

Devoted Disciple

Series 7: Zechariah Guide
God's Purpose for the Jews

Key Passage Guide
Commentary + Scripts

Zechariah Guide- Promised Coming of Mashiach/ Timeline.

Introduction:

If you are a Jew, you likely identify with Judah's line, its anointed King David and the House's Heir, Mashiach, the Son of David. But, you have questions.

In Babylon, the Jews were thrown into a perplexing exile, as they were stripped of the land and tested in their faith. This perplexity continued, as the Jewish people were yet again subjected to another dispersion only to be regathered in these later days. What is God doing?

God spoke through the prophet Zechariah to guide His Jewish people from the Babylonian exile to His Mashiach and His coming world-wide Kingdom.

First, let's start in the Babylonian Exile to see what the Word of the Lord says to the Jewish people. Then, let's consider His promise of the coming Mashiach and his redemption of the Jews. Fast forward to the coming day of the Lord, when Mashiach saves Jerusalem from a global invasion. In the Last Days, Mashiach returns to Rule and Dwell on the Earth. Finally, consider the peace and joy Jews enjoy as Mashiach dwells in Jerusalem and rules over the earth.

So, join us we let **Zechariah Guide** us through these five clear phases of God's timeline for his Jewish people.

May our the Shalom of Yahweh Elohim be upon Jerusalem forever and ever!

Derek

1. Babylonian Exile: Lord Judges Israel

<p>¹² Then the angel of the Lord¹ said, ‘O Lord of hosts, how long will you have no mercy on Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, against which you have been angry these seventy years?’ ¹³ And the Lord answered gracious and comforting words to the angel who talked with me. Zech. 1:12-13.</p>	<p>1. Mashiach intercedes for Jerusalem in Exile. Lord Mashiach intercedes for Israel to the Lord of Hosts.</p>
<p>Again I lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, a flying scroll! ² And he said to me, “What do you see?” I answered, “I see a flying scroll. Its length is twenty cubits, and its width ten cubits.” ³ Then he said to me, “This is the curse that goes out over the face of the whole land. For everyone who steals shall be cleaned out according to what is on one side, and everyone who swears falsely shall be cleaned out according to what is on the other side. 5:1-4.</p>	<p>2. False devotion² and Law-breaking Condemned. Israel is convicted both for open Law-breaking and False Devotion:</p>
<p>⁵ “Say to all the people of the land and the priests, ‘When you fasted and mourned in the fifth month and in the seventh, for these seventy years, was it for me that you fasted? ⁶ And when you eat and when you drink, do you not eat for yourselves and drink for yourselves? ⁷ Were not these the words that the Lord proclaimed by the former prophets, when Jerusalem was inhabited and prosperous, with her cities around her, and the South and the lowland were inhabited?’” 7:5-7</p>	<p>3. False Devotion selfishly focuses on Jewish Life not Lord. Both priests and people of Israel guilty of False Devotion: devoted more to Jewish-centered Life than to Lord of Hosts.</p>

¹ **The Angel of the Lord:** As *elohim* (Gen. 1:6-7, 26), God who is the *Prince of Peace* (Is. 9:6) as the Son of God (Ps. 2:10), who obeyed the Father’s command (Gen. 1:6) to create the firmament—*rakiya* (Gen. 1:7), is the Lord (Zech. 2:10) sent by the Lord of Hosts (2:9), so He is called *the Angel of the Lord*.... Not simply an Angel, Mashiach is the Son sent by the Father in order to speak as God (Gen. 16:10); to embody the holy presence of God (Ex. 3:2-6); and, to execute the holy judgment of God (2 Sam. 24:16), taking on the names of His fathers as “the Lord God” (being the Son of God) and “David their King” (being the Son of David (Jer. 30:9).

² **Swearing Falsely:** Obeying God’s Law requires one to keep and act on its *literal requirements* (letter of the Law) and its underlying purpose in heart-obedience (Spirit of the Law). So, the Lawlessness condemned by the Scroll involves both blatant disobedience—“stealing” but also “swearing falsely” in which words promise one thing but the *heart is lawless in its devotion to a foreign god*. This is the case with False Devotion, of which the Lord accuses the Jews in Zech. 7:5-7. Even in their “fasting,” their hearts are given not to God Himself but remain “Self-focused”—performing acts of devotion for a Self-Serving benefit (7:6). Certainly, this mis-directed focus on the Jewish Self is recognizable even today. Guided by its proud procession of Jewish teachers, the Jews direct all aspects of life to the *nobler good* of Jewish Identity—even elevating their own words to the status of *Oral Torah*. But the Law’s Spirit is the sacrificial devotion to the Lord that we see in the *akedah* when Abraham sacrifice Isaac (Gen. 22). But, devotion fixated on preserving Jewish Life and its human traditions is condemned as “swearing falsely”—for, the Jews withheld their rightful devotion to Jesus as their Mashiach for the sake of preserving their way of life, leading to their time of desolation.

