

The Day of the Lord – Zechariah 14



Battle of Armageddon

The Climax of Eternity

The Return of Jesus Christ

The Day of the Lord - Summary

- A time when God intervenes with man – in judgement and in blessing.
- **The order of events appears to be:**
 1. **Rapture of the Church** (Pre-tribulation or and the end of the Tribulation just prior to Christ's return is not known with certainty – 1 Thess. 4:13-17)
 2. **Return of Christ** in glory to establish the millennial kingdom (Matt 24:29-30)
 3. **Armageddon** - Destruction of the Beast, the False Prophet and their armies. (Rev. 19:11-21)
 4. **Judgement** of the individual Gentiles according to their treatment of the Christians and the Jews. (Zech. 14:1-9; Matt 25:31-46)
 5. **Reign of Christ** on earth for 1,000 years (Rev. 20:7-10)
 6. **Satanic revolt** (Rev. 20:11-15)
 7. **Final judgement** of the wicked – Great White Throne (Rev. 20:11-15)
 8. **Destruction of present earth and heaven by fire** (2 Pet. 3:10-11)
 9. **Creation of new heavens and new earth** (Rev 21:1; Is. 65:17-19; 66:22; 2 Pet. 3:13)

Why Christian's Need to Understand & Believe in this Bible Doctrine

The return of the Lord Jesus Christ and His future reign on Earth is called “**The Day of the Lord**” and is **the great Christian Hope**. The Day of the Lord along with the signs of the end times that Jesus Himself said must occur just prior to His return, including the final Battle of Armageddon, represent the second most mentioned Bible Doctrine and have over 1,800 prophecies related to it*.

To deny the Day of the Lord (the Day of Wrath & Judgement for unbelievers, and a day of salvation & blessing for believers) **and the End Times Prophecy related to it, would be to show a complete ignorance and unbelief in the Bible and in Jesus Christ.**

The scripture is clear and cannot be spiritualized/allegorized. It's not so much an issue of interpretation, but of belief in the Bible as the Word of God.

Usually people who deny the literal interpretation of this Bible doctrine also deny things such as: Judgement, Hell, Sin & Repentance, the Tribulation & the Antichrist, only one way to God, Evangelism...?“**Beware of false prophets**” Matt. 7:15

* <https://www.davidjeremiah.org/age-of-signs/5-facts-about-the-second-coming-of-christ> - Dr. David Jeremiah Stats.

<https://www.nytimes.com/1970/10/02/archives/when-is-christ-coming-the-twenty-signs-of-the-bible-give-us-a-clue.html> – NY Times Article by Billy Graham

Battle of Armageddon

Isaiah 8:9-10

⁹ “Be shattered, O you peoples, and be broken in pieces!
Give ear, all you from far countries.
Gird yourselves, but be broken in pieces;

Isaiah 17:12-14

¹² **Woe to the multitude of many people**
Who make a noise like the roar of the seas,
And to the rushing of nations...And be chased like the chaff of the
mountains before the wind, Then behold, **at eventide, trouble!**
And before the morning, he is no more. This is the portion of
those who plunder us, And the lot of those who rob us.

Battle of Armageddon

Joel 3:9-17

⁹ Proclaim this among the nations: “**Prepare for war!** Wake up the mighty men, Let all the men of war draw near, Let them come up. ¹⁰ Beat your plowshares into swords And your pruning hooks into spears;...¹¹ **Assemble and come, all you nations,** And gather together all around... ¹² “Let the nations be wakened, and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; **For there I will sit to judge** all the surrounding nations.

¹³ Put in the sickle, for **the harvest is ripe. Come, go down; For the winepress is full,**

¹⁴ Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision!

For **the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.**

¹⁵ The **sun and moon will grow dark,** And the stars will diminish their brightness.

¹⁶ **The LORD also will roar from Zion,** And utter His voice from Jerusalem;

The **heavens and earth will shake;** But the LORD will be a shelter for His people, And the strength of the children of Israel.

