

# Zechariah: Jerusalem, behold your King!

## Chapter 14: The Lord of Host is King



Mt. of Olives from the valley below

Chapter 14, takes us through several events before and after the return of the Messiah and during the reign of Christ in the Millennium.

We see Jerusalem sacked by the armies of the Antichrist, we see the nation escape to the Mt. Olives, we also see the return of Christ and His kingdom established. The 14<sup>th</sup> chapter, shows how the armies of the Antichrist are defeated, from the perspective of those on the earth.

The Millennium is a major focus of this chapter, giving us a glimpse into just how government on the earth will operate while, Jesus rules from Jerusalem. How the nations submit to the rule of Messiah, the Lord of Hosts who rules from Jerusalem.

Zechariah 14

### *The Battle for Jerusalem*

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

2 For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; The city shall be taken, The houses rifled, And the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into

captivity, But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

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

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

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

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

7 It shall be one day Which is known to the Lord-Neither day nor night. But at evening time it shall happen That it will be light. **Zechariah 14:1-7**

**(1) The day of the Lord:** This is the period of God's judgment on the nations, the transition between the kingdoms of this age, and the kingdom of God. The *Day of the Lord* is not just one particular day, but a period of the time, also known as *Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week*.

In the Day of the Lord, Jerusalem will fall to the armies of Antichrist, Jerusalem will be sacked and pillaged by the armies, the Jews will flee into the mountains as Christ warns the nation, when they see the *Abomination of Desolation*.

**(2) Gather all the nations:** The 70<sup>th</sup> week begins with the peace agreement made by the Antichrist, who guarantees Israel's rights for seven-years, allowing the *Third Temple* and sacrifice to begin. At the middle point of the tribulation, Antichrist and his armies will invade Jerusalem, and he (Antichrist) will proclaim himself god and demanding to be worshipped (Matthew 24:15, Zechariah 12:9, ) by Israel and the world.

At the end of the tribulation, the armies of the Antichrist and the nations gather again in Jerusalem, ending in Armageddon, at the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ.

27 Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate."

Daniel 9:27

**The city shall be taken:** At the middle of the tribulation, the armies of Antichrist will defeat the city of Jerusalem. In the book of Revelation, the Antichrist kills the two witnesses and sets up an image of himself in the Temple, demanding the whole world worship him. (Revelation 11:7-10)

Jesus warned about this in Matthew 24:15-21, the time will be unparalleled in the history of the world.

15 "Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet,

standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand),

16 "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

17 "Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house.

18 "And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes.

19 "But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!

20 "And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.

21 "For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world

until this time, no, nor ever shall be. Matthew 24:15-21

**Half of the city:** The armies of the Antichrist decimate the city, raping the women and taking ½ the people captive. The other half escapes via valley when the *Mount of Olives* splits in two, causing a way of escape.

**(3) Lord... fight against ...those nations:** This refers to the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming when the Lord returns, after the nation of Israel, the survivors who escape the armies of Antichrist via valley created in the Mount of Olives, accept Jesus as their Messiah.

Another point to consider, the nations gather against Israel again at the end of the tribulation period, therefore, in some way the armies of Antichrist must have been defeated or pushed back from Israel before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming, to gather again at the end. (Revelation 16:16, 19:17-21). The scenario is not entirely clear.

**(4) His feet on the Mount of Olives:** This verse attests to the deity of Christ, because, we are told the feet of the LORD will stand. Who is the Lord who returns? The Lord is the Messiah, who rules as King over Jerusalem, the Son of David. The Mt. of Olives splits in two at the middle of the Tribulation period making a way of escape, the Jews flee, and following the return of Jesus Christ (Messiah), His feet stand on the Mt. of Olives.

**Split in two:** The mountain splits, allowing the Jews to flee. This event is referred too in four places in the Bible. (See Zechariah 14:4-5, Isaiah 26:20-21, Matthew 24:15-21, Revelation 12:14-17)

**(5) you shall flee:** Those who are in Jerusalem at the time the armies of the Antichrist invade, if they listen to the words of Jesus, will flee into the valley created when the Mt. of Olives splits in two. (Matthew 24:15-21)

20 Come, my people, enter your chambers, And shut your doors behind you; Hide yourself, as it were, for a little moment, Until the indignation is past. 21 For behold, the Lord comes out of His place To punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; The earth will also disclose her blood, And will no more cover her slain. Isaiah 26:20-21

14 But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

15 So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood.

16 But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth.

17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 14:14-17

When the mountain splits, there will be an earthquake, shocking the armies of Antichrist, giving time for Jews to flee. For 1260-days, 3.5 years the nation will be protected by the Lord, this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the tribulation.

**God will come, And all the saints:** In the end, the nation is rescued by the Lord, "*Me whom they pierced*" (Zechariah 12:10). Along with the return of the Lord, the saints or holy ones return. The Hebrew word here is קדוּשׁ *Qadowsh*, meaning holy, is the same word translated *saint* in the Old Testament. This term can also be read as angels, the point is the Lord comes with his armies including both saints and angels. (See Matthew 24:30, 25:31, Revelation 19).

**(6) that day...no light:** This lights are also diminished in addition to the Earthquake, allowing the nation to flee.

**(7) one day:** It is a unique day, known only to the Lord, similar to when the Red Sea split in two allowing Israel to escape the armies of Pharaoh.