1. Babylonian Exile:

Know first that Mashiach and His heart have always been for the Jewish people. During their Babylonian captivity, Mashiach as “the angel of the Lord” intercedes for Jerusalem and her exiled people to appease the Lord’s anger, saying: “O Lord, how long will you have no mercy on Jerusalem?” (Zech. 1:12b).

See, the Law reveals the basis of the Lord’s condemnation. The Jews are guilty not just of such blatant Law-breaking as “stealing.” Rather, a far more subtle sin plagues the Jews-- “false devotion” (5:1-4). Even in their *fasting* during the seventy years of Babylonian Exile, the Jews were guilty of *performing their acts of devotion* for themselves (7:6). Self-centered devotion steals honor from the Lord. So, celebrations of *Jewish Life* replace “Hallelujah” exalting God with self-satisfied toasts of “L’chaim.”

As we will see next, Jewish prophets and shepherds cultivated a *Jewish identity* which turned the people against Jesus as their Mashiach.

2. First Coming of Yeshua Mashiach: Lord Ransoms but is Rejected by Israel

<p>8 Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who sit before you, for they are men who are a sign³: behold, I will bring my servant the Branch. 9 For behold, on the stone that I have set before Joshua, on a single stone with seven eyes, I will engrave its inscription, declares the Lord of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of this land in a single day. 3:8-9</p>	<p>1. Mission of Mashiach: Joshua signifies Mashiach as Yeshua (Joshua), Branch of Lord (Jer. 23:6), who removes iniquity in single day (on cross) (Mt. 27:50-51), to be perfected (Rev. 2:17, 5:6).</p>
<p>¹¹Take from them silver and gold, and make a crown, and set it on the head of Joshua, the son of Jehozadak, the high priest. ¹²And say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts, “Behold, the man whose name is the Branch: for he shall branch out from his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord. ¹³It is he who shall build the temple of the Lord and shall bear royal honor, and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there¹⁴ shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.”’ 6:11-13</p>	<p>2. Priest on His Throne. As illustrated by Joshua, Mashiach, the Branch is first to be a <i>priest</i> who will then <i>rule on his throne</i> (6:13).</p>
<p>Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. 9:9</p>	<p>3. Humbled Mashiach Saves: Mashiach comes first as a Humble King to bring Salvation.</p>
<p>Thus said the Lord my God: “Become shepherd of the flock doomed to slaughter. 5 Those who buy them slaughter them and go unpunished, and those who sell them say, ‘Blessed be the Lord, I have become rich,’ and their own shepherds have no pity on them. 11:4-5.</p>	<p>4. Jesus Mashiach called to Shepherd Doomed Flock. Jesus Mashiach shepherds doomed flock of Israel.</p>
<p>13 “As I called, and they would not hear, so they called, and I would not hear,” says the Lord of hosts, 14 “and I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations that they had not known. Thus the land they left was desolate, so that no one went to and fro, and the pleasant land was made desolate.” 7:13-14.</p>	<p>5. Israel Ignores Jesus as Mashiach so Desolated. Israel does not Hear Call of Mashiach: Resulting Desolation among Nations.</p>
<p>For the household gods utter nonsense, and the diviners see lies; they tell false dreams and give empty consolation. Therefore the people wander like sheep; they are afflicted for lack of a shepherd. 3 “My anger is hot against the shepherds, and I will punish the leaders; for the Lord of hosts cares for his flock, the house of Judah, and will make them like his majestic steed in battle. 10:2-3</p>	<p>6. Lord Condemns Israel’s Shepherds for Falsehood. Lord Condemns Israel’s Shepherds: People wander as Sheep due to Falsehood.</p>
<p>So I became the shepherd of the flock doomed to be slaughtered by the sheep traders. And I took two staffs, one I named Favor, the other I named Union. And I tended the sheep. 8 In one month I destroyed the three shepherds. But I became impatient with them, and they also detested me. 11:7-8</p>	<p>7. Jesus Mashiach rebukes Israel’s Shepherds: Pharisees (Mt. 23:13), Sadducees (22:29), and Priests (26:64).</p>
<p>¹⁰And I took my staff Favor, and I broke it, annulling the covenant that I had made with all the peoples. ¹¹So it was annulled on that day, and the sheep traders, who were watching me, knew that it was the word of the Lord. ¹²Then I said to them, “If it seems good to you, give me my wages; but if not, keep them.” And they weighed out as my wages thirty pieces of silver. ¹³Then the Lord said to me, “Throw it to the potter”—the lordly price at which I was priced by them. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the Lord, to the potter. ¹⁴Then I broke my second staff Union, annulling the brotherhood between Judah and Israel. 11:1-14</p>	<p>8. Israel Rejects Jesus Mashiach as Valueless: Leaders sell out JEsus as Mashiach for thirty pieces of silver (Mt. 27:3, 9).</p>

