

Zechariah Chapter 13

V: 1 This chapter is a continuation of and could really be a part of Chapter 12. The thought expressed here begins in Chapter 12 verse 10.

- There is the general theme of “in that day” - which is not a 24 hour cycle, but a time period of when a number of things happen, including Israel finally recognizing their Messiah.

Zechariah 12:10 “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. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son. and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.”

- The chapter concludes by describing the grief that has gripped the nation, the house of David, the houses of Nathan, Levi, Shimei, and all their wives.
- Now the prophecy goes on to describe “in that day” - Speaking generally of the day of the Lord which is again not a 24 hours period of time, but more like a season with a number of successive events.

Isaiah 1:16 “Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil.”

- They failed to do that, now God will do that for them.
- The fountain that is opened for the house of David is the fountain of our Lord Jesus’ shed blood that cleanses away our sin and uncleanness.

1 John 1:7 “But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.”

1 Corinthians 6:11 “And such were some of you. But you are washed, but you are sanctified, but you are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.”

1 Peter 1:18-19 “¹⁸Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”

V: 2 In that day, when the Lord comes back to Israel, He will cut off the idols and their names from the land - He will cleanse and purify the land as well as the people. He will do what should already have been done!

Deuteronomy 12:3 “And you shall destroy their altars, break their sacred pillars, and burn their wooden images with fire; you shall cut down the carved images of their gods and destroy their names from that place.”

- In Israel today when you go to the Temple mount one of the prominent features on the Temple mount is the golden Dome of the Rock mosque. There is also the Al Aqsa mosque - both Muslim, pagan idols of Islam.
- All over the Holy Land there are churches built over many holy and historical sites, these churches are filled with pagan icons, imagery, and statues. Jesus is going to deal with these things.
- He will also deal with the false prophets and the unclean spirits of the land:

Psalm 16:4 “Their sorrows shall be multiplied who hasten after another god; their drink offerings of blood I will not offer, nor take up their names on my lips.”

Ezekiel 37:23 “They shall not defile themselves anymore with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions; but I will deliver them from all their dwelling places in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them. Then they shall be My people, and I will be their God.”

V: 3 In the OT, in **Deuteronomy 13:6-11** and other places it describes those that prophesy falsely in the name of the Lord are to be put to death, even if need be by their parents.

Deuteronomy 18:20, 22 “²⁰But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.” - “²²When a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.”

V: 4 In the days of the prophets, some of the prophets went about in sackcloth, like Isaiah and Elijah, or like John the Baptist in camel's hair.

- Some of the false prophets put on sackcloth and camel's hair garments to look the part, in an attempt to deceive, but God warned His people.

Micah 3:7 “So the seers shall be ashamed, and the diviners abashed; indeed they shall all cover their lips; for there is no answer from God.”

- Real prophets won't wear a robe to deceive, they'll be honest.

V: 5 Most of the time, they say that they're not a prophet, I'm a farmer or a rancher and I was called to give this message.

- The Bible describes men who were full time prophets, that's all they did. But it also describes farmers and herdsmen who were called for a season or a purpose, prophets like Amos who was a shepherd.

Amos 1:1 “The words of Amos, who was among the sheep breeders of Tekoa...”

- Moving away from the false prophets to “the prophet” - the True Prophet, Priest, and King - King of kings and Lord of lords.

Deuteronomy 18:15 “The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear.”

V: 6 In the previous chapter we are told that they will look on Him whom they have pierced. Psalm 22 describes this:

Psalm 22:16 “They pierced My hands and My feet;”

Revelation 1:7 “Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.”

- He is asked, “what are these wounds in your hands / arms?” And we see His gracious response, “these are the wounds that I was wounded with in the house of My friends.”

V: 7 In Matthew 26 Jesus declares that this prophecy was actually concerning Him.

Matthew 26:31 “Then Jesus said to them, “all of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.”

- So, these two verses, prophesying of Jesus; they will look upon Him and they will ask what are the meaning of the wounds in your hands? His gracious response and then the sword smiting the shepherd meaning Jesus being crucified for us and the sheep, the disciples being scattered.”

V: 8 Moving farther forward into future to the time of the great tribulation:

Revelation 6:4 The red horse & rider kill men, with no number given.

Revelation 6:8 4th seal / Pale horse - kill ¼ earth's population.

Revelation 8:11 “many men” killed by the bitter waters, no numbers

Revelation 9:15 6th trumpet - ⅓ of mankind killed.

6.0 billion – 2.0 billion = 4 billion left. Over ½ world's population perishes.



- In the midst of all of that ⅔ of the Jews will perish, ⅓ will be left.

- Not unlike when the Babylonians conquered Jerusalem previously:

Ezekiel 5:12 “One-third of you shall die of the pestilence, and be consumed with famine in your midst; and one-third shall fall by the sword all around you; and I will scatter another third to all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them.”

V: 9 God will bring 1/3 of the Jews through the fire, having been refined. These will call upon the name of the Lord, and God will answer to His children.

Isaiah 48:10 “Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.”

Refined by fire:

1 Peter 1:6-7 “⁶In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

- They will be brought to that place, finally of recognizing and identifying with their Messiah.

Psalm 50:15 “Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.”

Speaking of Israel:

Hosea 2:23 “... And I will have mercy on her who had not obtained mercy; then I will say to those who were not My people, You are My people! And they shall say, “You are my God.”

Romans 11:26 “And so all Israel will be saved...”

Romans 9:6 “But it is not that the word of God has taken no effect. For they are not all Israel who are of Israel.”