The "Never Wrong" **Prophet Zechariah** Part 3

Zechariah chapter 2: The third vision reveals a man with a measuring line. Like the second vision, it also builds on God's promise to comfort His people (1:13, 17). The restoration of Jerusalem after the return from Babylon is only a foretaste of the future Messianic Kingdom, for the language of the vision cannot be fulfilled historically. Its scope extends beyond the time of Zechariah to the rule of the Messiah on earth.

916 Judah's Restoration - Ten Visions - Sermons - Judgments - Antichrist - Tribulation - Messiah's Second Advent - Conversion of Israel - Armageddon - The Day of the Lord - Messiah's Eternal Kingdom			
 The 8th month of the 2nd year of Darius I was 2 months after Haggai began to prophesy (v 1 with Hag. 1:1), or about one month after the temple foundation was laid in Jerusalem (v 1 with Hag. 2:18) b See Zechariah, p. 924 c See Berechiah, p. 924 c See Derechiah, p. 924 e 35 commands in Zechariah, p. 928 f Questions 1-3. Next, v 9 g This second message was given 3 months after the one of v 1-6 - on the 24th day of the 11th month (February) in the 2nd year of Darius I (v 7) h See 10 visions of Zechariah, p. 928 i The riders of the horses-red, speckled, and white-are invisible agencies of God sent forth into the earth to accomplish various missions. They are God's scouts that report conditions to Him. These reported that all the earth was still and at peace (v 8-11). The horses are not symbolic at all, but real and literal creatures, actual spirit horses created to live on the planet heaven and used by those going back and forth between earth and heaven for the purpose seen here, and perhaps in many other capacities. That spirit horses do exist is clear from v8-11; 61-8; 2 Ki. 2:11; 	 I Message to restored Judah. 1 Title, author, and historical background (Ezra 6:1, 12, 15) TN the eighth month, in the second year of Dā-rī'us, came the word of the Lorpounto Zéch-a-rī'ah, the son of Běr-echi'ah, the son of d'Id'dö the prophet, saying, 		 who talked with the prophet; and Hawords were good and comfortable, which He passed on to Zechariah (v 13-19) d Angels can commune with men (v 14; Heb. 1:14; note n, Heb. 13:1) e <u>3fold displeasure of God</u>: I am jealous for Zion and Jenusien with great jealous (v 14) I am very sore displeased with heathen that are at ease (v 15) I was but a little displeased with them until they helped forward the affliction of My people f <u>1st prophecy in Zech</u>, (1:16-17, fulfilled). Next, v 18

Zechariah 2:1 AMPC 1 And I lifted up my eyes and saw, and behold, <u>a man with a measuring</u> **line in his hand**.

Zechariah 2:1 KJV

1 I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold <u>a man with a</u> <u>measuring line in his hand.</u>

The third vision is that of the "*Man with*" *the* "*measuring line*", the restoration and rebuilding of Jerusalem is symbolized. Many Bible scholars believe that the surveyor is the Angel of the LORD (1:11; 6:12; Ezek. 40:2-3), who is laying out the future dimensions of the city.

Ezekiel 40:2-3 AMPC

2 In the visions of God He brought me into the land of Israel and set me down upon a very high mountain, on the south side of which there was what seemed to be the structure of a city.

3 He brought me there, and behold, <u>there was a man [an angel] whose</u> <u>appearance was like bronze</u>, with a line of flax and a measuring reed <u>in his hand, and he stood in the gateway.</u>

The message is that the future Jerusalem will overspread its boundaries, and that God will be its Protector.

Zechariah 2:2 AMPC

2 Then said I, <u>Where are you going?</u> And he said to me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what is its breadth and what is its length.

Zechariah 2:2 KJV

2 Then said I, <u>Whither goest thou?</u> And he said unto me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what is the breadth thereof, and what is the length thereof.

"Where are you going?" This showed great boldness in the "Never Wrong" Prophet to put such a question to *the man* with the measuring reed... in the man's response to him it was with great condescension (in Hebrew) he answered "To measure Jerusalem". This was not literally understood, because it not yet completely built... it was the future or heavenly Jerusalem. (Hebrews 12:22)

Hebrews 12:22 AMPC

22 But rather, you have come to Mount Zion, even to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to countless multitudes of angels in festal gathering,

This "measuring" indicates or reveals the conformity of it to the rule of God's Word; a profession of the true doctrines of it, and an observance of the ordinances of it.

