

GOD WILL GRACIOUSLY BRING ISRAEL TO REPENTANCE AND SPIRITUAL RESTORATION

Zechariah 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 mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

Zachariah 13:1 In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

In previous messages I have written about Israel's restoration as a nation as set forth in Ezekiel chs. 36 and 37 and a future invasion of Israel as set forth in Ezekiel chs. 38 and 39. Israel is now back in her ancient land but she has not yet acknowledged the Lord Jesus as her promised Messiah (Christ). But soon that will change because her regathering from among the nations into her land has as its purpose for her to be in place when Jesus Christ returns to reveal himself to her as her rescuing and redeeming Saviour and Lord. In Zechariah ch. 4 Zerubbabel was assured he would finish the rebuilding of the fallen walls of Jerusalem with shouts of grace in giving God the glory for the rebuilt wall even in the face of much opposition. *Zechariah 4:7 Who art thou, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it.* Even so, God's grace will bring Israel to accept Jesus Christ as her Saviour. That time is near, very near. Amen! Even so come, Lord Jesus!

FIRST The time frame of this glorious event. *Zech. 12:10 “And they shall look upon me whom they have pierced”.* More will be said about this phrase in point 7 but for the present it is clear that the nation of Israel will actually see Jesus Christ so this places this event to occur after the return of Jesus to this earth.

SECOND The day of the LORD will be the initiating process to bring the proud nation of Israel to her knees. *Zech. 14:1 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee.* The term “day of the LORD” is repeated in many Old Testament passages. Isa. 2:12, Jer. 46:10, Joel 3:14, Amos 5:18, Obad. 15, Zeph. 1:14 This time frame is also stated in other terminology in many Old Testament passages. c/p Jer. 30:7 This is the time frame that the Lord Jesus Christ will begin to pour out his wrath on this God rejecting world and will culminate with his eventual return to this earth to subdue it and reign over it. Rev. 6:12-17 It is specifically this event from which the saved of the Lord Jesus Christ are promised to be delivered. I Thess. 4:13-18, 5:1-11 Israel will eventually repent.

THIRD The LORD will gather all nations against Israel. *Zech. 14:2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.* Rev. 16:13-16 *And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.* Among the awful events coming upon this earth in the end time will be the coalition of all nations gathering against Israel in an attempt to totally destroy her. At this present time the little nation of Israel has very few allies in the world.

FOURTH Israel will suffer great damage from these nations Zech. 14:2 It appears this conflict will rage for a while based on the above stated damage that will be incurred.

FIFTH The LORD Jesus Christ will appear from heaven and directly intervene on behalf of Israel. Zech. 14:3 *Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. Rev. 19:11-19 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. 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. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.* What a great day that will be for Israel and for the whole world. This refers to the Lord's return from heaven to earth. The Lord's saints who have been previously called up to be with him will be coming back to the earth with him as the Lord returns to subdue his enemies.

SIXTH The Lord Jesus will defeat and destroy Satan and all nations that have gathered against Israel. Zech. 12:9 *And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. Rev. 19:20-21 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh. Rev. 20:1-3 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.*

SEVENTH Divine illumination will be granted to Israel. Zech. 12:10-14 *And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplication: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn. In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon. And the land shall mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart; The family of the house of Levi apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart.*

A great truth is understood here. Spiritual darkness is something very real. Isa. 9:2 *The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.* This passage of scripture was fulfilled when Jesus came to the earth in his first advent. Matt. 4:16 *The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death is sprung up.* Jesus Christ himself is the spiritual light. John 1:4-5 *In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.*

Jesus Christ, the great spiritual light, did come unto them but they rejected him. John 1:11-12 *He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to*

become sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: The reason was they loved darkness. JOHN 3:19-20 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest their deeds should be reprov'd.

They had opportunity to accept him and follow him but they refused to do so. *John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.* He warned them about their fleeting opportunity yet still they did not follow him. *John 12:35 Then said Jesus unto them, yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. John 12:39-40 Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said again, He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.* They had opportunity to accept him as their king but instead chose Caesar. *John 19:14-15 And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour: and he unto saith the Jews, Behold your King! But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar.* They had opportunity to follow him step by step and day by day, but refused to do so.

Hosea records the sad outcome for Israel. *Hosea 5:15 I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early.* Therefore they were left in in spiritual darkness. *Ro. 11:25-26 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:* But our text in Zechariah 12:10 reveals God's wonderful grace that is come to Israel. *Zech. 12:10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace.* God in his graciousness will open their spiritual eyes and they will come to correct spiritual understanding concerning Jesus Christ. Amen!

EIGHTH Great sorrowful repentance will be experienced by Israel. *Zech. 12:10-14 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 mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn. In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon. And the land shall mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart; The family of the house of Levi apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart; all the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart. II Cor. 7:10 For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.* When Israel comes to realization that they crucified their very own Lord and Saviour they will mourn in deep sorrow and truly repent and turn to Jesus Christ for forgiveness and salvation.

NINTH Wonderful cleansing from sin will be given to them and God's great salvation will become theirs to enjoy. *Zech. 13:1 In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness. Ro. 11:26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: Isa. 66:8 Who hath heard such a thing? Who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion travailed, she*

brought forth her children. Jesus Christ will wash them from their sins by his own blood. Rev. 1:5 Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood.

Just as Israel's sin of old pierced him so did also the sin of all of us pierce him. God has been gracious to all of us and placed the sin of each one of us upon Jesus Christ. *Isa. 53:3-6 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.* Thank you Lord for you have been so good to us. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Thank you Lord, for your wondrous salvation which you have given to me.

If you have never accepted Jesus Christ as your Saviour, will you, just now, also repent in great sorrow over your sins and turn to Jesus and ask him to save you? *Ro. 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*