

## I. Introduction to Zechariah: The Hardest Books

The minor prophets, without a doubt, maybe outside the book of Job, are probably classified as the hardest books in the Bible. I have a friend of mine who is probably one of the greatest minds on the English Bible in all the world. I asked him when he wrote a Volume One on the minor prophets, which was a commentary book by book, verse by verse, and a really good series, about the only book in the world you will find that talks about anything meaningful in the minor prophets.

I remember asking him, "Hey, brother, I really enjoyed Volume One. When are you going to do Volume Two?" His answer was, "As soon as I find out enough about them to write." They are tough books. If you come through and you lay out the minor prophets, if you follow the systematic study that we teach you about the Bible, these books begin to open up and lay some things out.

Sometime when you have some time, go to a Christian bookstore and just look through the section on commentaries and pick out three or four books. Don't buy them, of course, but just look at them and look at what they say about the minor prophets. It will be absolutely meaningless dribble. They do not have a clue what is going on with the minor prophets.

The reason is because the minor prophets are dealing with the Second Coming of Christ. The minor prophets are books that are all geared toward a specific concept, and most of the people today do not believe the Second Coming of Christ anymore. Therefore, they are lost when they come to these books. Mostly what you get is just some kind of simplified spiritual application or some kind of putting them in a structure by subject matter without ever telling you what the subject matter is.

## II. Context of Zechariah: Post-Captivity and the Unfinished Temple

I told you when we started last week, when we came through the book of Haggai, that the last three books in the Old Testament—Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi—are great books because they deal with the post-captivity of the nation of Israel. They deal with the time that the nation of Israel, after they come back from the seventy years of captivity. Remember now that they go into captivity, and then they are gone for seventy years, and then they come back. Most of the prophets are written either before they go into captivity or while they are in captivity. But these three books deal with them when they come back, and they all focus on some great things.

Remember last week in Haggai, we talked about how the work on the temple had stopped. We took last week and really focused on the great spiritual truth of what takes place in our lives when we stop building the temple of God. The Bible talks about your body and my body being that temple. We made the spiritual application to it.

The book of Zechariah picks up that story from that point on, because by the time we open up the book of Zechariah, some twelve years have passed. For twelve years, the temple has stood unfinished. This is the time when they were building their own houses and turning their attention to their own endeavors, leaving the house of God basically bankrupt and unfinished. We talked about all the spiritual application of that last week, and we talked about the concept of building the temple of God.

Zechariah gets his commission from God to motivate the nation of Israel to finish that temple, to build God's house. When you study the book of Zechariah, his approach is very unique, because as he approaches the nation of Israel, he does not do it like the other guys do. He does not come down and blast them because of the sin they are involved in. He does not come down and just clobber them like all the other guys did and blast them for their ungodliness. Rather, he begins to focus and remind them of the future importance of the unfinished temple.

I do not have time this morning to get into the counseling side of this, that the way these writers approach the nation of Israel with their problems is a great study lesson for the way we should deal with people and their problems. You do not deal with everybody the same way. The uniqueness of how the writers of the books themselves approach the material is pretty good material, so it is worth really studying and looking at to understand. But we do not have time to get into that today.

For twelve years now, it has stood unfinished. Zechariah gets the commission to motivate them, and he turns it to their future importance of why they must finish this temple. He says the temple must be built, for there is a day coming when the Messiah is going to come, and he focuses toward the coming Messiah for Israel. He says that if you know the Old Testament, the glory of the Messiah has to fill that temple. He says that temple has to be built.

Then he lays out one of the greatest concepts that I think is probably taught for Israel, but certainly for us, and goes hand in hand with what we talked about last week. He says that they have to remember that the blessings of God to Israel will only come by their obedience. What a great concept and principle that is for your life and my life, because it lays out that the blessings of God in our lives only come because of our obedience to what the Word of God says.

Then he says this great statement: the people are not just building a building, but rather they are building their future. When you grasp the concept of the millennial reign of Christ, all that God told Abraham back there, all the way back in Genesis 12, about how all the nations of the earth in him would be blessed, and he was going to bring out a promised seed whose seed would be like the stars of heaven, and in that seed, all the nations of the world would be blessed. When you understand that great concept, you realize what his approach is. He is telling them, "Hey, look, you are looking at building this building just like you are looking at building your own house, and you do not see the real impact here. That temple is not just a building; it is Israel's future built around the millennial reign of Christ and the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ."

