal of a donkey.'*"

The Triumphal Entry of the Christ into Jerusalem is a very unusual thing. In almost all of the events before this time we find Jesus avoiding the crowds and telling those He healed not to tell anyone.

But this event is very public and the enthusiasm of the multitudes incites the Pharisees to exclaim in utter panic and frustration:

"Look, the world has gone after Him!"

It is very important to remember that Jesus came voluntarily to Jerusalem knowing that His hour [the time of His death] had come.

This open declaration of His majesty is not hard to explain. The time had come for Jesus to go to the cross as the Lamb of God. It is the Passover Week, and Christ who is the true Passover is going to die for the sins of His people. The blood of the true atonement for sin will be shed in just a few days.

Now the multitude shouts, “Hosanna!” Save Now! And in a week they shout “Crucify Him!”

The nature of the Kingdom of Christ is seen in His humility.

In John 6:15 the people tried to make Him their political earthly king but He withdrew from them. Here He declares that He is indeed the King of Israel as He fulfills Zechariah 9:9.

John 6:14-15

¹⁴ Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."

¹⁵ Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone.

Where do those who teach that Jesus “offered” the Jews a physical political kingdom and that they rejected it find any support in the Scriptures? It was the other way around. The Jews wanted to make Him a literal king on a literal throne and He rejected them! What the Jews rejected was the Messiah who did not conform to their conception of an earthly king.

All of the types intended in the sacrificial system are summed up in the cry of John the Baptist:

“Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” John 1:29

The Triumphal Entry occurred on the Sunday of the Passover Week and because of the spreading of the leaves of the date palm in His path it has been called “Palm Sunday.”

“Zion’s King comes, righteous and having salvation, riding upon an ass. He speaks in peace and not in war to the great heathen nations and without perceptible power establishes His dominion from sea to sea and from the river to the ends of the earth.

“The literal fulfillment of Christ’s humble entry into Jerusalem on the borrowed colt, with the poor garments of His disciples as the trappings on which He rides, with the plaudits of the poor and not of the great acclaiming Him as the King of Israel, is itself prophetic of the nature of His Kingdom and the manner of its establishment. It comes not with observation.

The literal becomes the clothing of the spiritual. It is not enough to say that the prophecy was literally fulfilled with Christ’s entry into Jerusalem. It was; but that was only the beginning of the fulfillment of that spiritual kingdom which for 2,000 years has grown from imperceptible origins into a kingdom which fills the whole earth.” CDA

Chapter Ten

Your eschatology interprets Scripture.

Zech 10:1

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

“The latter rain in Palestine was the last rain before harvest and if it failed there would be famine. Pentecost, as its name and circumstance indicate, was the essential preliminary to God’s harvest time in the world when Christ from the throne above sent down His Spirit in gracious showers to sprinkle many nations and extend His reign over all the earth.” CDA

The feast of Pentecost was before the harvest of the fields.

Spiritual Pentecost [Acts 2] introduced the beginning of a great harvest of souls into the Kingdom of Christ.

Chapter Eleven

If ever a person wanted to find the plenary inspiration of Scripture, Zechariah 11 is the place to look. The very price paid by the Jews to Judas to betray Christ is given. Before the prophecy of the thirty pieces of silver Zechariah predicts the breaking of the covenant.

There are two groups involved. There is the “flock of slaughter” because the vast majority of the people were headed for eternal destruction. But as always within that group is a remnant according to the election of grace, “the poor of the flock.”

Rom 11:5

Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

Matt 5:3

"Blessed *are* the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Zech 11:4-12

⁴ Thus says the LORD my God, "Feed the flock for slaughter, ⁵ whose owners slaughter them and feel no guilt; those who sell them say, 'Blessed be the LORD, for I am rich'; and their shepherds do not pity them. ⁶ For I will no longer pity the inhabitants of the land," says the LORD. "But indeed I will give everyone into his neighbor's hand and into the hand of his king. They shall attack the land, and I will not deliver *them* from their hand."