¹⁷ “**So you shall know that I am the LORD your God, Dwelling in Zion My holy mountain. Then Jerusalem shall be holy, And no aliens shall ever pass through her again.**”

Battle of Armageddon

Revelation 16:14-16

¹⁴ For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, *which* go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to **gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty...**¹⁶ **And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.**

Revelation 19:11-16

¹¹ Now I saw **heaven opened**, and behold, a **white horse**. And **He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war**.¹² **His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns**. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.¹³ He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and **His name is called The Word of God**.¹⁴ And the **armies in heaven**, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.¹⁵ Now **out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations**. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. **He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God**.¹⁶ And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS**.

Battle of Armageddon

Revelation 19:17-19

¹⁷ Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, “**Come and gather together for the supper of the great God,** ¹⁸ **that you may eat the flesh** of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all *people*, free and slave, both small and great.”

¹⁹ **And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.**

²⁰ Then **the beast was captured**, and with him the **false prophet** who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. **These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning** with brimstone. ²¹ **And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse.** And all the birds were filled with their flesh.

Zechariah 14 Context

- **Zechariah 14 should be interpreted literally** especially in the context of the prophecies which came just before this chapter which have remarkably all come true!
- Zechariah predicted the following in 600 BC:
 - Christ's first coming in lowliness, His rejection, His betrayal for 30 pieces of silver, His crucifixion.
 - The scattering and regathering of the Jews in Israel
 - Christ's second coming, the war of Armageddon, the restoration of Israel and the millennium reign of Christ on earth for 1,000 years.

Overview of Zechariah's Amazing Prophecies

Zech. 1 – God Confirms His Covenant With Israel

- ⁸“O LORD of hosts, **how long will You not have mercy on Jerusalem** and on the cities of Judah...
- ¹³ And the LORD answered... **“I am zealous for Jerusalem And for Zion with great zeal...**
- ¹⁶ ‘Therefore thus says the LORD:
- **“I am returning to Jerusalem with mercy; My house shall be built in it,”** says the LORD of hosts,
- “My cities shall again spread out through prosperity; **The LORD will again comfort Zion, And will again choose Jerusalem.**”

Abrahamic Covenant

Genesis 12:1-3

¹...“Get out of your country...To a **land** (Israel) that I will show you.

² I will make you a **great nation**; ...³ **I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you**; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Davidic Covenant

2 Samuel 7:12–16

Promised a “son of David” who would one day rule over the Jewish nation—and all nations—from Jerusalem. (Jesus Christ)

Overview of Zechariah's Amazing Prophecies

Zech. 2 – God will Protect Israel

- 4 'Jerusalem shall be inhabited *as towns without walls*, because of the multitude of men and livestock in it. 5 **For I,' says the LORD, 'will be a wall of fire all around her, and I will be the glory in her midst.'** "
- 12 **And the LORD will take possession of Judah as His inheritance in the Holy Land, and will again choose Jerusalem.** 13 **Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD, for He is aroused from His holy habitation!"**

Gog, Magog War –
Ezekiel 38:11 - You will say, 'I will go up against a land of **unwalled** villages; I will go to a peaceful people, who dwell safely, all of them **dwelling without walls,**'

Overview of Zechariah's Amazing Prophecies

Zech. 3 – God will Pluck Israel Like a Brand from Fire

- ¹ Then he showed me **Joshua (representative of Israel)** the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and **Satan** standing at his right hand to oppose him. ² **And the LORD said to Satan, “The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?”**
- ³ Now Joshua was clothed with **filthy garments**, and was standing before the Angel... And to him He said, “See, I **have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes.**”

Christians are also like “**brands plucked from the fire**” and clothed in the righteousness of Jesus Christ!

Overview of Zechariah's Amazing Prophecies

Zech. 4 – Golden Lampstands & 2 Olive Trees – The 2 Witnesses of Revelation

- ² I am looking, and there *is* a **lampstand** of solid gold...
³ **Two olive trees** are by it, ...⁴ So I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, “What *are* these, my lord?”
- ¹⁴ So he said, “**These are the two anointed ones**, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth.”