³ The **Sign of Joshua the High Priest**: As the *high priest*, Joshua represented the Jews before the Lord, so he is first seen in “filthy garments” which must be replaced with “pure vestments” (3:4). If even the high priest is *filthy* before the Lord, how much more do the people need Mashiach’s redemption and the complete removal of their iniquity? (Zech. 3:9). Also, Joshua represents God to the Jewish people, so he *signifies* Mashiach himself, who is the Branch of David (3:8). First, Joshua signifies Mashiach in name, for His name is also Joshua—*Yeshua*; then, in role, for Mashiach rules as the atoning Priest on His throne (6:13), unifying both offices.

<p>2 And he said to me, "What do you see?" I said, "I see, and behold, a lampstand all of gold, with a bowl on the top of it, and seven lamps on it, with seven lips on each of the lamps that are on the top of it. 3 And there are two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left." 4:2-3</p>	<p>9. Lampstand⁴ Testifies of Jesus Mashiach in Israel's Desolation. Israel Fruitless Rejection of Jesus Desolates her, so Church testifies of Jesus Mashiach.</p>
<p>12 And a second time I answered and said to him, "What are these two Branches of the olive trees, which are beside the two golden pipes from which the golden oil is poured out?" 13 He said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" I said, "No, my lord." 14 Then he said, "These are the two anointed ones who stand by the Lord of the whole earth." 4:12-14.</p>	<p>10. David and Jesus Anointed Branches⁵ of Israel. Even during Testimony of Church's Lampstand, Jesus Mashiach is still Israel's Anointed Branch, as David was in Israel's first Kingdom.</p>

⁴ **Olive Trees and Lampstand:** When the Flock of Judah rejects its God-anointed Shepherd (Zech. 11:13), it enters a time of fruitless desolation (7:13-14). Israel's increasingly Self-devotion (7:5-7) turns it against Jesus as her Mashiach at His coming, so Judah abandons its responsibility to bear fruitful witness of Mashiach. This responsibility passes to the Lampstand of the Church for seven phases. The Jewish people regain their place as the Lord's fruitful olive tree once the "Spirit of grace and supplication" (12:10) turns Jerusalem's gaze from a Jewish-centrism to its Saving Redeemer, Jesus Mashiach who returns in power to save all Israel (10). Mashiach as always been Judah's anointed Branch (Jer. 23:6), and once the Jews recognize Him as their Firstborn Son, their appointed Mashiach, they bear fruit once more to save a world plunging into darkness.

⁵ **Jesus as Mashiach:** As we have seen, Mashiach is to be *first a priest* who is then *enthroned* to rule over a people and kingdom (Zech.6:13). He must perform His priestly service first to "remove the iniquity of the land in a single day" (3:9), for the Jews cannot inherit the land permanently nor rebuild God's holy Temple unless they are free from iniquity. But, if even Joshua the high priest is "filthy" in the Lord's presence (3:3), then he and his people must be first *redeemed* of their sins by Mashiach. And, to accomplish this salvation, Mashiach must come "humbled" (9:3). Here, we see why only Mashiach is suited to be the Kinsman-Redeemer to remove the iniquity of His people. Mashiach must be the "Son" of God (2 Sam. 7:14), spiritually born of God (Ps. 2:7) as Elohim (Ps. 45:6) to bear and ransom the sins of His people, for merely human life cannot pay the high price of man's infinite guilt before God (Ps. 49:7-8). For, bearing the holy "image" of God (Gen. 1:26), the Jewish people (and all humanity) have all defiled His glory by choosing to sin (Is. 1:1-4, 11-17). Yet, only Jesus as the Son of David, born in weak flesh, can give His life over to death as an offering for sin's atonement (Is. 53:10, 12). Thus, before Jesus Mashiach could ascend the throne, He was required to fulfil His priestly duties for His household by atoning for their sin (Zech. 3:9) that one day on the cross (1 Pet. 2:24). In this way, the Lord God himself prophesied that Mashiach, His Son, would be "disciplined" for iniquity in His service as Kinsman-Redeemer (2 Samuel 7:14).

