

## The Shepherd, Instrument of the LORD Zechariah Chapters 10 and 11

### God Uniquely Demonstrates His Favor toward Israel

- Zec 10:1** Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain (*Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup>, or final week?*); so the LORD shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field.
- Zec 10:2** For the idols (*false gods*) have spoken vanity, and the diviners (*false prophets*) have seen a lie, and have told false dreams; they comfort in vain: therefore they went their way (*of error*) as a flock (*mass gathering*), they (*the people?*) were troubled, because there was no shepherd (*true leader among them*).
- Zec 10:3** Mine anger was kindled against the shepherds (*that cared not for the sheep?*), and I punished the goats (*disobedient*): for the LORD of hosts hath visited his flock the house of Judah, and hath made them as his goodly horse in the battle.
- Zec 10:4** Out of him (*Judah?*) came forth the corner (*or standard*), out of him the nail (*sure support*), out of him the battle bow, out of him every oppressor together.
- Zec 10:5** And they (*followers of the LORD God*) shall be as mighty men, which tread down their enemies in the mire of the streets in the battle: and they shall fight, because the LORD is with them, and the riders on horses shall be confounded.
- Zec 10:6** And I (*the LORD God*) will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph, and I will bring them again to place them (*in the land*); for I have mercy upon them: and they shall be as though I had not cast them off: for I am the LORD their God, and will hear them.
- Zec 10:7** And they of Ephraim (*Joseph's younger son*) shall be like a mighty man, and their heart shall rejoice as through (*made merry by*) wine: yea, their children shall see it, and be glad; their heart shall rejoice in the LORD.
- Zec 10:8** I (*the LORD God*) will hiss (*beckon*) for them, and gather them; for I have redeemed them: and they shall increase as they have increased.
- Zec 10:9** And I will sow (*scatter*) them among the people (*of other lands*): and they shall remember me in far countries; and they shall live with their children, and turn again (*unto me, or to their land I gave them*).
- Zec 10:10** I will bring them again also out of the land of Egypt, and gather them out of Assyria; and I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon; and place shall not be found for them.
- Zec 10:11** And he (*Ephraim, Judah of Israel*) shall pass through the sea (*populations of the earth*) with affliction, and shall smite the waves (*oppositions*) in the sea (*populations of the earth*), and all the deeps (*multitudes*) of the river (*civilization*) shall dry up: and the pride of Assyria (*ruling nations*) shall be brought down, and the scepter (*ruling authority*) of Egypt (*or the world*) shall depart away.
- Zec 10:12** And I will strengthen them (*followers of Jesus, Messiah, God*) in the LORD; and they shall walk up and down in his name, saith the LORD.

## Chapter 11 – Foolish Shepherd in the Land

*It is obvious that this vision and prophecy of Zechariah is to Judah of Israel, and is about the failure of religious leaders in particular to be of benefit to the people, according to the will of “God Almighty of Creation. But some of these verses can be seen as applicable to the relationship of Church leader and the sheepfold of many congregations today!*

*The shepherd’s wrong instruction cared not for the sheep that the LORD might break his covenant which he had made with all the family of Jacob. See Luke 13:34 through 13:35, and Zechariah 11:10:*

**Zec 11:1** Open thy doors, O Lebanon, that the fire may devour thy cedars (*mighty ones/ leaders/ shepherd?*).

**Zec 11:2** Howl, fir tree; for the cedar is fallen; because the mighty are spoiled: howl, O ye oaks of Bashan; for the forest of the vintage (*ancestry*) is come down.

**Zec 11:3** There is a voice of the howling of the shepherds (*that cared not for the sheep*); for their glory is spoiled: a voice of the roaring of young lions; for the pride of Jordan is spoiled.

**Zec 11:4** Thus saith the LORD my God; Feed the flock of the slaughter;

**Zec 11:5** Whose possessors slay them (*the flock*), and (*the possessors*) hold themselves not guilty: and they that sell them (*the flock*) say, Blessed be the LORD; for I am rich: and their own shepherds (*of Jacob*) pity them (*flock of the slaughter*) not.

**Zec 11:6** For I (*the LORD*) will no more pity the inhabitants of the land, saith the LORD: but, lo, I (*the LORD*) will deliver the men every one into his neighbour's hand, and into the hand of his king (*who is not of me*): and they (*kings who are not of me*) shall smite the land, and out of their hand I (*the LORD*) will not deliver them (*flock of the slaughter*).

**Zec 11:7** And I (*the LORD*) will feed the flock of slaughter, even you, O poor of the flock. And I (*the LORD*) took unto me two staves; the one I called Beauty (*Jerusalem?*), and the other I called Bands (*Samaria?*); and I fed the flock.

