

his salutation to “the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad” (Jas 1:1). Though Jews of each tribe have begun to return to Palestine, a careful examination of Ezekiel’s prophecy reveals that these words will not be completely fulfilled until the second coming of Christ. <sup>1</sup>

Note also that this passage called the Messiah “David” because He would be a descendant of David and bring to Israel all the good aspects of David’s rule—and much more (37:24). <sup>1</sup>

Zephaniah 3:11-20 God promised that His people would be fully restored to Jerusalem and the promised land in the last days. There would be joy in the city, no more lying, no unrighteousness, an abundance of peace and security because the Messiah would be in their midst. Zephaniah encouraged the people to take heart because of God’s assurance of restoration. In contrast to the messages of doom and judgment on Israel, this prophecy promised blessing and God’s intent to make Israel “a praise among all the people of the earth” (3:20). <sup>2</sup>

UNIVERSAL PEACE ESTABLISHED (Psalm 72:3-8; Isaiah 11:6-9; Micah 4:3-4)

The Messiah will possess God’s understanding. He will righteously judge the poor and the wicked, and righteousness shall be the girdle of His loins, and faithfulness the girdle of His reigns (which indicates the character of His government; Isaiah 11:3-5). All nations will accept the Messiah (11:10).

1. From Isaiah 11:6-8, the curse is lifted from the earth at this time of Universal Peace. Give 2 descriptions.

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(2) \_\_\_\_\_  
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1. KJV Prophecy Bible, Grant R. Jeffery, p. 927,928, Notes; 2. p. 1039, Notes.

## FOURTEENTH STUDY

### CHRIST’S MILLENNIAL REIGN

The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on the earth for one thousand years (Zech.14:5; Matt. 24:27,30; Rev. 1:7; 19: 11-14; 20:1-6). This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel (Ezek. 37:21-22 [fulfilling the gathering of the Jews]; Zeph.3:19-20; Rom.11:26-27; and the establishment of universal peace (Ps.72:3-8; Isa.11:6-9; Mic.4:3-4). <sup>1</sup>

### THE VISIBLE RETURN OF CHRIST (Revelation 19:11-16)

*And I saw heaven opened (standing open), 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. (See Isaiah 63:4).*

*His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns (all the crowns of the nations); and He had a name written, that no man knew, but He Himself.*

*And He was clothed with a vesture (upper garment; mantle; [some believe the shawl]) dipped in blood: and His name (title) is called The Word of God. (See Isaiah 63:2,3; John 1:1).*

*And the armies which were in heaven followed Him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean (these armies are the saints of God: all those who have ever lived: signified by the white linen garments [v. 8]; [ref. Matthew 28:3]).*

*And out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations (to visit with evils to kill; to destroy them): and He shall rule them with a rod (staff) of iron: and He treadeth the winepress of His fierceness and wrath of Almighty God (refers to the Battle of Armageddon; the first time Jesus came, He came with love and mercy; this coming will be*

1. Bible Doctrines a Pentecostal Perspective by William W. Menzies and Stanley M. Horton, p. 228.

with God's judgment).

*And He hath on His vesture (robe) and on His thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.* (See Daniel 2:47).

We, the saints of God, will follow Him on white horses, but will not fight in this battle either, because the battle belongs to the Lord here, as well as the battles we face until this time in the future.

This writer believes: the sword out of His mouth represents His spoken Word, which He will use to speak the destruction of the nations. He will triumphantly speak the Word and it will happen as He speaks. The nations and that old dragon, Satan himself, will bow down to Him, and declare Him KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. THE MILLENNIUM (Zechariah 14:1-5)

The Mount of Olives will be where Christ's feet shall land and stand, facing Jerusalem on the east. The Mount of Olives will cleave (split or divide with force) in the midst toward the east and toward the west. Half the mountain will move toward the north and half toward the south.

Zechariah 13:8-9 This passage indicates that God's judgment at Christ's second coming will destroy two-thirds of the Jewish people (see Isa 48:10). Only a small remnant will be left from this refining to be saved (see Ro 11:26). <sup>1</sup>

The "day of the Lord"(14:1) is the focus of Zechariah's remaining prophecies. In this concluding vision, the prophet described the Battle of Armageddon and the final battle for Jerusalem when the armies of the antichrist would lay siege to Jerusalem in the days following their defeat at Armageddon (Rev. 19:11-21). Though many captives will be taken, Jesus and His army will descend from heaven to rescue Israel

from certain destruction, and the evil nations will be supernaturally destroyed. In light of Zechariah's earlier prophesy regarding Israel's repentance after the Battle of Armageddon (see 12:10-14) it is possible that these events will be spread over a period of several days, rather than a one-day battle as some commentators have suggested. <sup>1</sup>

Note that Zechariah intimated that the return of Christ would cause the Mount of Olives to split in two, revealing a valley from the Dead Sea to the Mediterranean. This valley would offer a way of escape for those survivors fleeing Jerusalem. Yet God's victory over His enemies is assured. This vision parallels the prophetic visions of Joel 3:11; Jude 14; and Rev 11-14. <sup>1</sup>

Revelation 12:7-14 - When Christ declares war against Satan, the archangel Michael will marshal the awesome military forces of heaven to defeat Satan and his army of fallen angels. This war at the midpoint of the seven-year tribulation will result in Satan's final expulsion from heaven to earth. This expulsion will so enrage him that his anger will burn against God's people. Satan will realize that his wicked rule is about to end in a short time and he will terrorize Israel. God will supernaturally intervene and protect Israel from the persecution of Satan "for a time, and times, and half a time" (12:14) or 3 1/2 years. <sup>2</sup>

SALVATION OF NATIONAL ISRAEL (Ezekiel 37:21-22; Zeephaniah 3:19-20; Romans 11:26-27)

Ezekiel 37:15-28 The prophet indicated that in the last days God would finally restore the northern kingdom of Israel that was exiled in 721 B.C., and join them with the exiled kingdom of Judah so that they would never again "be divided into two kingdoms" (37:22). James echoed this prophecy in

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1. KJV Prophecy Study Bible, Grant R. Jeffrey, p.1056, Notes.

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1. KJV Prophecy Bible, Grant R. Jeffrey, p.1056, Notes.

2. KJV Prophecy Bible, Grant R. Jeffrey, p. 1461, Notes.