"To see what is the breadth thereof, and what is the length thereof" (Zechariah 2:2): The length of the New Jerusalem is as large as the breadth; its length, breadth, and height, are equal (Rev. 21:16). This measuring is to see what the dimensions of Jerusalem are.

Revelation 21:16 AMPC

16 The city lies in a square, its length being the same as its width. And he measured the city with his reed—12,000 stadia (about 1,500 miles); its length and width and height are the same.

Revelation 21:16 KJV

16 And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. <u>The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.</u>

We must remember at this point, that this is a vision, this is not Jerusalem at the time of Zechariah.

Note: _____

Zechariah 2:3 AMPC

3 And behold, the angel who talked with me went forth and another angel went out to meet him,

Zechariah 2:3 KJV

3 And, behold, the angel that talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him,

"Angel ... that talked with me": This is the instructing angel (of 1:9). This last angel seems to be directly from God, and goes to meet the angel which had been explaining Zechariah's vision for him.

<u>Zechariah 2:4 AMPC</u>

4 And he said to the second angel, Run, speak to this young man, saying, Jerusalem shall be inhabited and dwell as villages without walls, because of the multitude of people and livestock in it.

Zechariah 2:4 KJV

4 And said unto him, Run, speak to this young man, saying, Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein:

The news was so wonderful that it was to be *heralded* immediately. To herald defines the instruction on the action to take - run and go tell.

Herald defined:

an official messenger bringing news; a person an sign that something is about to happen; also referred to as harbinger, which means to herald, a signal, a forerunner of something, to announce.

An angel arrived to explain that Jerusalem will become so large that it will extend beyond any wall. The conditions here described have at no time been true historically (Neh. 7:4; 11:1-2); full realization must be assigned to a future earthly kingdom (Isa. 49:19-20).

A counterfeit of this unwalled safety will exist just before and under Antichrist in the time of the Tribulation (see notes on Ezek. 38:8-12).

Ezekiel 38:8-12 AMPC

8 After many days you shall be visited and mustered [for service]; in the latter years you shall go against the land that is restored from the ravages of the sword, where people are gathered out of many nations upon the mountains of Israel, which had been a continual waste; but its [people] are brought forth out of the nations and they shall dwell securely, all of them.

9 You shall ascend and come like a storm; you shall be like a cloud to cover the land, you and all your hosts and many people with you.

10 Thus says the Lord God: At the same time thoughts shall come into your mind, and you will devise an evil plan.

11 And you will say, I will go up against an open country [the land of unwalled villages]; I will fall upon those who are at rest, who dwell securely, all of them dwelling without walls and having neither bars nor gates,

12 To take spoil and prey, to turn your hand upon the desolate places now inhabited and assail the people gathered out of the nations, who have obtained livestock and goods, who dwell at the center of the earth

This is a key to when this Jerusalem is speaking of. Even today, there are some walls which surround Jerusalem. This is speaking of a future Jerusalem, when there will be no walls.

The young man here, is probably the prophet Zechariah. The second angel has brought a message to be delivered to Zechariah. This is speaking of a time, when there will be so many people and cattle in Jerusalem that they could not fit in the walled city.

Zechariah 2:5 AMPC

5 For I, says the Lord, will be to her a wall of fire round about, and I will be the glory in the midst of her.

<u>Zechariah 2:5 KJV</u>

5 For I, saith the Lord, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.

"A wall of fire round about": Though without walls, Jerusalem will dwell securely because of divine protection. The phrase is reminiscent of the pillar of fire at the Exodus(Exodus13:21;2Kings 6:15-17; Isa. 4:5-6).

"And will be the glory in the midst of her": More than protection, the glory depicts the Messiah's blessing and personal presence in His earthly kingdom (Isa. 4:2-6; 40:5; 60:17-18; Ezek. 42:1-7).

What a promise! The presence of God was always seen in a fire or a smoke from that fire. This wall of fire will hold off all enemies of Jerusalem. The "glory in the midst of her" is the presence of God.

In Verses 6-9, the Prophet turns from the distant future (verses 4-5), to the present. Summoning those Israelites still in Babylon (referred to as the land of the north (verse 7), because of the direction from which it invaded Israel), to flee before God poured out His judgment on it.