Just in the practical application, the building of your spiritual body is not about just going to church. It is not about just, "Well, you know what? It is Sunday. We have always gone to church, so we will go to church." It is for your future, too. It carries you through every aspect of your

life, everything that you are going to come up against, all of the areas of your life you are going to have to deal with that are problematic, and things that are going to come into your life. Certainly, it is based on building your future, because someday the Bible says if we are obedient to the Word of God and do those things that God has for us to do, we will have our reward in the millennial reign of the Lord Jesus Christ with Him. In 520 B.C., after he motivates them, the work resumes. In 516 B.C., the temple is finished.

### III. The Importance of Systematic Bible Study

That little capsule of the book of Zechariah, you should have something like that about every book of the Bible. When somebody asks me a question on Thursday night, or I am working one-on-one with somebody in the Bible, and I have not said this for a while, but do not forget, if you are here and you want to be taught the Bible or you have questions about the Bible, I will sit down with anybody anytime, anywhere. You can come over to my home, and I will help you out with the Word of God. We will go through, maybe you just have some questions about things, and you want to focus on some things. Whatever your need is, we are here for that need.

I never sit down and deal with somebody in the Bible and lay things out in the Word of God that you do not see when I open up my Bible. Somewhere in the beginning of that book, I have an outline that I can look at instantaneously and know what that book is. There is no way you are going to remember it. You are going to learn something just by the time you spend there, and the time you study them. After a period of time, the books of the Bible all just become together. You can pretty much verbatim lay them out what they are. But you need to have, as I have said many, many times, the best study Bible is your own Bible.

You are going to find that the way Zechariah approaches God's people, the nation of Israel, the book becomes one of the greatest detailed books in all the Bible, doctrinally, on the Tribulation period, the millennial reign of Christ, and specifically the Second Coming of Christ. Zechariah and Malachi are probably the two greatest books in the Old Testament on the Second Coming of Christ. They both approach it from a different aspect, but the two together collectively really form a concept of understanding how the Second Coming of Christ is.

As I said, the book of Zechariah is an incredible book, and it is probably, as it appears, one of the hardest books in the Bible, because you get stuff in here that simply does not match up exactly with anything else in the Bible. I know that up to this point, as we have been coming through the minor prophets, it has been one of those things where it has been inspirational. We have had doctrinal things that you can see, and it has kind of been an easy time to come through. Let me just say this to you before we go any farther here today: you better get a big gulp of air, because we are going to go down really deep today. We are going to go down into some things.

One of the great things about this book as we study it today is it is an example and a time for me to show you how what I have taught you so far about the words, the key phrases, the different aspects that you approach the Bible with, how they really break down a tough book like this. Here is what I teach, and I believe this, and I believe this based on thirty-five years of my own life in the Word of God coming through the Bible. Over the years, here is what I believe, because

this is what I have learned: I believe that if you take the systematic approach that God has built into His own Bible, and there is an absolute approach that God has built into the Word of God, that if you follow that systematic study and you learn the Bible this way, you will get a handle on the Word of God, or what I commonly call a working knowledge of the Bible.

You are going to find that over in the book of 1 Corinthians, Paul told the church at Corinth that a church at Corinth matches up with many, many churches that we have in the Laodicean church period today. He tells the church at Corinth that the pastors there, the leadership there, are to be stewards. He is not talking about the stewardship of money, but rather the stewardship, in this case, of the mysteries of God. When you start to come through and look at that, you will find that you have just entered into God's systematic theology. Because once you study the seven mysteries, you are going to find out that there are seven resurrections. Then you are going to find out that there are seven distinct judgments. Then you are going to find out that there is a whole series of sevens. We are told, as God's people, that we are to be stewards of those mysteries. When you are not stewards of it, then people never grow up in the Word of God and never have the Word of God the way that they need to have it. Therefore, they get into all kinds of problems and never learn the Bible.

Here is what I believe and here is what I teach: if you follow the systematic study in the Bible, in time, you will understand and you will be able to figure out, doctrinally, historically, and inspirationally, where you are at in the Word of God 85% of the time. You will be able to know that Bible any place. I have said this many, many times over the years and many, many times since we have started our church, that your goal as a child of God, your goal as a child of God for your own personal relationship with God in that book, should be so in tune with the Word of God that you could teach any book of the Bible in thirty seconds notice or less. You ought to be so prepared with that Bible that if you were out someplace and you were preaching, and this happened to me one time.