- **Olive Trees** provided essential food and oil and are described as symbols of peace, reconciliation and righteousness (Noah's dove – “olive branch”). **Olive oil** fuels lamps and is symbolic of the Holy Spirit.
- **Olives are beaten** and crushed to produce olive oil as Jesus Christ was beaten and crushed on the cross so that His Holy Spirit would be poured out on the church after His ascension to heaven. Jesus Christ is like God's olive tree, and the Holy Spirit, His olive oil. Christ's agonizing prayer, just before His arrest, occurred in Gethsemane, a place of many olive trees and whose name means “olive press.”
- See Jer. 11:16; Rom. 16-18, 24, (Gentiles grafted into the Olive tree) John 15 (Vine & Branches), Rev. 1
- **In Zech. 4, these are foreshadows of Christ and the two witnesses of Revelation**

Overview of Zechariah's Amazing Prophecies

Zech. 8 – God will Restore Israel in the Kingdom

- ³ “Thus says the LORD:
- **‘I will return to Zion, And dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be called the City of Truth, The Mountain of the LORD of hosts, The Holy Mountain.’**
- ‘Peoples shall yet come, Inhabitants of many cities;
- ²³ “Thus says the LORD of hosts: **‘In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, “Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.”**”

God will keep His covenant to Abraham

God will set apart (Sanctify) Israel as a Holy Place

“In those days” – refers to the millennial age. The remnant Jew will then be the missionary – Is. 1:9; Rom 11:5

Overview of Zechariah's Amazing Prophecies

Zech. 9 – Jesus' 1st & 2nd Coming are Predicted!

- 9 “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem!
**Behold, your King is coming to you;
He *is* just and having salvation,
Lowly and riding on a donkey,
A colt, the foal of a donkey.**
- 10 ...**He shall speak peace to the nations;
His dominion *shall be* ‘from sea to sea,
And from the River to the ends of the
earth.’**
- 11“ ...**Because of the blood of your
covenant, I will set your prisoners free
from the waterless pit.**

**Christ's 1st
Coming**

**Christ's 2nd
Coming**

Overview of Zechariah's Amazing Prophecies

Zech. 10 – Dispersion & Regathering of Israel

- ¹ ...In the time of the **latter rain**.
The LORD will make flashing clouds;
He will give them showers of rain,
Grass in the field for everyone.
- ⁹ “I will sow them among the peoples,
And **they shall remember Me in far countries**; They shall live, together with their children, **And they shall return**.
- ¹⁰ **I will also bring them back** from the land of Egypt, And gather them from Assyria. I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon, Until no *more room* is found for them.

Physical & Spiritual meaning – **A mighty falling of the Holy Spirit upon restored Israel**
(Hos. 6:3; Joel 2:23-32; Zech 12:10)

Dispersion of the Jews (fulfilled)

Regathering of the Jews (fulfilled)

Overview of Zechariah's Amazing Prophecies

Zech. 11 – Messiah Betrayed for 30 Pieces of Silver

- ¹² Then I said to them, “If it is agreeable to you, give *me* my wages; and if not, refrain.” So they weighed out for my wages **thirty pieces of silver**.
- ¹³ And the LORD said to me, “**Throw it to the potter**”—that princely price they set on me. So I took the thirty *pieces* of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD for the potter.

30 pieces of silver was the exact price of a slave (Exodus 21:32).

Judas Iscariot bargained with the leaders of Israel to betray the Lord Jesus, he asked, “What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?” They then counted out for Judas “thirty pieces of silver” (Matthew 26:15).

Judas, overcome with guilt, fulfilling Zechariah's prophecy, he threw the thirty silver coins into the temple (Matthew 27:3–5). The Jewish leaders used the thirty pieces of silver to buy a field from a potter, (Matthew 27:6–10). Where Judas hanged himself.