This also implied a future call to leave a future Babylon (Rev. 17:3-5; 18:1-8).

<u>Revelation 17:3-5 AMPC</u>

3 And [the angel] bore me away [rapt] in the Spirit into a desert (wilderness), and I saw a woman seated on a scarlet beast that was all covered with blasphemous titles (names), and he had seven heads and ten horns.

4 The woman was robed in purple and scarlet and bedecked with gold, precious stones, and pearls, [and she was] holding in her hand a golden cup full of the accursed offenses and the filth of her lewdness and vice.

5 And on her forehead there was inscribed a name of mystery [with a secret symbolic meaning]: Babylon the great, the mother of prostitutes (idolatresses) and of the filth and atrocities and abominations of the earth.

Back to Zechariah...

<u>Zechariah 2:6 AMPC</u>

6 Ho! ho! [Hear and] flee from the land of the north, says the Lord, and from the four winds of the heavens, for to them have I scattered you, says the Lord.

Zechariah 2:6 KJV

6 Ho, ho, come forth, and flee from the land of the north, saith the Lord: for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven, saith the Lord.

"I have spread you": According (to 2 Kings 17:6), they were scattered from the Gozan River, 200 miles west of Nineveh, to Media, 300 miles east. Some had even taken refuge in Moab, Ammon, Edom, and Egypt (Jer. 40:11-12; 43:7). This is calling all of the Israelites to come home.

God wants them inside this wall of fire He has placed to protect them. This is like the hedge of fire He builds around each of us who are His followers. When protection is the fire of God, Satan cannot enter in.

Zechariah 2:7AMPC

7 Ho! Escape to Zion, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon!

Zechariah 2:7 KJV

7 Deliver thyself, O Zion, that dwellest with the daughter of Babylon.

"Deliver thyself, O Zion": Or make thy escape, you that belong to Mount Zion, the city of the living God. And ought to have your abode there, and not in Babylon: flee from thence. "That dwelleth with the daughter of Babylon":

In any of the anti-christian states, who are the daughters of Babylon, the mother of harlots (Revelation 17:5). This has a double meaning. Those left in Babylon from their captivity should come home, and be under the protection of God.

There is a spiritual Babylon that symbolizes the sinful world. Zion, as we have said, symbolizes the church. This is saying, you believers, separate yourselves from the sinful world.

<u>Revelation 18:1-8 AMPC</u>

1 Then I saw another angel descending from heaven, possessing great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his radiance and splendor.

2 And he shouted with a mighty voice, She is fallen! Mighty Babylon is fallen! She has become a resort and dwelling place for demons, a dungeon haunted by every loathsome spirit, an abode for every filthy and detestable bird.

3 For all nations have drunk the wine of her passionate unchastity, and the rulers and leaders of the earth have joined with her in committing fornication (idolatry), and the businessmen of the earth have become rich with the wealth of her excessive luxury and wantonness.

<u>4 I then heard another voice from heaven saying, Come out from her,</u> <u>my people, so that you may not share in her sins, neither participate in</u> <u>her plagues.</u>

5 For her iniquities (her crimes and transgressions) are piled up as high as heaven, and God has remembered her wickedness and [her] crimes [and calls them up for settlement].

Whether physical Jews, or the church coming out of Babylon, or modern day catholics coming our from the rule of Catholicism,... they have to take it upon themselves to leave spiritual Babylon. God does not force His protection on anyone. It must be the person's will to be saved, before he is saved.

Zechariah 2:8 AMPC

8 For thus said the Lord of hosts, after [His] glory had sent me [His messenger] to the nations who plundered you—for he who touches you touches <u>the apple or pupil of His eye</u>:

Zechariah 2:8 KJV

8 For thus saith the Lord of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth <u>the</u> <u>apple of his eye.</u>

"After the glory hath he sent me": The Messiah is sent by the "LORD of hosts" (verse 9), to procure His glory and to vindicate Him in the nations who have spoiled Israel.

"The apple of his eye"

Deuteronomy 32:1-10 KJV

1 Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.

2 My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass:

3 Because I will publish the name of the Lord: ascribe ye greatness unto our God.

4 He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.

5 They have corrupted themselves, their spot is not the spot of his children: they are a perverse and crooked generation.