⁷ So I fed the flock for slaughter, in particular the poor of the flock. I took for myself two staves: the one I called Beauty, and the other I called Bonds; and I fed the flock. ⁸ I dismissed the three shepherds in one month. My soul loathed them, and their soul also abhorred me. ⁹ Then I said, "I will not feed you. Let what is dying die, and what is perishing perish. Let those that are left eat each other's flesh." ¹⁰ And I took my staff, Beauty, and cut it in two, that I might break the covenant which I had made with all the peoples. ¹¹ So it was broken on that day. Thus the poor of the flock, who were watching me, knew that it *was* the word of the LORD.

Three shepherds are cut off, these three “shepherds” are the leaders of the people; kings, prophets, and priests.

Since the time of Christ’s first coming and the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple in 70 A.D. there has been no king, prophet, or priest in Israel.

Zechariah predicts the breaking of the covenant, symbolized in the breaking of the two staffs, Beauty and Bonds “in that day” the day when they crucified Him.

This echoes in the words of Jesus in John 10:

John 10:22-30

²² Now it was the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem, and it was winter. ²³ And Jesus walked in the temple, in Solomon's porch. ²⁴ Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, "How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly."

²⁵ Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. ²⁶ But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. ²⁷ My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. ²⁸ And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of My Father's hand. ³⁰ I and My Father are one."

Thirty Pieces of Silver

Zech 11:12-13

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

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

Zechariah, as a prophet, speaks as Christ and asks for His wages. His office is terminated and the earthly nation is no longer His flock. They have become the “flock of slaughter.”

The danger of making prophecy rigidly literal is that it just won't work.

In 11:12-13 there is an intermingling of literal and spiritual. If you insist on literal only the prophecy fails to be fulfilled.

The LORD says in verse 9, “I will not feed you.” That means the Word of God is denied and the covenant has been broken. Thus the Shepherd asks for His wages.

His price is thirty pieces of silver.

Alexander points out a fact that is missed by most of the commentators. In its fulfillment the Shepherd, Jesus Christ, never received His wages, in fact He never saw them because the thirty pieces of silver was given to Judas Iscariot. So you must see that the literal blends with the spiritual. The thirty pieces of silver paid as the price of a useless slave is not missed by any of the interpreters but the price was not given to the Shepherd.

Then in verse 13 the Shepherd gives the money to the temple potter; but the potter never got the money because it was given by Judas back to the priests.

The priests could not put it back in the treasury because it was blood money so they purchased with it the potter's field at the entrance to the valley of Hinnom outside the city walls, and dedicated it to the unworthy purpose of burying strangers – gentiles – whose bodies would have defiled any Jewish cemetery.

If you have followed me the prophecy of Zechariah is clearly intended to refer to Christ, but the details are not fulfilled literally. The Shepherd does not receive the money and He does not give the money to the potter. Does this mean that the prophecy was not actually fulfilled; only if you insist on a rigid literal interpretation?

Referring again to Charles Alexander:

JEREMIAH EXPLAINS ZECHARIAH

“But why should the potter be mentioned? Because the roots of Zechariah's post exilic prophecy are sunk deep in Jeremiah's pre-exilic prophecy, and to obtain the meaning we must go back to Jeremiah, to the familiar but much misused passage, Jeremiah, chapters 18-19.

“Jeremiah is instructed by the Lord to go down to the potter's house – the house of the craftsman who was employed to care for the Temple pottery. There he sees the Master – Potter (who represents the Lord Himself) at work upon the wheels. The vessel being turned is marred and the potter crushes the clay, and makes another vessel. The action is explained to Jeremiah. The vessel is Israel after the flesh. The nation has failed and is rejected and is appointed for destruction. Another vessel – the mystic N.T. Church – is raised out of the ruin of the first.

“The action is extended to chapter 19 where in obedience to the Word of the Lord, Jeremiah takes an earthen vessel and proceeds to the valley of the Son of Hinnom which is by the east gate of Jerusalem – the gate which looks out the gentile world. There, in the presence of the priests and elders of Jerusalem he smashes the earthen jar and declares,

“Thus saith the Lord of Hosts, Even so will I break this people and this city, as one breaketh a potter’s vessel that cannot be made whole again: and they shall bury them in Tophet till there be no place to bury”.