I was preaching one place, and they had told me weeks before or months before, I knew I was going there. They said, "All right, this is what we are going to do, and this is what we want you to lay out." I thought that is fine, so I had my stuff all ready to go. I was supposed to preach in the afternoon. It was like a Bible conference series, and I was standing there on the platform, and they were singing the song. The pastor came over to me, and he said, "Brother, we are really excited about hearing what you have to say about the book of Job." I kind of looked at him, and I said, "Well, that is great. What was I supposed to say about the book of Job when I got the letter six months ago? My assignment was something else." He looked at me, and he said, "Brother, you mean nobody ever called you?" I said, "No, not to this moment." He said, "Well, my secretary was supposed to let you know four months ago that we changed your assignment, and people came here today for you to teach verse by verse the book of Job." I said, "Okay." I went up to the pulpit and said, "Okay, if you have your Bible this morning, turn to the book of Job," and talked about the book of Job. That ought to be the goal of your life. It ought to be what your goal is for the Word of God.

A blind man taught me some real key things one time. I went over to a blind man's house to pick him up one morning. He had been blind all of his life. When I pulled in the driveway, the garage

door started coming up, so I figured that was my sign to come in. I walked in the garage, walked up the steps, and there he was. He was still getting dressed, and he was walking around that house. He said, "Would you like some coffee?" I said, "Sure." I thought I would pour it myself. He went over, got the coffee mug out of the thing, and poured coffee, gave it to me. He is in there, he is tying his tie, he put his socks on. I can see, and I have many a times gotten two different colored socks. I thought to myself, this is the first thing I thought to myself: "This guy is not really blind. He has just been sucking sympathy for everybody for the last forty years. He is not really blind. I caught him." As I watched him, he went everywhere in that house, did everything, went down the stairs, turned the lights out, locked everything up, the whole nine yards. Then I suddenly realized what the thing was, and God taught me great truth. Here is a guy that cannot see, and yet he knows where everything is in his house.

Then I went home and I applied my thesis to a theory, and I went home blind. I feel kind of ridiculous telling you this, but since I have already opened my mouth about this, I guess I might as well finish it. I went home and tested my theory. Nobody was home. I blindfolded myself. Honestly, I was surprised how I could move around my house and do things and function without seeing. Then it hit me: the reason why I could is because I have lived there all of my life. Since I have lived there all of my life, I just knew where everything was. I could visualize everything even though I could not see. I learned a great lesson at that. That is exactly the same way we ought to be with the Word of God. We ought to live in that book so much that we can visualize where things are, that we can find things just like you find things in your home and you know where everything is at. Of course, if you take God's systematic study and lay it out that way, that is exactly in time where you will get, and you will understand, every book in the Bible and how to lay it out.

Many of you, as we are going through the Bible and as we are coming through on Sunday, that is the basic foundation for doing it. If you start in time to get that material together and put it in there book by book, and then through the natural time of teaching people the Bible, which is coming up in the next year, and working in the Bible and learning the Bible, it all becomes second nature to you. I teach and I believe this, that if you can do that, you will know where you are at in the Bible 80-85% of the time without any problem. Of the 10% or 15% that is left, 10% of that you will be able to figure out the context of where you are at, and 5% of it you may just have to throw your arms up in the air and say, "You know what? I do not know what he is talking about here, and nobody else does either." Obviously, if God wrote a book that everybody can understand it, then God would not be any smarter than we are. There are a lot of things in that Bible that you do not figure out everything that He is talking about. If there is any book in the Bible that goes along those lines, it is the book of Zechariah.

I said all that to say this: I am going to show you today some really tough passages, and I am going to show you how you take these tough passages and by using just the common ordinary words that are on the back of that little bookmark I gave you, if you just follow the natural system of things that I have taught you throughout our time, you begin to see how this book, that if you go to any Christian bookstore and try to find a book on it, they will just tell you the non-essentials of it and not be able to lay it out. You will see how this book begins to tell you where

you are at and what you are doing. As you come down through this, the breakdown of this book is going to come through in a chapter by chapter, because this is much more detailed than anything else that we have had. So we are going to come through it that way, and I hope that you will be able to see, if nothing else, how you do it. This is a great model for us who really want to learn the Bible, how to do it, how to look at a tough passage and then systematically break it down by the basic concepts that have already been defined for you other places in the Bible. This is where you begin to use the concepts and the words that we teach you.

Let us pray. Father, we thank and praise You for the Lord Jesus. We love You. We ask You, Father, today to bless us as we come to Your Word. We thank You, Father, for all that You have for us. Show us. Teach us today. Let us go down deep, Father, and see how that in a tough passage of the Word of God, the basic simple things of the Bible break down the complexity and make it so easy to understand. We will thank You and praise You today. In Jesus' name, for His sake we ask it, Amen.