6 Do ye thus requite the Lord, O foolish people and unwise? is not he thy father that hath bought thee? hath he not made thee, and established thee?

7 Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee. 8 When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel.

<u>9 For the Lord's portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his</u> inheritance.

<u>10 He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling</u> wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye.

Harming God's chosen people is like striking the pupil of God's eye. Israel is spoken of as the "apple of His eye". The LORD of hosts will destroy the enemy of Israel and those opposed to Israel are opposed to God.

Zechariah 2:9 AMPC

9 Behold, I will swing my hand over them and they shall become plunder for those who served them. Then you shall know (recognize and understand) that the Lord of hosts has sent me [His messenger].

Zechariah 2:9 KJV

9 For, behold, I will shake mine hand upon them, and they shall be a spoil to their servants: and ye shall know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me.

"For, behold, I will shake mine hand upon them": The nations; either the Babylonian, or the anti christian states. Meaning, that he would exert his power, and inflict punishment on them, and utterly destroy them; which would be done by the bare shaking of his hand.

"And they shall be a spoil to their servants": As the Babylonians were to the Persians. Not through Cyrus, which had been done; but through Darius, who took Babylon, after a siege of twenty months, and put great numbers to death. And all became a spoil to the Persians, who had been their servants.

Or the ten kings, that gave their kingdoms to the beast, and were subject to him; but now shall hate the whore, and eat her flesh. And all her riches and revenues shall be a spoil unto them, and be divided among them.

Revelation 17:12-14 KJV

12 And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

13 These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.

14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

"And ye shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me": Either the Prophet Zechariah, that he was a true prophet, and had his mission from the LORD of hosts, as will appear by the accomplishment of these prophecies. Or rather Christ, sent by God the Father; and who will be known and owned by the Jews, as well as by the Gentiles, to be the "sent" of God, when the antichrist will be destroyed. When God stretches out His hand and shakes the nations, it is in wrath.

In Verses 10-13, The language is once again messianic, describing the personal presence of the Messiah, dwelling on the throne of David in Jerusalem during the Millennium.

Zechariah 2:10 AMPC

10 Sing and rejoice, O Daughter of Zion; for behold, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of you, says the Lord.

<u>Zechariah 2:10 KJV</u>

10 Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the Lord.

"Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion": The Jewish people now being converted - that was the messiah. Just like it was at the time of Christ when the whole Christian church at this time, consisting of Jews and Gentiles, who are called upon to rejoice and sing at the destruction of anti christ (Rev. 18:20).

Revelation 18:20 AMPC

20 Rejoice (celebrate) over her, O heaven! <u>O saints (people of God) and</u> <u>apostles and prophets</u>, because God has executed vengeance for you upon her!

Revelation 18:20 KJV

20 Rejoice over her, *thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets*; for God hath avenged you on her.

And because of the presence of God in the midst of them, as follows:

"For, lo, I come": Not in the flesh: this is not to be understood of the incarnation of Christ; or of his coming in human nature to dwell in the land of Judea. But of his spiritual coming in the latter day, to set up his kingdom in the world, in a more visible and glorious manner.

"And I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the LORD": The presence of Christ in his churches, and with his people, in attendance on His Word and oOdinances, will be very manifest and constant in the latter day.

This is speaking to the church of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jerusalem is rebuilt, Jesus will reign, and we will have perfect peace. It is not just on occasion that He is there, but all the time.

Echoing the promise to Abraham (Gen. 12:3), many nations will join themselves to the LORD (6:15; 8:20-23; Isa. 2:2-4; 56:6-7; 60:3).

Zechariah 2:11 AMPC

11 And many nations shall join themselves to the Lord in that day and shall be My people. And I will dwell in the midst of you, and you shall know (recognize and understand) that the Lord of hosts has sent me [His messenger] to you.

Zechariah 2:11 KJV

11 And many nations shall be joined to the Lord in that day, and shall be my people: and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto thee.

"And many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day": The Gospel will be preached in all nations, and multitudes will be converted, and embrace and profess the Christian religion, and join themselves to the churches or assemblies of Christ.

Which, in the New Testament, is expressed by being joined to the LORD

Jeremiah 50:5 AMPC

5 They shall ask the way to Zion, with their faces in that direction, saying, Come, let us join ourselves to the Lord in a perpetual covenant that shall not be forgotten.