2. First Coming of Yeshua Mashiach.

In their time of desperation, the Lord God reassures Judah of the promise of Mashiach. He pinpoints the high priest Joshua as a “sign,” a living illustration of what Mashiach would do to redeem David’s ruined House. Through the prophet Jeremiah, the Lord God had not only cut off the Davidic line at Jeconiah by cursing his *Seed* (Jer. 22:30), but he then promised to *raise up Seed* for David as a *righteous Branch* (23:5) to “rule as king” and to “save Judah” (6). But, how would this Branch “save” Judah? The Lord clarifies to Joshua that this Branch would be the “stone” to “remove the iniquity of this land in a single day” (9).

Remember, the people of Judah was caught in a cycle of Jewish *self-devotion* (Zech. 7:6) which made it as guilty of Law-breaking before the Lord as much as *breaches of Torah* (5:4). In this respect, Judah and Israel were both guilty of “vain offerings” (Is. 1:13) which whitewashed an underlying “iniquity” in the hearts of the people whose “sins are like scarlet” (1:18). Even Joshua the high priest was “filthy” and unqualified for service (Zech. 3:3). So, Mashiach’s first task as “priest” would be to sanctify His people of their sins (3:9) to become their source of righteousness (Jer. 23:6) before He would ascend to “rule” on His throne. For, Mashiach was to be “a priest on His throne” (6:13).

Thus, Jesus came to Israel humbly as “king” (9:9), for only this *humbled* Mashiach would be able to perform His priestly service to gain Judah’s “salvation” (9), being “disciplined” for the iniquity of his people as the Lord had promised (2 Sam. 7:14). So, the Lord God appointed Jesus Mashiach as the “Shepherd” of this “flock” of Judah (11:4), knowing full well that the Jews of that day would *resist His rule and refuse His “call”* (7:13) and so choose “desolation” (14) for themselves.

Ultimately, it was Judah’s *shepherds* who doomed this “flock” to “slaughter” (11:7), so Jesus Mashiach condemned that generations Pharisees (Mt. 23:13), Sadducees (22:29), and Priests (26:64), inciting the Jews to “annul the covenant” which would have ushered in the Davidic Kingdom (11:10). Instead, Judah sold out their king for thirty pieces of silver (11:12) and withered as a fruitful Olive Tree. Cast again into the nations, desolate Judah silently watched the Seven Lamps of the Church testify of Jesus Mashiach (4:2).

However, the Lord’s calling remained irrevocable. Jesus Mashiach is the anointed Branch over the house of Judah, and He has already won for them a redemption of their sins which awaited their repentance (Rom. 3:23-26). The Jews need only turn from their Self-sufficient Judaism to turn again to the only Lord who could Redeem them, their Anointed Branch, Jesus Mashiach, and they would be restored as God’s Olive Tree (4:14).

3.Salvation of Jesus Mashiach: Lord Redeems Israel

<p>7 Thus says the Lord of hosts: Behold, I will save my people from the east country and from the west country, 8 and I will bring them to dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in faithfulness and in righteousness.” 8:7-8</p>	<p>1. Israel gathered from Nations to Jerusalem. Israel has been gathered to Jerusalem from distant countries in Last Days.</p>
<p>“I will whistle for them and gather them in, for I have redeemed them, and they shall be as many as they were before. ⁹Though I scattered them among the nations, yet in far countries they shall remember me, and with their children they shall live and return. 10:8-9</p>	<p>2. Lord Mashiach has already Redeemed Israel so Gathers Them. Jesus Mashiach has already paid for Israel’s redemption, so gathers them so they might remember Lord and take hold of their redemption (Rm. 11:25-27)</p>
<p>²“Behold, I am about to make Jerusalem a cup of staggering to all the surrounding peoples. The siege of Jerusalem will also be against Judah. ³On that day I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples. All who lift it will surely hurt themselves. And all the nations of the earth will gather against it. 12:2-3</p>	<p>3. Nations Threaten Jerusalem and Judah: All Nations Gather to Destroy Israel and Jerusalem.</p>
<p>“I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph. I will bring them back because I have compassion on them, and they shall be as though I had not rejected them, for I am the Lord their God and I will answer them. 10:6</p>	<p>4. Lord Answers Prayers for Salvation to End Desolation: The Lord Saves Israel and Answers their Prayer, ending time of Desolation.</p>
<p>I will make them strong in the Lord, and they shall walk in his name,” declares the Lord. 10:12</p>	<p>5. Israel Strengthened in the Lord.</p>
<p>⁷“And the Lord will give salvation to the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem may not surpass that of Judah. ⁸On that day the Lord will protect the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the feeblest among them on that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like God, like the angel of the Lord, going before them. ⁹And on that day I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. 12:7-9</p>	<p>6. Judah and Jerusalem Saved. Lord Mashiach comes to protect Israel, so Judah has victory.</p>
<p>¹⁰“And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps</p>	<p>7. Israel Sees Jesus Mashiach who Saves from Afar⁶: On Day of the Lord, Israel Seeks and Sees Lord Mashiach as Jesus, the One Pierced. All Israel Repents</p>