The first thing we know about the book of Zechariah is that we have to get the context. That is the first rule of learning the Bible: what in the world is he talking about, and who is he talking to? We know he is talking to the nation of Israel, and I already told you that the context of this book, as the context of Malachi, really is most Old Testament books in the Bible. The context is the theme of the Bible: the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. We know that going in. So we start with this vague book already knowing the parameters. We already have learned that historically it actually happened. We already have learned that doctrinally, if it is focusing on the Second Coming of Christ, that inspirationally we know that Israel and the church parallel each other, so there is going to be a practical side to it that goes from there.

We know that when Israel gets judged in the Tribulation period, which they will, the parallel to that is the church gets judged at the judgment seat of Christ. We know that when Israel goes into the Millennium, they go in and they get restored, and they will get a reward, an inheritance. We know the parallel to that is the church should get its inheritance and its reward. So we know how the parallels work. So now what we have to do is focus in on the specifics. This is where it can get a little tough.

#### IV. Zechariah Chapter 1: The Man Among the Myrtle Trees

I want to read for you out of Zechariah chapter 1, and I want to read a story about a man among the myrtle trees. I have not got a clue why this guy died around the myrtle trees, but here is the story, starting in verse 8.

*Zechariah 1:8-10*

*I saw by night, and behold a man riding upon a red horse, and he stood among the myrtle trees that were in the bottom; and behind him were there red horses, speckled and white.*

*Then said I, O my Lord, what are these? And the angel that talked with me said unto me, I will shew thee what these be.*

*And the man that stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, These are they whom the LORD hath sent to walk to and fro through the earth.*

Now we will hold up there for a moment and we will talk about it from this. Here is a man among the myrtle trees. This verse, this passage, makes absolutely no sense. There is not another place in the Bible where you can go where this will match up exactly. You cannot run back someplace in Isaiah or Jeremiah and find this story broken down for you. You are faced with something that we know the context is the Second Coming of Christ, Tribulation or Millennium, somewhere in there. But now we are faced with what we have got here. Here is how you break this down.

The first thing that comes to my mind is in verse 8. Some of you that know enough about the Bible, you want to be maybe stepping ahead of me here and looking at it and seeing what you come up with. Verse 8, the first thing I see there says, "I saw by night." Now I know from that aspect that I am doing one of two things, because the nighttime from a doctrinal standpoint will always be the Tribulation period. The nighttime from a practical standpoint will always be the Church age. Now I know that what I am dealing with here is the Tribulation and not the Church age. So whatever this night is he is talking about here, he is talking about something in the Tribulation period.

Then I see "a man riding upon a red horse," and "he stood among the Myrtle trees," and then it talks about "there were red horses speckled in white." So the first thing that comes into my mind is I read over there in Revelation 6:1-8 about four riders on horses that show up. Now I know enough about my Bible to know that in Revelation 6, we are starting the Tribulation period, and we are seeing the coming of the Antichrist and all his associates, or everything that comes along with him. Now these horses do not match up exactly, but that is the only place you have to go. So what you must have here, or might have here, is you have additional information that is not given in Revelation 6 about the coming of the Antichrist.

If somebody says, "Now, Bob, how do you know that this is dealing with the Antichrist?" The man among the myrtle trees here, or one of them anyhow, is the Lord, and He is telling them this. But look at verse 10. Here is how I know it has something to do with the Bible. Look down there, "to and fro throughout the earth." See that? Now that is a little key, because in Job 1:7 and Job 2:2, the Bible says there was a day that the devil came in before the Lord, and they had a little conversation. The Lord said to the devil, "Hey, devil, where have you been? How are you? Where have you been? What have you been doing?" He said, "Oh, I have been walking up and down in the earth, to and fro." Now, whenever you find that phrase "to and fro," I am going to tell you right now, you are dealing with something that is satanic. You are dealing with something that is dealing with the devil.

In Zechariah 1:8-10, as it begins to lay this thing out, I do not understand it all, but I know enough about it because I can get the context. I can get the key words that narrow the context, and then I can run to another passage where I see a similar thing, find out that it is definitely got something to do with the devil. Then I realize that what I have here is probably additional information on the horse riders in Revelation 6, giving me another dimension of it, showing me

added info or insight, and this definitely has to do with the Tribulation period and what God is doing in Revelation 6. So even though I cannot figure the thing out exactly, I still cannot tell you why the myrtle trees are there. I cannot tell you what the Lord is doing down there other than He is showing you, but I get enough concept about it and enough places to go and enough key words that define my context that I know I am dealing with something within the Tribulation period that has to do with the coming of the Antichrist and representing those horses that represent death, represent famine, represent all of the things that take place when the Antichrist comes. Because in Revelation 6, He is showing you a broad expanse of what the Antichrist is going to do. I am telling you, and you are going to see it again here a little bit later on when we get into Zechariah again, how you get more information on it.

