

ZECHARIAH

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KFIR WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY - SESSION 10
CHAPTER 10

INTRODUCTION

- Chapter 11 is the opposite of the typical Before and After motif.
- Chapter 10 depicted Israel complete RESTORATION, while chapter 11 details events that come before climatic event.
- This chapter will show the results and the price Israel will pay for rejecting Jesus at his first advent.

Open your doors, O Lebanon,

That fire may devour your cedars.

₂ Wail, O cypress, for the cedar has fallen,
Because the mighty *trees* are ruined.

Wail, O oaks of Bashan,

For the thick forest has come down.

₃ ***There is the sound of wailing shepherds!***

For their glory is in ruins.

***There is the sound of (the) roaring (young)
lions!***

For the pride of the Jordan is in ruins.

COMMENTS

The DOG RIVER - (7mi - north of Beirut)

The inscriptions include three from Pharaohs including Ramesses II, Assyrians - Tiglath Pileser and Sennacherib; Babylonians - Nebuchadnezzar II, -Alexander the Great with Greek inscriptions, and the Roman General Titus.



⁴Thus says the Lord my God, "Feed the flock for slaughter, ⁵whose 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.

COMMENTS

Fast forward to the Roman times and picture Titus laying siege to Jerusalem. He will ultimately destroy it in 70 AD

6For 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.**"

COMMENTS

We have no king but Caesar - John 19:15

How accurately this portrays the Roman invasion and the disasters of the late 1st and the 2nd centuries... and destructive measures the Romans used to crush the Jewish state. Over 1,100,000 Jews perished in the fall of Jerusalem, and a half million more died during the course of the war and siege.

7 So I fed the flock for slaughter, in particular the poor of the flock. **I took for myself two staffs: 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.**"

COMMENTS

Over 40 interpretations of the three shepherds... none convincing.

"In one month" suggests their own national leaders, in rejecting their promised Messiah, sealed the fate of the Jewish state. They rejected Him and He rejected them.

Pharisees / Sadducees / Scribes (Herodians)

Law / Prophets / King.

Josephus records the famine and cannibalism during the siege of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. [Wars of the Jews, VI, 201-13] Cf. Deuteronomy 28:54-57; Lam 4:10. See Ezekiel 6:12.

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.

COMMENTS

Beauty / Favor = Jesus

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.**

COMMENTS 100,000,000

Discounted goods? This was the price of a gored slave (Exodus 21:32). A freeman was considered worth twice that amount.

Cf. Matthew 27:3-10. It was not lawful to put the money into the treasury since it was "blood money" (Cf. Deuteronomy 23:18); but nothing prevented them from pre-paying anticipated expenses with it.

One of the most remarkable prophecies in the Bible: Tenth to the 8th Power

- 1) The price: 30 pieces of silver
- 2) The site of the transaction: the Temple
- 3) The ultimate recipient: a potter
- 4) The nature of the transaction: the purchase of blood.

In Matthew - this is alluded to in Jeremiah 18:1-4 and quoted in Zechariah 11:12-13. In Jesus' day, Jeremiah was the first in the roll of the books of the prophets (Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Isaiah, et al.) and that section was designated by the name of the first book. [Talmudic tradition, also.]

¹⁴Then I cut in two my other staff, **Bonds, that I might break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.**

COMMENTS

The breaking of the first staff preceded; the breaking of the 2nd staff succeeded.

They are (temporarily) blinded (Luke 19:42) until the “fullness of the Gentiles” is come in (Romans 11:25).

Between vv.14 & 15 comes the entire Church period.

In His reading of Isaiah 6 1:1, 2 in Luke 4:16-21, the interval implied when Jesus stopped at the comma (v.19) has now begun. That “comma” has lasted almost 2,000 years... Cf. Daniel 9:26; Revelation 12:5 vs. 6; et al.

¹⁵ And the Lord said to me, "Next, take for yourself the implements of a foolish shepherd. ¹⁶ **For indeed I will raise up a shepherd in the land who will not care** for those who are cut off, nor seek the young, nor heal those that are broken, nor feed those that still stand. But he will eat the flesh of the fat and tear their hooves in pieces.

COMMENTS

This is the anti-Christ ... the IDOL Shepherd that is depicted in the book of Revelation.

The idol shepherd: involving false worship. This appears to be the Coming World Leader: He "enforces the covenant" (Daniel 9:27); In the first part of the "70th Week" of Daniel, Israel will believe they have (finally) received peace. But midway, he has become so powerful he sets himself up to be worshiped—the abomination of desolation (2 Thessalonians 2:3-10).

**17 "Woe to the worthless shepherd,
Who leaves the flock!
A sword *shall be* against his arm
And against his right eye;
His arm shall completely wither,
And his right eye shall be totally blinded."**

COMMENTS

These seem too specific to be figurative. These appear to be the only physical descriptions of the Coming World Leader in Scripture. In Revelation, we find that he receives a mortal head wound that appears to be miraculously healed. (Revelation 13:3, 12, 14. Cf. Ps 68:21?) Could the impaired arm and right eye be a vestige of this head wound?

Could this be why his loyal followers receive his mark on their right hand or forehead? (Rev 13:16).

Jesus has been working in the potter's field for a long time now. He purchased it. But He paid much more than 30 pieces of silver for it. And He did, indeed, purchase it with blood: His. He purchased this entire field—the world—filled with broken lives; broken physically, mentally, morally, spiritually...

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the difference between HISTORY and PROPHECY?
2. What other religions are you aware of that have PROPHECY?
3. What are your thoughts regarding the Field of Blood?



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