⁶ **Looking upon one Pierced... Firstborn Son:** On the path of Self-blessing, the Jewish People sought to secure the *rich life* by their own hand—through a Jewish righteousness of oral Torah, halakah, and culturally acceptable *mitzvot*. However, seeking self-gratification caused them to abandon God’s plan of blessing, for God blesses Judah as an **inheritance** passed on through the **designated Firstborn Son**, Mashiach. Named Shiloh (Gen. 49:10), this Firstborn of the House of David was the one to distribute the inheritance to the entire family. Instead, the Jews rejected the one the Lord had raised up as the Son of David (2 Sam. 7:12) and the Son of God (2 Sam. 7:14), the one coming from David’s own body (12) by the Holy Spirit (Mt. 1:18). And, not just rejected but *pierced*. So, the Jewish nation finally looks upon this Firstborn Son, their redeeming Mashiach who has already paid for their iniquity by His blood sacrifice (Is. 53:10). They see, and they recognize Him. Reborn in their *teshuvah* in mourning, the Jewish people finally secure both a permanent righteousness in Mashiach (Jer. 23:6-7) and also their long-promised Inheritance in Mashiach. Redeemed in Mashiach, they finally have the spiritual mandate and authority to build God’s Temple.

<p>over a firstborn. ¹¹ On that day the mourning in Jerusalem will be as great as the mourning for Hadad-rimmon in the plain of Megiddo. ¹² The land shall mourn, each family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves; ¹³ the family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the Shimeites by itself, and their wives by themselves; ¹⁴ and all the families that are left, each by itself, and their wives by themselves. 12:10-14</p>	<p>with weeping: Anointed to Serve Jesus Mashiach Forever (Rev. 7:1-12)</p>
<p>7 Up! Escape to Zion, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon. 8 For thus said the Lord of hosts, after his glory sent me to the nations who plundered you, for he who touches you touches the apple of his eye: 9 “Behold, I will shake my hand over them, and they shall become plunder for those who served them. Then you will know that the Lord of hosts has sent me. 2:7-9</p>	<p>8. Lord of Hosts sends Lord Mashiach to Save Israel: In Last Days, Israel returns to Zion where Lord Mashiach is sent for her Salvation.</p>
<p>⁹ Thus says the Lord of hosts: “Let your hands be strong, you who in these days have been hearing these words from the mouth of the prophets who were present on the day that the foundation of the house of the Lord of hosts was laid, that the temple might be built. 8:9</p>	<p>9. Last Days, Spiritual House(hold) of Lord builds Temple. ⁷ In Propheesied Day, Israel lays Foundation of Spiritual House (beit) that will rebuild Temple (hekal).</p>
<p>“On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness. 13:1</p>	<p>10. Israel is Reborn Spiritually: Spirit is poured out (Jn. 7:37-39; Ezek. 38:11-14).</p>
<p>² “And on that day, declares the Lord of hosts, I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, so that they shall be remembered no more. And also I will remove from the land the prophets and the spirit of uncleanness. ³ And if anyone again prophesies, his father and mother who bore him will say to him, ‘You shall not live, for you speak lies in the name of the Lord.’ And his father and mother who bore him shall pierce him through when he prophesies. 13:2-3</p>	<p>11. Idolatrous False Prophets Cut Off: The Lord of Hosts cuts off names of False Teachers and Shepherds who led Israel astray—Jewish Oral Torah and Rabbinic traditions. It is these shepherds and their teachings which turned Israel against Jesus as Mashiach:</p>

⁷ **Redeemed House builds Temple:** Only a people Redeemed with Mashiach’s Righteousness can build the Temple. So, Israel must come to Jesus Mashiach first to be reborn spiritually as members of His House (2 Sam. 7:12-13) before it can build a Temple (hekal) for the Lord.