“This is the irrevocable doom of the nation of Israel. The vessel can never be put together again, and whatever ideas of Latter Day Glory may be entertained by some of our friends, they had better reckon with Jeremiah and Zechariah before they come to a ready conclusion. They may find that with all their skill they cannot put together again the broken vessel.

“That Zechariah was the inspired successor of Jeremiah in his prophecy is clear from Jeremiah 19:6, where the valley of Hinnom, or Tophet, is re-named “The Valley of Slaughter”. From this source Zechariah derives the description, “The flock of slaughter” in the very chapter we are dealing with (chapter 11).” CDA

The two prophecies of Jeremiah and Zechariah hang together. The priests of the Temple in Christ’s day got their money back and they purchased the potter’s field to bury strangers therein, but they did not know they were paying for their own funeral as a nation, with the betrayal money.

The Jews were the real strangers and gentiles, though they boasted of being the children of Abraham; the believing gentiles were the true Israel, the true children of Abraham, as Peter and Paul tell us in the NT.

A careful reader of the Bible might notice an apparent discrepancy.

Matthew quotes in his gospel, Zech 11:12-13.

Matt 27:9-10

⁹ Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, *“And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced, ¹⁰ and gave them for the potter’s field, as the LORD directed me.”*

“But it was not Jeremiah but Zechariah who used the words referred to by Matthew. Why should Matthew attribute to Jeremiah what belonged to Zechariah?”

“A mistake! Shout the critics. But our readers by now will know there was no mistake. The roots of Zechariah’s prophecy, as we have plainly shown, were in Jeremiah, and Matthew, under unerring inspiration, knowingly and deliberately refers his readers to Jeremiah as the primary source of the prophecy, and at the same time the Holy Spirit warns us thereby that we must not interpret Zechariah’s word without recourse to Jeremiah: and when we do so, we discover the spiritual nature of the prophecy altogether overshadowing the literal elements. And that is the rule of prophecy.” CDA

Our Lord Jesus was sold for the price of a useless servant.

Ex 21:32

If the ox gores a male or female servant, he shall give to their master thirty shekels of silver, and the ox shall be stoned.

Chapter 12

Zech 12:1

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

Is there a clearer statement of God as the Creator in all of Scripture?

Thus says the LORD, who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him:

Zechariah opens his last sermon, his burden, by reminding his hearers that the LORD is the Creator and that He knows what is in man.

John 2:23-25

²³ Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did. ²⁴ But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all *men*, ²⁵ and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man.

The Day of the Gospel

Zech 12:8-9

⁸ In that day the LORD will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; the one who is feeble among them in that day shall be like David, and the house of David *shall be* like God, like the Angel of the LORD before them. ⁹ It shall be in that day *that* I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

“Here is a view of the gospel which transcends all the glory of the Old Covenant. The great deliverer in the Old Testament was David. He was the pattern of Kingship, the shepherd of his people. The Kingdom really began with him. But in the Kingdom of Christ, the meanest believer will be as the royal house of David, while the House of David itself will appear as God – for in Christ’s Kingdom, deity is enthroned. Nothing but the gospel can explain this verse. The Saviour Himself, in His earthly ministry, plainly had this verse in mind when He said:

“Verily I say unto you, ‘Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he’ ” (Matthew 11:11).

In what way are NT believers greater than John the Baptist?

Not in regeneration because all believers, OT and NT, are born again.

Not in faith, because the paradigm of faith in Hebrews 11 are all OT believers.

The NT believers are greater in the revelation given to them as to the meaning of the Scriptures. We have the inspired writers of the NT to explain to us what the prophets had to say.

Jesus told His disciples:

John 16:25

“These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; but the time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but I will tell you plainly about the Father.

We have Christ instead of Moses; we have worship in Spirit and Truth, we have the true Temple, the true Altar, the true Sacrifice, and the true High Priest, all revealed to us in the NT.

Zech 12:10

¹"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced.

In Zechariah 12:9 Jerusalem is the heavenly city and in verse 10 the "house of David" is the Church. The Spirit of grace and supplication was poured out at Pentecost.

All those who "look on Me whom they pierced" can be nothing less than the church of the redeemed of the Lord.

The old song asks, "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?"
No, you were not there and neither was I except by faith.

