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Zechariah Speaks

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One again we have one of the Prophets of old speaking to us from the grave, so to speak, not literally – then again, would Zechariah say anything different if he were alive today. No, he would not, and understanding this we can read his words as living words meant for us today. More for us today than even when dust covered his sandals, his words were meant to be read and heard by us, the “generations” standing in front of YaHshua’s return. This is not going to be a commentary on all of the writings, only on those meant for us. We begin at the end, with the last chapter, of Zechariah.

The Tetragrammaton or four letters of our Creator’s Name is restored. This version is based on the KJV with modern English used for clarity. It has been the habit of the modern translation, this includes the KJV, to replace our Creator’s name with a title, essentially covering or hiding His identity.

(Zec 14:1-2) Behold, the day of YHWH comes, and your spoil shall be divided among you. For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem. And the city shall be captured, and the houses plundered, and the women raped. And half the city shall go into exile and the rest of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

Comment: Some may think this has already happened and point to the Roman destruction of the Temple. According to this writing, however, only half of the city goes into exile. In 138-140 AD Rome returned again to Jerusalem and at that time completely destroyed the whole city. Witnesses from that period say the city was turned into a plow field, by comparison, it was so thoroughly destroyed. According to Zechariah only half the city is taken. Before WWII this prophecy would make no sense even though some have tried to explain it and apply it to the Roman experience but the critics easily pointed out its error – In Israel, no Jerusalem. The WWII happens and ends 1945 and three years later, 1948 the modern nation of Israel is created. Israel and Jerusalem are set and in place to trigger this prophetic vision from Zechariah. Israel, Jerusalem are to be overrun again.

(Zec 14:3) And YHWH shall go out and fight against those nations, like the day He fought in the day of battle.

Comment: This verse does not need to be fully understood as a particular time. You can find verses that point to YaHWeH taking personal action and so it is here. The meaning of this verse is simple, YaHWeH is going to come out of His place (Heaven) and confront the nations. (Mic 1:3-4; Isa 42:13; Ex 14:14).

(Zec 14:4) And His feet shall stand in that day on the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives shall divide from its middle, from the east even to the west, a very great valley. And half of the mountain shall move toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

Comment: This is where it gets real interesting – “His feet shall stand in that day on the Mount of Olives”. We need to absorb this revelation and to see what and astounding event this will be but above that what are we being told? Who is it that is to “stand on the Mount of Olives”?

(Act 1:11-12) Which also said, You men of Galilee, why stand you gazing up into heaven? This same YaHshua which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as you have seen Him go into heaven. Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a Sabbath day's journey.

This same YaHWeH is YaHshua, our Savior returned to deliver His people – not just the Christians, but His people. The question posed by the Apostles had to do with the restoration of the Kingdom of Israel (Acts 1:6-7) and YaHshua did

not say otherwise. This Mountain, across from Jerusalem, will divide, creating a *great valley*.

(Zec 14:5) And you shall flee to the valley of My mountains, for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal. And you shall flee as you fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah, king of Judah. And YHWH my Elohim shall come, and all the saints with You.

Comment: Remember, this is Zechariah speaking – last part – “YaHWeH my God shall come, and all the saints with you” This is after the Resurrection of the Saints, they are with YaHshua, at this time, having met Him in the clouds, quickened, reborn from flesh to Spirit, joining with Him as they come to stand with Him on Mount Olivet (Mk 13:26; 1 Thes 4:17). So, who is it that is escaping through the great valley? The survivors of Israel. This valley provides a way of escape for those surviving, the remnant, after being overrun by the nations. This also moves them out of the way as our Lord turns His attention to the enemies of Israel, the enemies of their God. To see the full picture we need to inject something Zechariah revealed earlier:

(Zec 12:8) In that day shall the YHWH 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 YHWH before them.

(Zec 12:9) And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

(Zec 12:10) 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 mourns for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn. KJV

(Revelation 1:7) Behold, He comes with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindred of the earth shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen. KJV (Rev 6”12-17, should also be considered)

(Zec 14:6) And it will be in that day, there shall not be light; the glorious ones will shrink.

Comment: *Glorious ones will shrink* – a derogatory remark, those thinking they are something, the great among men, Imams, Popes, President, and the military geniuses will all shrink in fear and terror.

(Zec 14:7-9) And it will be one day which shall be known to YHWH; not day and not night, but it will be, there will be light at evening time. And it shall be in that day, living waters shall go out from Jerusalem, half of them shall go toward the eastern sea, and half of them toward the western sea; in summer and in winter it shall be. And YHWH shall be King over all the earth. In that day YHWH shall be united (echad), and His name united (echad).

Comment: We can now rightly connect what Zechariah reveal, dovetailing it with what was revealed to the Apostle John in the Book of Revelation --

(Rev 19:12) His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a Name written, that no man knew, but He Himself. (Rev 3:12-His New Name)

(Rev 19:13) And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His Name is called The Word of God.