"And shall be my people": Shall appear to be so, who before were not the people of God; did not profess themselves, and were not known to be, the people of God. Though they secretly were in the counsel and covenant of God; but now, being called by grace, they become openly and manifestly his people (1 Pet. 2:10).

"And I will dwell in the midst of thee": In the church, consisting of people of many nations, as well as of Jews.

"And thou shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto thee": To the Jews, as well as to the Gentiles. This is not speaking of just physical Israel, but all nations whose people come to Christ as their Savior and Lord. This speaks of a time when whole nations or nationalities will seek out the Lord.

<u>Revelation 21:24 AMPC</u>

24 The nations shall walk by its light and the rulers and leaders of the earth shall bring into it their glory.

God's people are made up of all nations... Paul wrote:

Hebrews 2:12 AMPC

12 For He says, I will declare Your [the Father's] name to My brethren; in the midst of the [worshiping] congregation I will sing hymns of praise to You.

Zechariah 2:12 AMPC

12 And the Lord shall inherit Judah as His portion in the holy land and shall again choose Jerusalem.

<u>Zechariah 2:12 KJV</u>

12 And the Lord shall inherit Judah his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again.

"Holy land": This is the site of Jesus the Messiah's earthly throne when the land has been cleansed. A holy land is appropriate and expected for its holy LORD (Isa. 6:1-5).

Isaiah 6:1-5 AMPC

1 In the year that King Uzziah died, [in a vision] I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and the skirts of His train filled the [most holy part of the] temple.

2 Above Him stood the seraphim; each had six wings: with two [each] covered his [own] face, and with two [each] covered his feet, and with two [each] flew.

3 And one cried to another and said, Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!

4 And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who cried, and the house was filled with smoke.

5 Then said I, Woe is me! For I am undone and ruined, because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!

The Prophet in Zechariah 2:12 is saying that the headquarters of salvation for the whole world is in Judah. Christianity began in Judah with the Jews, and spread to the whole world.

Zechariah 2:13 AMPC

13 <u>Be still, all flesh, before the Lord,</u> for He is aroused and risen from *His holy habitation*.

Zechariah 2:13 KJV

13 <u>Be silent, O all flesh</u>, before the Lord: for he is raised up out of his holy habitation.

"His holy habitation": God's dwelling in heaven (Psalms 15:1; 24:3).

Psalm 15:1 AMPC

1 Lord, who shall dwell [temporarily] in Your tabernacle? Who shall dwell [permanently] on Your holy hill?

Psalm 15:1 KJV

15 Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?

Psalm 24:3 AMPC

3 Who shall go up into the mountain of the Lord? Or who shall stand in His Holy Place?

Psalm 24:3 KJV

3 Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place?

I love the following Scripture which is saying the same thing (Zec 2:13)

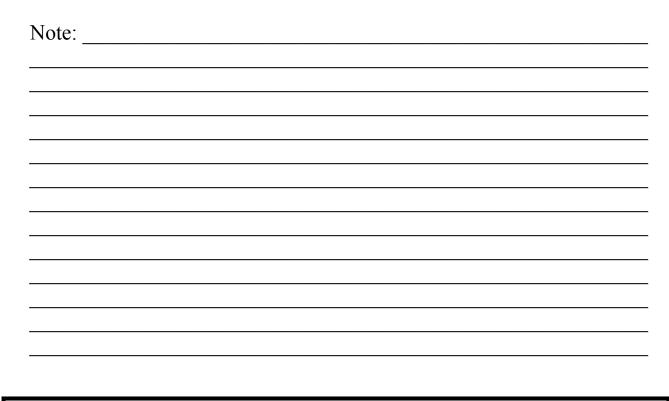
Psalm 46:10 AMPC

10 Let be and be still, and know (recognize and understand) that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations! I will be exalted in the earth!

Notice, this is for all the earth. The Lord brought salvation to whosoever will of all flesh, when He left heaven and came to earth to save us. He bought us all with His precious shed blood on the cross.

<u>1 Timothy 4:10 AMPC</u>

10 With a view to this we toil and strive, [yes and] [a]suffer reproach, because we have [fixed our] hope on the living God, Who is the Savior (Preserver, Maintainer, Deliverer) of all men, <u>especially of those who</u> believe (trust in, rely on, and adhere to Him).





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