Have you seen, by faith, Jesus on the cross with riven side and blood outpoured?
Then this verse is for you.

John 19:28-37

²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" ²⁹ Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put *it* on hyssop, and put *it* to His mouth. ³⁰ So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

³¹ Therefore, because it was the Preparation *Day*, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and *that* they might be taken away. ³² Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him. ³³ But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. ³⁴ But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. ³⁵ And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe. ³⁶ For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, "*Not one of His bones shall be broken.*" ³⁷ And again another Scripture says, "*They shall look on Him whom they pierced.*"

Verses 11-14 continue with personal repentance since it refers to individual husbands and wives. This is Gospel ground.

As I said I am not attempting a verse-by-verse exposition but I am emphasizing the Gospel prophecies in this second part of Zechariah and especially his last three chapters.

Chapter 13

Zech 13:1

"In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness.

As we quoted John's Gospel we now quote John's first epistle:

1 John 5:6-8

⁶This is He who came by water and blood – Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. ⁷For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. ⁸And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.

Oh, sing with gusto,

“There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel's veins.”

Then who can deny that verse 7 is about our Lord Jesus?

Zech 13:7

"Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd,
Against the Man who is My Companion,"
Says the LORD of hosts.
"Strike the Shepherd,
And the sheep will be scattered;
Then I will turn My hand against the little ones.

It was God the Father who sent His Son into the world that whoever believes on Him shall be saved. It was God the Father who smote Him on the cross.

Read Isaiah 53:10:

Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him;
He has put *Him* to grief.

Here is the meaning of Creation and everything that God purposed to do. God glorifies Himself in the salvation of sinners by the sacrifice of His Son.

John 10:11-16

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. ¹² But a hireling, *he who is* not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. ¹³ The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd; and I know *My sheep*, and am known by *My own*. ¹⁵ As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. ¹⁶ And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock *and* one shepherd.

Chapter 14

My purpose in this message and time does not permit a full exposition of Chapter 14 but there are a few things that must be mentioned.

Jesus has already stood on the Mount of Olives as prophesied in Zech 14:4.

The earthquake in 14:5:

John Kitto writes:

“That must have been a dreadful earthquake which took place in the reign of king Uzziah; for it is clear that it made a deep impression upon the public mind. Amos dates his prophetic call from “two years before the earthquake;” and, so long as 250 years after, Zechariah reminds the people how their fathers “fled from before the earthquake in the days of king Uzziah.” [Kitto, 1845]

Verse 16 refers to the Feast of Tabernacles and for its fulfillment you need only read John 7

John 7:37-39

³⁷ On the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. ³⁸ He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." ³⁹ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy* Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

We will look at just one more fulfillment of Zechariah by Christ in the NT.

Zech 14:21 ... In that day there shall no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts.

John 2:13-17

¹³ Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. ¹⁵ When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables. ¹⁶ And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!" ¹⁷ Then His disciples remembered that it was written, "*Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up.*"

The Hebrew word translated Canaanite is “merchandiser.”

So in the Gospels the merchandiser is the OT Canaanite of Zechariah 14:21.

OT:3669

[OT:3669](#) כְּנַעֲנִי **Kena`aniy** (ken-ah-an-ee'); patrial from [OT:3667](#); a Kenaanite or inhabitant of Kenaan; by implication, a pedlar (the Canaanites standing for their neighbors the Ishmaelites, who conducted mercantile caravans):

KJV - Canaanite, merchant, trafficker.

(Biblesoft's New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary. Copyright © 1994, 2003, 2006 Biblesoft, Inc. and International Bible Translators, Inc.)

For a verse-by-verse exposition of Zechariah 14 as well as most of the rest of the prophecy I refer you to Brother Walter Swain's Allbygrace website where you can find Mr. Charles D. Alexander's commentary, [Prophecy Spiritually Understood – Part Two](#)

It is my heartfelt desire that you look for Christ in all of the Scriptures. I hope you have seen a glimpse of how full Zechariah is of prophecies that can only be answered by Christ and the NT church.

Have you been convicted by the Holy Spirit to see your need for One to cleanse you from sin and uncleanness? That Fountain was opened 2000 years ago and He is still saving sinners who repent and believe in the Gospel. Can you?