**Zec 11:8** Three shepherds also I (*the LORD*) cut off in one month; and my soul lothed them, and their soul also abhorred me (*This part of Zechariah’s vision is, perhaps, in reference to 2 Kings Chapters 9 and 10?*).

**Zec 11:9** Then said I (*the LORD*), I will not feed you (*flock of the slaughter*): that that dieth, let it die; and that that is to be cut off, let it be cut off; and let the rest eat every one the flesh of another.

**Zec 11:10** And I (*the LORD*) took my staff, even Beauty (*Jerusalem*), and cut it asunder, that I might break my covenant which I had made with all the people.

**Zec 11:11** And it (*my covenant*) was broken in that day: and so the poor of the flock that waited upon me knew that it was the word of the LORD.

*Zechariah’s vision and prophecy of the betrayal of Jesus:*

**Zec 11:12** And I (*the LORD*) said unto them (*shepherds that cared not for the sheep*), If ye think good (*or whatever you think I am worth*), give me my price; and if not, (*and*

*if you do not think I am worth anything*) forbear (*or do not give anything*). So they (*shepherds that cared not for the sheep*) weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver.

**Zec 11:13** And the LORD said unto me (*Zechariah*), Cast it (*my price, thirty pieces of silver*) unto the potter: a goodly price that I (*the Lord Jesus*) was prized (*valued*) at of them (*or according to foolish shepherds that cared not for the sheep*). And I (*Zechariah*) took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house (*temple*) of the LORD.

**Zec 11:14** Then I (*the LORD*) cut asunder mine other staff, even Bands (*Samaria*), that I might break the brotherhood between Judah (*Southern Kingdom*) and Israel (*Northern Kingdom, or Samaria*).

**Zec 11:15** And the LORD said unto me (*Zechariah*), Take unto thee yet (*or illustrate?*) the instruments of a foolish shepherd.

**Instruments of the foolish shepherd:**

**Zec 11:16** For, lo, I will raise up a shepherd (*foolish shepherd, which is not Jesus*) in the land, which shall not visit those (*sheep*) that be cut off, neither shall seek the young one, nor heal that that is broken, nor feed that that standeth still: but he shall eat the flesh of the fat (*or take from the flock*), and tear their claws in pieces (*or leave them defenseless*).

**Zec 11:17** Woe to the idol (*lazy?*) shepherd that leaveth the flock! the sword (*human authority above him*) shall be upon (*attack?*) his arm (*position/ power of authority?*), and upon (*attack?*) his right eye (*ability to rightly comprehend*): his arm (*position/ power of authority?*) shall be clean dried up (*taken away*), and his right eye (*understanding that would benefit him?*) shall be utterly darkened (*These verses seem to be pointing to Caiaphas, the high priest that turned Jesus over to the Romans for crucifixion. Based on his own reasoning, Caiaphas offered up Jesus, the Lord of Glory?*). Also read *John 8:37 through 8:59*, where Jesus condemned cold hearted hypocritical leaders that sought his life. They portrayed themselves righteous, even while plotting ways to kill Jesus.

**The LORD declares, again, the destruction of Jerusalem's enemies:**

**Zec 12:1** The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him.

**Zec 12:2** Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling (*fear*) unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem.

**Zec 12:3** And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it (*or despise Jerusalem*) shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it (*the time of Armageddon: Revelation 16:16?*).

**Zec 12:4** In that day, saith the LORD, I will smite every horse with astonishment, and his rider with madness: and I will open mine eyes upon the house of Judah, and will smite every horse of the people with blindness.

**Zec 12:5** And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart, The inhabitants of Jerusalem shall be my strength in the LORD of hosts their God.

**Zec 12:6** In that day will I make the governors of Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left: and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, even in Jerusalem.

**Zec 12:7** The LORD also shall save the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem do not magnify themselves against Judah.

**Zec 12:8** In that day shall the LORD 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 LORD 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.

***Judah of Israel (Jerusalem) finally faces the reality of their betrayal of Jesus, Messiah:***

**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 (*Jesus*), and they shall mourn for him (*Jesus*), as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him (*Jesus*), as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

**Zec 12:11** In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon.

**Zec 12:12** 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;

**Zec 12:13** The family of the house of Levi apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart;

**Zec 12:14** All the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart.

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Other website articles resulting from my study on the book of Zechariah:

- The Final Half of Daniels 70th Week
- Zechariah Chapter 5
- The Kingdom of God is not by Force
- When the Fast is of No Benefit