3. Salvation of Jesus Mashiach.

Despite their desolation, the Lord God has never wavered in His faithfulness to the Jews, who remain His “people” (8:7), whom He has already “redeemed” (10:8), having paid for their eventual restoration and righteousness pending their inevitable repentance (10:8). Due to these unshakeable realities, the Lord God “gathers” (8:7) back to the promised land of Israel in order that He might “dwell” among them in the end (8).

However, as long as the Jewish people are confident in their own capacity to *redeem* themselves and in the resilience of Jewish identity and culture to *save themselves*, their sin of *false devotion* remains (5:4; 7:6), cheapening their view of Jesus Mashiach to a trifle valued in silver coins (11:12). So, the Lord God will bring the Jewish people to the brink of destruction, as Earth’s nations gather against the Jews (12:3). As they turn from their *former idols to the Lord*, God strengthens them once more (10:6).

But, in their most desperate crisis, the Lord God pours out on them His Spirit of “grace and pleas for mercy” (12:10), turning their gaze from an earth-bound Judaism skyward, as they look to the heavens for salvation. In that moment, the coming Lord says, “they Look on Me” (10), and they see the face of Jesus, “him whom they have pierced” (10). All at once, their desolating choice to deny Jesus as their Mashiach for the trifles of an *earth-bound Judaism* shake their hearts like the *loss of an “only child,” like the death of a “firstborn.”* In a moment, mourning for the lost generations moves Judah to *weep*.

Now, Judah knows that the Lord of Hosts has sent the Lord Jesus Mashiach as its Savior (2:9). With Judah now securely established with Jesus Mashiach as its Head, the house’s eternally rooted “foundations” now position its people to build the “Temple” of the Lord (8:9). Now, the Jewish people drink deep from the “fountain” (13:1) of living water in a spiritual rebirth (Jer. 2:13; John 7:38-39) and cast aside the dead and unclean words of their *prophets* (13:2) who had turned Judah against Jesus as her Mashiach.

With Judah’s Spiritual Rebirth in the Lord Jesus Mashiach, its people rebuild the Temple and proclaim Jesus as Mashiach to a world darkened under the rule of the Antichrist. Having overrun the world, this Abominable ruler now turns his sights on Jerusalem.

4. Final Return of Jesus Mashiach: Reclaims the Stolen Land

“Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, against the man who stands next to me,” declares the Lord of hosts. **“Strike the shepherd,** and the sheep will be scattered; I will turn my hand against the little ones.

⁸ In the whole land, declares the Lord, two thirds shall be cut off and perish, and one third shall be left alive.

⁹ And I will put **this third into the fire, and refine** them as one refines silver, and test them as gold is tested. They will call upon my name, and I will answer them. I will say, ‘They are my people’; and they will say, ‘The Lord is my God.’” **13:7-9**

Behold, a day is coming for the Lord, when the spoil taken from you will be divided in your midst. ² For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city shall be taken and the houses plundered and the women raped. Half of the city shall go out into exile, but the rest of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

14:1-2

³ Then the Lord will go out and fight against those nations as when he fights on a day of battle. ⁴ On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives that lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward. ⁵ And you shall flee to the valley of my mountains, for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal. And you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. **Then the Lord my God will come, and all the holy ones with him. 14:3-5**

⁶ On that day there shall be no light, cold, or frost. ⁷ And there shall be a unique^[c] day, which is known to the Lord, neither day nor night, but at evening time there shall be light. ⁸ On that day living waters shall flow out from Jerusalem, half of them to the eastern sea^[d] and half of them to the western sea. It shall continue in summer as in winter. ⁹ And the Lord will be king over all the earth. On that day the Lord will be one and his name one. **14:6-9**

1. Last Days—Antichrist Strikes and People Tested⁸:

Israel tested for 3.5 years (Rev. 11; 12:6; Dan. 12:12). In Daniel’s final 7 Years, Antichrist after 3.5 years overruns land, defiles Temple (Dan. 9:27).

2. Day of the Lord: Lord Jesus Mashiach returns with His

Army of Saints: Mashiach returns and Stands on Mount of Olives to Save People. (Rev. 1:7; Ps. 110; Joel 2)

3. Lord Jesus Mashiach Brings Light to a darkened world:

Mashiach Rules as King in Jerusalem over all, as Living Water flows from Jerusalem to Entire world (John 7:37-39).