Overview of Zechariah's Amazing Prophecies

Zech. 11 – Antichrist Predicted

- 15 ...**foolish shepherd.**
- 16 **For indeed I will raise up a shepherd in the land *who will not care for those who are cut off*...nor feed those that still stand. But he will eat the flesh of the fat and tear their hooves in pieces.**
- 17 “**Woe to the worthless shepherd, Who leaves the flock! A sword *shall be* against his arm.**

This reference is to the Antichrist, the coming Beast. **Jesus was the Good Shepherd** (John 10) who came in His Father's name was rejected.

The alternative is the “foolish shepherd”, one who comes in his own name. (John 5:43; Rev. 13:4-8)

Overview of Zechariah's Amazing Prophecies

Zech. 12 – Davidic Covenant; The Cross Predicted; The Spirit Poured Out

- **8 In that day** the LORD will defend the inhabitants of **Jerusalem**; ...in that day **shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like God**, ...⁹ It shall be in that day *that* I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.
- **10 “And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced.** Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for *his* only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

Future restoration of the Davidic Kingdom of Israel

Pouring out of the Holy Spirit in Latter Days

Prediction of the Cross – Jesus was Pierced and is referred to as “ME” or God (this was before crucifixion was invented)

Overview of Zechariah's Amazing Prophecies

Zech. 13 – Prophecy if Jesus' 1st Coming; Scattering; Tribulation

- ⁷ “Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd,
Against the Man who is My Companion,”
Says the LORD of hosts.
“**Strike the Shepherd,**
And the sheep will be scattered;
Then I will turn My hand against the little ones.
⁸ And it shall come to pass in all the land,”
Says the LORD,
“**That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die,**
But one-third shall be left in it:
⁹ **I will bring the one-third through the fire,**
Will refine them as silver is refined,
And test them as gold is tested.
They will call on My name,
And I will answer them.
I will say, ‘This *is* My people’;
And each one will say, ‘The LORD *is* my God.’ ”

1st Coming –
Disciples & Jews
were scattered

Tribulation will
result in 2/3 of Jews
dying (in addition to
½ of the Earth's
population dying -
Rev. 6:8 + Rev. 9:15)

Salvation &
Restoration of Israel

Zechariah 14

Day of the Lord – Context

1. Zechariah 14 begins with **Israel back in the land!**
2. Jews are still **in a state of unbelief**, waiting for their Messiah.
3. Salvation can't come **until they look at Him who they pierced** (Zech. 12:10)
4. Prior to that, they will make **a 7 year agreement** with the Antichrist, **“the foolish shepherd”** (Zech. 11:15)
5. The Agreement will be **broken after 3.5 years** when the Antichrist desecrates the Temple and requires them to worship him. (Daniel 9:27)
6. Israel will refuse, and the **Antichrist will gather his armies against Jerusalem** to exterminate God's chosen people in the **war of Armageddon**.
7. This war begins in Zech. 13 where the Antichrist kills 2/3 of the Jews, and Revelation 14:20 says the blood will flow up to the horses bridles, just prior to the return of Jesus Christ. **This is where Zech. 14 begins!**

Zechariah 14

Day of the Lord – Chapter Structure

1. Gathering of the Nations against Jerusalem – v.2
2. Capture of the City (1/2 go into captivity and are robbed and raped) – v.2
3. WAR OF ARMEGGEDON - The Lord's Intervention – stands on Mount of Olives – executes Judgement - v. 3-4 -
4. The Lord Shall Be King , reigning on David's throne – v.9
5. Physical Changes – Mountain split, day of all light, water will flow – v.4, 6, 7, 8, 10
6. The Millennial Kingdom– v.11 – safety in Israel; v.14 – wealth;
7. An Annual Convocation to Worship the King – Holiness to the Lord– v.16-21

Zechariah 14:1

Day of the Lord

Zechariah 14:1

“Behold, the Day of the Lord is coming!”

The end of Man's day & the end of the age. Now God's day will begin and last for 1,000 years. But it begins with the day of **Jesus Christ's Return**. This is the end game of God's plan for humanity and the great hope of believers for thousands of years.