## V. Zechariah Chapter 2 & 3: Millennium and Great White Throne Judgment

Let us look at Zechariah chapter 2 and chapter 3. Look at Zechariah 2:6. "Ho, ho, come forth, and flee from the land of the north." You know anybody that comes down from the north and goes "ho, ho"? Who in Jeremiah 10 has a tree that you put up in your house that you deck with halls of silver and gold? Who in Revelation 11, when they cut off the two witnesses' heads, they make merry on a day that has to do with the birth of Baal, the sun god? That is just a little extra. I did not even kind of get into that. It just happened to jump out at me here.

But what I want to go with is Zechariah 2:10. Now here is the context. It is clear.

*Zechariah 2:10-13*

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

*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 the LORD shall inherit Judah his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again.*

*Be silent, O all flesh, before the LORD: for he is raised up out of his holy habitation.*

Verse 10 says, "for, lo, I come," there is a key word for you, "Second Coming," wherever you find it. Verses 10, 11, 12, and 13 are the Millennium. Christ is back. He has chosen Jerusalem again. He has risen up out of His holy habitation. He is reigning in Jerusalem. That is easy.

Now look at Zechariah 3:1-4. This is tough now. This is where it gets good.

*Zechariah 3:1-4*

*And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him.*

*And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?*

*Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel.*

*And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.*

That is a strange passage. What in the world is going on here? Where in the Bible do you find that a high priest named Joshua shows up before the Lord, Satan standing over here to resist him, and they go back and forth, and Joshua then gets a change of garment, gets an admonition from the Lord to follow His Word? Where do you find it? You do not find it anywhere. If you take the average commentary, that guy will just jump right over that. He does not know any more to do with it than he will not know what to do with it.

But you know what? This is one of these places that you just follow the systematic formula. Joshua the high priest, he has to represent the nation of Israel. He has to. When you look down through here, you find all the components. I know the Bible says there is a day coming in Revelation 20:11 when the Bible says, "And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them." Then it says this, "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works." How many times have we read that and wondered what in the world that is talking about?

If you have been coming on Thursday nights, you know what that is talking about, because we have laid that stuff out a couple of times, and you get a handle on it. We have talked about it on Sunday morning. But the bottom line is this: where do you go in the Bible to find out what is taking place in Revelation 20? I will tell you where you go. You go right to Zechariah 3. Joshua is representing the nation of Israel. He is standing before somebody here, because they keep saying there, verse 4, "And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him," somebody standing before God. This is a picture of what is taking place in Revelation 20, where somebody is showing up at the Great White Throne Judgment. Somebody is saying and playing the prosecuting attorney to try to destroy them, the devil. The Lord Jesus Christ is standing up for them as the defense counsel. What is taking place here is their names are found in the Book of Life. They get a change of garments. God gives them a charge to obey His Word. Just like in Revelation 20, the next chapter is 21, the next chapter is 22. They go into God's kingdom and eternity. That is exactly what you have got here: a picture of the Second Coming of Christ, the millennial reign of Christ, and the eternity of Christ, Isaiah 9:7, and the nation of Israel, typified by Joshua the priest, coming up before the Lord, and somebody examining him to find out if he is worthy to go in. And he goes in.

Keep in mind now, this has nothing to do with you and me as Christians. This is dealing with the nation of Israel. This is that stuff that you do not get in all the prophetic books that are out there who do not know anything about prophecy. This is dealing with the nation of Israel when they

have to stand before God and give an account to find out if their names are written in the Book of Life. Every time you start talking like this, you will find Christians kind of get confused. Do not get confused. There are two books. My book is not written in the Book of Life. That is for Israel. There are two books in the Bible. The second book is the Lamb's Book of Life. That is the book that I was written in when I got saved. You do not find anybody open the Lamb's Book of Life at Revelation 20. The moment I got saved, I am in, brother. I am as good as seated in heavenly places right now. But Israel is another whole story.