⁸ **Israel Tested and Approved:** When the Jewish people mourn their wayward rejection of Jesus Mashiach, a cleansing fountain is opened for them (13:1) and their Olive Tree starts to bear fruit throughout the world again (4:3) as it is united with its life-giving Branch of David (Jer. 23:6-7), Jesus Mashiach. Thus, Israel enters the final seven years of its prophetic timeline (Dan. 9:27) as it testifies of the Lord God and His Mashiach through its Temple worship (Rev. 11:1), its Jerusalem-based prophets (Rev. 11:3), and 144,000 apostles chosen from its sons sent out as witnesses to the world (Rev. 7:1-8; Matt. 24:9-14). As prophesied, the Abominable Antichrist overruns Jerusalem after 3.5 years, inviting his certain destruction as Jesus Mashiach returns in power to rescue the Jews at the Mount of Olives (Zech. 14:4).

4. Final Return of Jesus Mashiach.

Once more, Judah and Jerusalem are attacked by the nations, though now they suffer for the sake of the Lord Jesus Mashiach as Godless Antichrist seeks to be the center of human worship. Striking Israel's "shepherd" (13:7), the conqueror succeeds in overrunning Jerusalem and the Temple (13:8).

However, once Antichrist moves against Judah, he dooms himself to destruction, for He has touched the "apple of God's eye" (2:8), a blameless people who belong to the Lord Jesus Mashiach.

So, the Lord Jesus Mashiach returns to the land with His Hosts of might Saints (Joel 2:2-11), a great and "powerful army drawn up for battle" (2:5). His foot alights on the Mount of Olives, splitting it to form a sheltering valley (14:4).

Finally, the Lord of Hosts has claimed Israel for himself, establishing the Eternal Kingdom of God with a throne established in the heartland of Judah. Now, the people of Judah enter their Lord's rest and joy!

5. Lord Jesus Mashiach Dwells in Jerusalem: Rules World.

<p>¹⁶ Therefore, thus says the Lord, I have returned to Jerusalem with mercy; my house shall be built in it, declares the Lord of hosts, and the measuring line shall be stretched out over Jerusalem. ¹⁷ Cry out again, Thus says the Lord of hosts: My cities shall again overflow with prosperity, and the Lord will again comfort Zion and again choose Jerusalem.” Zech. 1:16-17</p>	<p>4. Lord Jesus Mashiach returns to dwell in Jerusalem: Mashiach prospers Israel’s cities and Build His House, continuing the Line of David (Ps. 45)</p>
<p>⁴ and said to him, “Run, say to that young man, ‘Jerusalem shall be inhabited as villages without walls, because of the multitude of people and livestock in it. ⁵ And I will be to her a wall of fire all around, declares the Lord, and I will be the glory in her midst.” 2:4-5</p>	<p>1. Lord Jesus Mashiach glorified in Jerusalem: Mashiach reveals His glory as a protective fire around Jerusalem.</p>
<p>¹⁰ Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion, for behold, I come and I will dwell in your midst, declares the Lord. ¹¹ And many nations shall join themselves to the Lord in that day, and shall be my people. And I will dwell in your midst, and you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you. ¹² And the Lord will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land, and will again choose Jerusalem.” ¹³ Be silent, all flesh, before the Lord, for he has roused himself from his holy dwelling. 2:10-13.</p>	<p>2. Lord Jesus Mashiach Inherits⁹ Judah as His Portion: Jesus Mashiach dwells in Zion and inherits Judah as His portion as many nations join themselves to the Lord.</p>
<p>¹ Take from them silver and gold, and make a crown, and set it on the head of Joshua, the son of Jehozadak, the high priest. ¹² And say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts, “Behold, the man whose name is the Branch: for he shall branch out from his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord. ¹³ It is he who shall build the temple of the Lord and shall bear royal honor, and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both. 6:11-13.</p>	<p>3. Mashiach Rules as Priest on His Throne: Jesus Mashiach, the Branch, rules as the priest on His throne, as foretold by Joshua the priest.</p>
<p>⁵ “And those who are far off shall come and help to build the temple of the Lord. And you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you. And this shall come to pass, if you will diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God.” 6:15</p>	<p>4. Remnant Builds Temple: The Returnees rebuild the Temple of the Lord.</p>
<p>² “Thus says the Lord of hosts: I am jealous for Zion with great jealousy, and I am jealous for her with great wrath. ³ Thus says the Lord: I have returned to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem, and Jerusalem shall be called the faithful city, and the mountain of the Lord of hosts, the holy mountain. ⁴ Thus says the Lord of hosts: Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of great age. ⁵ And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets. ⁶ Thus says the Lord of hosts: If it is marvelous in the sight of the remnant of this people in those days, should it also be marvelous in my sight, declares the Lord of hosts? 8:2-6</p>	<p>5. Mashiach Brings Peace and Joy to Jerusalem: The Lord Mashiach dwells in Zion, as Jerusalem gains renown as the Faithful City and His people as His Holy Mountain. Peace and rest fill the streets of Jerusalem with young and old.</p>