### *Jerusalem in the Millennium*

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

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

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

11 The people shall dwell in it; And no longer shall there be utter destruction, But Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited. **Zechariah 14:8-11**

**(8) In that day:** That day, refers to this unique period, the Day of Lord, and what follows.

Following the return of Christ, and the establishment of Jerusalem as the capital of the Lord's earthly kingdom, waters will flow.

**Living waters:** These waters will flow from the Temple, where the throne of Christ will be, out toward the Dead Sea and a second stream toward the Mediterranean Sea. The Dead Sea (Eastern Sea) comes to life, as opposed to being dead today, because of the amount of salt. (Ezekiel 47:8-9)

**(9) Lord shall be King:** Jesus will be King, the rejected Messiah, will rule over the nation. The same King who entered Jerusalem on a donkey (Zechariah 9:9) will rule over the earth (Zechariah 9:10)

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.

10 I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim And the horse from Jerusalem; The battle bow shall be cut off. He shall speak peace to the nations; His dominion shall be 'from sea to sea, And from the River to the ends of the earth.' Zechariah 9:9-10

This verse also demonstrates the deity of the Messiah, who is King of Jerusalem, but also called the *Lord of Hosts* in verse 16. The King of Jerusalem is God Himself, the Messiah, who returns to rule over His people.

**(10) Jerusalem shall be....** This is literally Jerusalem, not Jerusalem a metaphor. This is an important point to understand, since many teach a non-literal understanding of scripture. Some try to force scripture to fit their view, and in order to do this they need to make scripture symbolic. So when the Bible refers to Jerusalem, they try to force a symbolic meaning.

Here however, very specific points are made regarding the gates of *literal Jerusalem*, so there could be no mistake. Jerusalem in a very literal sense is implied.

**(11) The people...** The city will recover from the destruction, which occurs in the tribulation.

### *The Plague against the armies of Jerusalem*

12 And this shall be the plague with which the Lord will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, Their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, And their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.

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

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

15 Such also shall be the plague On the horse and the mule, On the camel and the donkey, And on all the cattle that will be in those camps. So shall this plague be. **Zechariah 14:12-15**

**(12) This shall be the plague:** In verses, 12 to 15, we are given a view of what happens before the Lord rules the city as King. How does God destroy the armies, which surround the city of Jerusalem at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming.

**Flesh... dissolve...** Their bodies will literally dissolve while they stand, and the blood will flow throughout the land of Israel. The birds will come and eat the decaying flesh of the armies, both human and animal flesh. Revelation tells us the blood will flow as high as the horses' bridles throughout the length of Israel (Revelation 14:20). Revelation also refers to the birds, feasting on the flesh of the armies.

17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God,

18 "that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of

those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great.”  
19 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. Revelation 19:17-19

**(13) In that day....great panic....** The armies, which come against Jerusalem begin to fight each other as the plague breaks out amongst them. A similar event happened in the days of Jehoshaphat (2 Chronicles 20:22-24) as the united armies of Ammon, Moab and Mt. Seir were sent against Israel, they ended up fighting each other.

**(14) Judah will fight:** At the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming, the Jewish people will receive a super-natural power from the Lord, we are told the feeble will be like David, and the house of David like God (Zech. 12:8).

**Wealth gathered:** Judah will be victorious because the Lord Himself will fight against those nations and establish His kingdom. The wealth of the nations will be gathered in Jerusalem.

**(15) All the cattle:** The animals will suffer the same plague as the armies of Antichrist, with their flesh dissolving while they stand.

### *The earth during in the Millennium*

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

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

18 If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they shall have no rain; they shall receive the plague with which the Lord strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

19 This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

20 In that day "HOLINESS TO THE LORD" shall be engraved on the bells of the horses. The pots in the Lord's house shall be like the bowls before the altar.

21 Yes, every pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be holiness to the Lord of hosts. Everyone who sacrifices shall come and take them and cook in them. In that day there shall no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the Lord of hosts. **Zechariah 14:16-21**

**(16) It shall come to pass:** In the Kingdom of Messiah, the nations will be repopulated and the nations will come to worship the Lord, who is King over the earth. The nations and people born on the earth will come to Jerusalem on a yearly basis to worship King Messiah, who is the Lord, ruling from Jerusalem.

**(17) Families.....do not come up:** Even in the Millennium, with all necessities met nations and people will still be ungrateful for the Lord's provision. The nations if they choose not to go to Jerusalem, the nation will not have rain. People and nations will have freedom of choice in the Millennium, the limits of sin will be clearly defined in the law. False prophets and idols will not be permitted, but people could choose or not choose to go to Jerusalem and worship, the consequence being no rain on the nation.

**(18) Egypt:** Specifically, in the Millennium, Egypt will be a nation. At some point it seems Egypt, will not send people to Jerusalem, with the resulting punishment of no rain. When this takes place in the Millennium is not clear. The point being, nations will have the choice to worship or not worship, but there will be consequences.

**(19) punishment of....nations:** At the end of the Millennium, Satan is released to tempt the nations one final time, testing those born on the earth. This event could also be looking toward the end of the Millennium, when the nations rebel against Christ, before the Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11).

7 Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison

8 and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea.

9 They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. Revelation 20:7-9

**(20) bells of the horses:** Here we have seen in the city of Jerusalem during the Millennium,.

**(21) Every pot in Jerusalem:** Jerusalem is a city dedicated to the Lord, in every way.