(Rev 19:14-15) And the armies which were in Heaven followed Him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations: and He shall rule them with a rod of iron: and He treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

(Rev 19:16) And he has on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

(Zec 14:10) All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. And it shall rise and dwell in its place, from Benjamin's Gate to the place of the First Gate, to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananeel to the king's winepresses.

(Zec 14:11) And they shall live in it. And there shall not again be a shutting in, but Jerusalem shall dwell safely.

Comment: Israel and her people are destined to live at peace, her enemies destroyed, just as we are about to read.

(Zec 14:12) And this shall be the plague with which YHWH will strike all the peoples who have fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh shall rot while they stand on their feet, and their eyes will rest in their sockets, and their tongues shall rot in their mouths.

(Zec 14:13) And it shall be in that day, a great panic of YHWH shall be among them; and they shall each one lay hold of his neighbor, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbor.

Comment: The nations surrounding Jerusalem will not only suffer from the wrath of YHWH but will be driven mad, attacking each other. This seems similar to what we see happening in the Middle East now, every hand against his neighbor – this is but a forerunner of something even more extraordinary to come.

(Zec 14:14) And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem. And the wealth of the surrounding nations shall be gathered, gold, and silver, and clothing, very much.

Comment: Just as in the days Israel escaped from Egypt, plundering Egypt of much of its treasure so we see the same thing happening here. The nations roundabout will be plundered by the people of Israel.

(Zec 14:15) And so shall be the plague of the horse, the mule, the camel, and the donkey, and all the beasts which shall be in those camps, like this plague.

(Zec 14:16) And it shall be, everyone who is left from all the nations which came up against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, YHWH of Hosts, and to keep the Feast of The Sukkot.

(Zec 14:17) And it shall be, whoever will not go up from the families of the earth to Jerusalem to worship the King, YHWH of Hosts, there shall even be no rain on them.

Comment: We are now clear of this great events leading to the destruction of those nations that hated Israel and hate our God and Savior, YaHshua/YHWH. Now begins the millennial rule of the King of Kings, YaHshua, from Jerusalem. We have read how the geography is changed, drastically changed. Any nation that does not come up to Jerusalem to pay tribute to the King of Kings will receive no rain. Did you hear that? What this means is that free will is still allowed and while it is required the obedience is left open but if a nations disagrees and says they don't want any part of this new Government, they can stay home but they will not be blessed with rain, they will be the nation's starving. This is not the picture most see or understand because it is not taught. This is not what most of Christianity teaches as they long for a vision they have made up, ignoring the reality of Scripture.

(Zec 14:18-19) And if the family of Egypt does not go up, nor come in, then the rain shall not be on them, but the plague with which YHWH shall strike the nations who do not come up to keep

the Feast of the Sukkot. This shall be Egypt's offense, and the offense of all nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Sukkot.

Comment: It is plain, any nation not going up to Jerusalem to honor our Savior at this particular time will be denied rain. Talk about controlling the weather? The Feast of Sukkot is the Feast of Tabernacles, or Feast of Booths. This feast lasts a week and is a sign of our temporary journey. By honoring this Feast of Tabernacles we can see that the plan of our Heavenly Father is not finished at that time. The millennial rule of our Savior, YaHshua, is a period of time typified by this Feast time and when it is finished, at the end of the millennial rule, that Feast will no longer be need or used as a lesson for us.

(Zec 14:20) In that day there shall be on the bells of the horses, HOLY TO YHWH. And the pots in the house of YHWH shall be like the bowls before the altar.

(Zec 14:21) And every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holy to YHWH of Hosts. And all those who sacrifice shall come and take of them, and boil in them. And in that day there shall not be a trader in the house of YHWH of Hosts any more.

Comment: Some will have trouble with this word, "sacrifice". We must not forget the sacrifice of blood is finished; the sin has been covered by our Savior, by His blood. Without blood there is no forgiveness of sin. YaHshua has taken care of that for us all. This, however, does not mean that in the age to come we will not present gifts, tribute, and other offerings to honor the King of Kings, or to even make special requests. What is missing in this House of sacrifice and offerings? The money changer, the traders, there will be not commerce in the House of offerings, and there will be offerings but not of animals. We need to understand these verses in the light of other scriptures.

(Isa 1:11) To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? says YHWH: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats.

(Heb 9:12-14) He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of the Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself

unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

We see the Scriptures, both old and new, in agreement. What YaHshua did for us is without question the final solution to our salvation and it is only by and through Him, there is no other, He is the way, the only way and answer to eternal life for us.

(Heb 9:15) For this reason the Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance--now that He has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

We are not told in Zechariah what these "sacrifices" will be but we know they will not be of blood. The Feast of Tabernacles is a bringing in of the harvest, the houses and the storage are full of the harvest, it is also a great time to give thanks and to share the abundance of the harvest. This time can be seen as the gathering of God's people and the taking in of the Saints as the farmer would take in the grain.

(Heb 9:16-18) In the case of a will, it is necessary to prove the death of the one who made it, because a will is in force only when somebody has died; it never takes effect while the one who made it is living. This is why even the first covenant was not put into effect without blood. NIV

This bears repeating:

(Rev 1:7) Look, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of Him. So shall it be! Amen.

Peace