What you have in Zechariah 3, doctrinally here, is probably a picture of what takes place with the nation of Israel when they come before God at the Great White Throne Judgment. We know the Bible says in Revelation 12 and 13 that the devil is the accuser of the brethren. He not only accuses the nation of Israel now, he not only accused Job before God in Job 1 and Job 2, when Job is a picture of the nation of Israel, he shows up at the Great White Throne Judgment to judge and accuse them there. But they overcome him. That is why you find the word "overcome" in the Book of Revelation, not only for you and for me, because the day you got saved, you overcame. Israel is going to overcome in that day when their name is found in the Book of Life. What you have there in Zechariah 3 is an incredible picture of detail of what goes on at that particular point in time. I do not expect you all to understand that, and that is not my goal today. I am laying this thing out showing you how you can figure things out. We can discuss this on Thursday night or one-on-one, anytime you want to, to help break it down. I am showing you how to take a tough book and find out where you are at and what is going on.

## VI. Zechariah Chapter 3 (cont.): The Branch Prophecy

I will show you something else. Look at Zechariah 3:8.

*Zechariah 3:8*

*Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.*

That is a strange thing here. "Here now, O Joshua the high priest, thou and thy fellows that sit before thee, for they are men wondered at. For behold, I bring forth my servant the branch." I am going to tell you something. When you start to come through the Bible, you are going to find that term, "the branch," four times.

- You are going to find it in Isaiah 4:2.
- You are going to find it again in Jeremiah 23:5.
- You are going to find it in Zechariah 3:8, where we are at.
- You are going to find it again in Zechariah 6:12.

You are going to find in your Bible, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, where you have four Gospels. These four branches in these four books match up to the four Gospels in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The way Christ is portrayed in the Gospel of John, you will find that Christ is portrayed as the Son of God. So in Isaiah 4:2, that branch is portrayed as the Son of God. In Matthew, you are going to find Christ portrayed as the King. So in Jeremiah 23:5, it is

going to say "the branch, the King." In Mark, He is portrayed as a servant. Well, let us look at Zechariah 3. We are already here. What does it say? "And I bring forth my what? Servant, the branch." It matches Mark. In Zechariah 6:12, you will find that Luke, He is portrayed as the Son of Man. In Zechariah 6:12, there it is, "the Son of Man." Four concepts of the branch that match the four concepts of Christ typified by what each Gospel represents, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which presents Christ a different way.

That is the systematic way of learning the Bible. You know what the scholars' approach is to it? They see Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. They do not believe the Bible. They could care less about the Bible. So what do they do? They see Matthew does not match Mark. Mark does not match John. So they say, "You see there? That is what the problem with the Bible. You see, I tell you a story. You tell somebody else the story. You tell him the story. You tell him the story. You tell her the story. But by the time it goes around everybody, and it comes back to Rose over here, the story does not even match what it originally said. Rose lies through her teeth at what the story said." That is what they say about the Bible. The Bible has been handed down through campfire and campfire from father to father, and it got added and it got embellished, and here you are. That is why they say Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John do not match up. They say they do not match up because the Bible is not a reliable book. It was just passed down. Men changed things. They left things out. That is why Matthew tells the story and says there are two men. Mark will tell the same story and only lists one man. Then you go over to John and read the same story and find out there were three men. They will say from that, "Now, you see, the Bible is unreliable. Because the Bible is unreliable, because he told one, he did not mention any, or he said two, he said one, he says three. See how unreliable it is? So if you really want to learn truth, come to me. Well, I will go down to the Greek. I will go down to the Hebrew, and I will tell you what it really means."

You do not need that. All you need to know is God's systematic study of the Bible. Matthew representing as the King. So the emphasis in Matthew is going to be, He is the King to Israel. Mark represents the fact that He is a servant. Luke represents the fact that He is a Son of Man. In Matthew, you will find a genealogy going back the kingly line, going back in Christ's line. You know why? He is the King. In Luke, you will find His genealogy going back through His human line. You know why? Because He is the Son of Man. In Mark, you will not find any genealogy. You know why? Because He is a servant, and a servant has no genealogy. In John, where is the genealogy going? Well, it goes to the kingly line in Matthew. There is not anything in Mark. It goes to the Son of Man in Luke. But in John, He is the Son of God, so it goes back to "in the beginning." You cannot beat it. So when they do not line up exactly, that is because the book is not designed to line up. Four different accounts of the First Coming of Christ. That is why you have four different accounts of the Second Coming of Christ in Revelation. The Bible is consistent. That is why you have four branches throughout the Old Testament, and each one of them matches up to one of the Gospels, because God is trying to show you something through His own systematic study. Incredible. It is incredible.