⁹ **Lord Jesus Mashiach’s Inheritance:** The epic story of Mashiach tells of the greatest sacrifice and the redemption of an entire people, and the world itself. Yet, this one who is called “the Lord” (2:11-12) is also simply the son of his father, David. As a son, raised up as the house of David’s *redeemer*, he has the simple charge to restore David’s royal lineage on earth, for it was sundered at Jeconiah (Jer. 22:30). In this way, Jesus Mashiach shall build His house in Jerusalem to restart David’s line, as did his ancestors Judah (Gen. 38:8) and Boaz (Ruth 4:10) before him. As Jesus Mashiach takes his rightful place in Jerusalem, He also “inherits Judah” as His ancestral house (Zech. 2:12), being its Firstborn Head. Like his anointed predecessor, David, Jesus Mashiach is beloved because he is a brother among brothers. Yes, he is *elohim* on His throne (Ps. 45:6) but He is also one of us, our King accompanied by his queen (45:9).

¹¹ But now I will not deal with **the remnant** of this people as in the former days, declares the Lord of hosts. ¹² For there shall be a sowing of peace. The vine shall give its fruit, and the ground shall give its produce, and the heavens shall give their dew. And I will cause **the remnant** of this people to possess all these things. ¹³ And as you have been a **byword of cursing** among the nations, O house of Judah and house of Israel, so will I save you, and you shall be **a blessing**. Fear not, but let your hands be strong.” **8:11-13**

6. Remnant¹⁰ Inherits all Promised: In Peace, Israel’s tested remnant inherits all things promised.

¹⁰ **The Remnant:** In the Last of Days, Israel’s final 3.5 years before Jesus Mashiach establishes His Davidic Kingdom, the entire world is darkened under the vile rule of the Antichrist. Once again, Godless nations seek the life of God’s righteous witnesses, the Jews, an antagonism that ends only in Mashiach. But, to these Jews who overcome and survive, this righteous *remnant*, eventually possess “all these things,” becoming the picture of God’s “blessing” (8:12-13). Thus, the Jewish Remnant has always stood for those outnumbered but faithful Jews who testify of the Lord’s truth at risk of their own lives. In this way, there is a Remnant of Jews who will believe in Jesus Mashiach first, the firstfruits before the entire nation returns. For, after the Church age passes, these Jews will be sent by Jesus Mashiach to proclaim his name in Israel (Matt. 10:16), and they will be “hated” and “persecuted” for the sake of Jesus Mashiach’s name (10:21-22). For a season, Israel will not recognize them (Is. 63:16-17) because it has yet to recognize Jesus as their Lord Mashiach. But, this remnant will have their words vindicated when the Son of Man returns to save Israel (10:23) so that on that day, “All Israel will be saved” (Rom. 11:26).

5. Lord Jesus Mashiach Dwells in Jerusalem:

Having conquered Judah's oppressor's once for all, the Lord Jesus Mashiach now dwells in Jerusalem to take His inheritance as Judah's Firstborn Heir and Head of the Household. Having redeemed the Jewish people as their humbled Kinsman-Redeemer, their King is now glorious as the "wall of fire" and the "glory in her midst" (2:5).

At the dawn of the Kingdom, Jesus Mashiach as established Jerusalem as the center of humanity, building God's spiritual house (2 Sam. 7:13) by joining it with the dynastic house of David (7:11). Paying for the ransom for the sin-debt of His people, Lord Mashiach is now the eternal "righteousness" which secures His people in their inheritance forever (Jer. 23:6).

Now, Mashiach assumes rule over Judah as His "portion in the holy land" (2:12). Nestled among His own people and exalted on His glorious throne in Jerusalem, Jesus Mashiach can now "build his own house" (1:16), fulfilling His responsibility as the Son of David to re-establish the line long-broken at Jeconiah.

Far from an unapproachable Lord, Jesus Mashiach adds his lineage to the human family, sending his own "sons" as "princes in all the earth" (Ps. 45:16).

Finally, Mashiach rules as the Priest on His Throne, making peace between heaven and earth through the bonds of family union. As the generations fill the streets of Jerusalem with children playing, Jerusalem and its faithful remnant become a blessing in all the earth!

Shalom.