Zechariah 14:2

Gathering of the Nations against Jerusalem

- **The Day of the Lord is triggered when the armies of the Antichrist attack Israel, at the end of the tribulation.**
- All major nations of the world are currently either in this region with large military presences, have significant strategic interests in Israel or have been recently showing major Anti-Semitic stances against the Jews.
- Military analysts say the world's #1 hotspot for the next world war to break out is ISRAEL.
- **The Final Battle of Armageddon is Consistent with many other prophets**
 - **Isaiah 8:9-10; 17:12-14; Ezekiel 38-39; Joel 3:9-17; Rev. 16:14-16; 19:17-19**

Zechariah 14:2

A Capture of Jerusalem by the Antichrist

- **The City will be captured by the Antichrist prior to Christ's return and 5 things will happen:**
 1. The City shall be Taken
 2. The Houses Rifled
 3. The Women Ravished
 4. Half the Population will be held Captive
 5. A Remnant will Escape
- Relates to Zech. 13:8 where 2/3 are killed and the remnant is saved.

[Zechariah 14:2](#)

This will be “the time of Jacob’s trouble”

Jeremiah 30:5-7

- Ask now, and see, Whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man *with* his hands on his loins Like a woman in labor, And all faces turned pale? (“**Birth Pangs**”)
- ⁷ Alas! **For that day is great, So that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob’s trouble**, But he shall be saved out of it.
- ⁸ ‘For it shall come to pass in that day,’ Says the LORD of hosts, ‘*That* I will break his yoke from your neck, And will burst your bonds; Foreigners shall no more enslave them. ⁹ But they shall serve the LORD their God, And David their king, Whom I will raise up for them.’

Jacob’s name was changed to Israel, and “the time of Jacob’s trouble” is referring to a time of trouble for Israel

Zechariah 14:3, 4a, 5b, 9

B

WAR OF ARMEGGEDON

- **3** Then the LORD will go forth
And fight against those nations,
As He fights in the day of battle*.

Christ Returns
& Fights the
Antichrist!

- **4** And in that day His feet will
stand on the Mount of Olives,
Which faces Jerusalem on the
east...

Acts 1:9...*This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.*"

Christ will
stand on the
Mount of
Olives – **This**
Cannot be
Spiritualized!

- **5****Thus the LORD my God will**
come, And all the saints with You.

Return of
Christ with
the Saints!

***The Lord's Angelic Army** – 2 Kings 6:16-17; Deut. 33:2-3; Matt 16:27, 25:31;
Mark 8:38; 2 Thess. 1:7; Rev 19:14

Zechariah 14:3, 4a, 5b, 9

B

WAR OF ARMEGGEDON

- ⁴...And the **Mount of Olives shall be split in two**, From east to west, *Making a very large valley*; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south.

MOUNTAINS SPLIT

Mount of Olives will Split in Two When Christ Stands on it!
(v.5 – to allow remnant to escape)

- ⁶ It shall come to pass in that day *That there will be no light*; The lights will diminish.

SUN GOES DARK

Consistent with Matt. 24:29 & Joel 2:30-31

- ⁷ It shall be one day **Which is known to the LORD**— Neither day nor night. But **at evening** time it shall happen *That it will be light.*

ONLY GOD KNOWS THE DAY

Consistent with Matt. 24:36 – only the Father knows the day.

DAY IS PROLONGED BY GOD

The only other time when the day was prolonged was when Joshua took Jericho -Joshua 10:12,13

God will Provide the Light – There will be no Sun or Moon: Is. 60:19-20; Rev. 21:25; 22:5

Zechariah 14:3, 4a, 5b, 9

B

WAR OF ARMEGGEDON

- ¹² And this shall be the **plague** with which the: LORD will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem

Christ will Punish the Nations & The Armies of the Antichrist

- **Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet,
Their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets,
And their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.**

Horrifying Detail sounding similar to the effects of nuclear bomb

- ⁹ **And the LORD shall be King over all the earth.**

Christ will Rule as King over the entire earth

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qRy8822mM7Y> – 1:31:30-1:44 minute – **Movie portrayal**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SQxq7cmeiq8> – 1:25-1:27 & 1:35:30 -1:39 min