I am just going to give you some hope here, because I know some of you struggle with the Bible. Let me give you a little hope. If an idiot stick, ding dong, cloud brain, banana head like myself

can get that, you can get it. Do not walk around here thinking, "Well, you know, that is Bob, you know, because he..." Hey, let me tell you something. I lose my car keys five times a day. I forget everything. I do not know where anything is at. I am telling you, it has nothing to do with that. It has to do with God will take any idiot in this world who is just dumb enough to believe that book is God's Word, and He will give it to him. It is as simple as that. But the key is the systematic study that God designed in His Bible.

I have used this illustration before, but it is time to use it again. St. Louis is right down the road here, 240 miles. If we decide we are all going to go to St. Louis, we have got two ways to go. We can get on I-70 and go east and be there in two and a half hours. We can get on I-70 and go west. Yeah, we can go all the way west, go all the way to the coast of California, get on a ship, go to Tokyo, go all the way across Asia Minor, go all the way across there, come back around, hit the East Coast, drive back from that way. Two ways to get there. One will take you two and a half hours, three hours at the most, if you stop and get some little White Castle thing, because you need about twenty of those. The other way will take forever. You know what? Same way with the Bible. You can get there in a short time. You can spend the rest of your life and never figure it out. It is up to you. You can either take God's route or you can take man's route. That is just simply, it is not hard.

## VII. Zechariah Chapter 4: The Two Olive Trees

Now we come to Zechariah chapter 4. Chapter 4, we have got the story of the two olive trees. This is a great story. Now that we know where we are at now, we are right on, we are on target now. We can figure this out. Nobody else can, but we can. It is so easy here. Look at Zechariah 4:3. "And the two olive trees by it." You start Zechariah 4:1.

*Zechariah 4:1-6*

*And the angel that talked with me came again, and waked me, as a man that is wakened out of his sleep,*

*And said unto me, What seest thou? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof:*

*And two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof.*

*So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, What are these, my Lord?*

*Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my Lord.*

*Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.*

"This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel." Talked about him last week, saying, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."

*Zechariah 4:7-14*

*Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it.*

*Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,*

*The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto thee.*

*For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.*

*Then answered I, and said unto him, What are these two olive trees upon the right side of the candlestick and upon the left side thereof?*

*And I answered again, and said unto him, What be these two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves?*

*And he answered me and said, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my Lord.*

*Then said he, These are the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth.*

Now, that is a very confusing passage unless you use your Bible. Because I know the context now, we have already defined it: either Tribulation, Millennium, or Second Coming of Christ. In this case, it is the Tribulation period. We have got two men here called golden candlesticks who are called two witnesses. We know who they are now. The Jehovah Witnesses. This is where they start. One of them is named Rutherford, and the other name is Russell. No, no, no, no, no. Two witnesses. The Bible gives you a key. They stand before the Lord of the whole world.

Now, you start studying the book of Revelation. You will find in Revelation 11 that two men show up. The Bible calls them two witnesses. These two witnesses show up. One of them is Moses. One of them is Elijah. One of them represents the law. The other represents the prophets. Here is what happens in the Tribulation period. Rapture takes place. We are gone. Tribulation period starts, first three and a half years. Tribulation period runs seven years. First three and a half years, everything is great. Antichrist makes a covenant with the Jews. The Iraqi elections go great. Everybody is happy. Everybody is fine. Everybody pulls it off. Everybody is great. Then suddenly three and a half years into it, the Antichrist breaks the covenant. We are going to see it here. It is taught in Zechariah. We are not there yet. He breaks the covenant of the nation of Israel, and he attacks the Jew. The Jew is told in Matthew 24, "Run into the wilderness." God has got a place prepared for you. He runs into the wilderness, just like he was back there in the book of Exodus. Then Moses sends them two men, one representing the law, one representing the prophet, the two greatest leaders they ever have, Moses and Elijah.

Moses and Elijah show up. They are found in Revelation 11. They do the same miracles that they did: turn the water to blood, call down fire from heaven. They both did that. In fact, you are going to find that Moses and Elijah and Christ are so similar. When you go back to your Bible,

they all meet on mountains together. They all fast, all three of them, forty days. They all three are sent to Israel. They all cross the water miraculously. They all destroy their enemies with fire. They all have power over the natural elements. All three are called anointed. All three face a type of a man in their ministries, which is a type of the Antichrist. All three are transformed in Matthew 17 on the Mount of Transfiguration, which is a picture of the Second Coming of Christ.

How in the world, you know what? In Matthew 17, Peter, James, and John are standing down there, and they are watching. Let me explain the Mount of Transfiguration. Before Christ was crucified, before He received any glory from God, God allowed Him to go beyond the cross and stand on a Mount. The Bible says that He was transfigured before them. That "transfigure" means that He shines like the sun. It is a picture of the Second Coming of Christ. You get Peter, James, and John down there. When they saw Him transfigured before them, and His hair was white as snow, and His eyes were as a flame of fire, just like in Revelation 1, and they saw all the glory of God, their mouth dropped down that big, and they are standing there. They suddenly represent, they suddenly know what is going on. They say, "Should we make three tabernacles?" Because they know that this is the picture of the Second Coming of Christ. They know He comes in the Feast of Tabernacles. They know their Bible. Then one of them says, "And should we make three tabernacles, Lord, one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah?" How in the world did they know? I know how they did it. They are down there, and they see that. Somebody says, "Who are those other two guys?" "I do not know. Let me get my Bible out here. I have got a King James Bible. Okay. She went over there. That is Moses. That is Elijah." No. That is not how it went. You see, we are in the delusion that they did not know the Bible. Those Old Testament Jews knew the Bible. They knew all through the Bible. They knew. The last book in the Bible, Malachi, says that Moses and Elijah are coming back with the Lord. They knew that. They knew their Bible.

So Moses and Elijah are the only two men in the history of the world that stand by the Lord of the whole earth, Matthew 17. They are the two candlesticks. They are the two witnesses. They are the only two men in the Bible with the Lord who are called anointed in that sense. It is an incredible thing. On top of that, Moses and Elijah end their ministries and end their life right where Christ crossed Jordan on the east side and was baptized. Everything fits right down the line. So when you get into Zechariah 4:3 and 14, you are dealing with the story of two olive trees, who are Moses and Elijah. They are standing on either side of the candlestick, the Lord, and they are called the two anointed ones. They lead the nation of Israel down through the Tribulation period. That is what you have in Zechariah 4. It is not that hard.

## VIII. Zechariah Chapter 5: The Woman in the Ephah

You want a hard one? Zechariah chapter 5. Pick it up in verse 7.

*Zechariah 5:7-9*

*And, behold, there was lifted up a talent of lead: and this is a woman that sitteth in the midst of an ephah.*

*And he said, This is wickedness. And he cast it into the midst of the ephah; and he cast the weight of the lead upon the mouth thereof.*

*Then lifted I up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came out two women, and the wind was in their wings; for they had the wings of a stork: and they lifted up the ephah between the earth and the heaven.*

Now, here we are. What are we going to do with that one? Wing women? I know you are all angels this morning, but I am not talking about that. Here is a woman that is sitting in a bushel basket in the midst of an ephah. Then two other women have wings. What are we going to do with this? What is this all about? Well, here again, let us just stick with our Bible. We know the context here. Context is the Tribulation, Millennium, Second Coming. We know that. Let us just see what we have got here. Just do not panic. I know there is a tendency to go off there.

I used to preach in black churches, and I always loved black people, and I loved black churches. I heard some of the greatest preaching ever in my life. I won a boy to Christ forty years ago when I was in Ohio working at a factory. That old black boy got saved. God called him to preach, and last I heard of him, he was preaching at a church in Alliance, Ohio. In fact, right before I came to Kansas City, he had me down, and I preached for him. It was a great time. They were amenning and welling all over the place. That is what they do. They go, "Well, you know, down there, preach it, white man, preach it." I can get into it. I remember the first time old John preached. John Tony was his name. He is back there, and he is in Revelation. He was preaching on Adam and Eve. He was preaching on Adam and Eve, and he said, "Now, I want to tell you," he says, "the Bible says that Eve, God gave Adam a woman, and her name was Eve." He turned his page of his Bible to finish the thing, and when he did, he got four or five pages stuck together, and he got over in Genesis 6. He looked down there, and he said, "And God brought the woman down to Adam," and he turned the page, and he said, "and she was 104 score wide, and she underdeep," or something like that.

Well, we do not want to go there yet with this. The sticker that we have got, we do not need our pages to stick together to figure this out. Look at what you have got, Zechariah 5:7. "And, behold, there was lifted up a talent of lead: and this is a woman that sitteth in the midst of an ephah." All right, first thing we know about it, just categorize it, we have got a woman here. Now, look at Zechariah 5:8, "And he said, This is wickedness." He did not say the woman is wicked. This woman is the personification of wickedness. He said, "There is a woman," and then it says in verse 8, "This is wickedness." "And he cast it into the midst of an ephah; and he cast the weight of the lead upon the mouth thereof, then lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came out two women with wind in their wings."

Now, I know that every picture you have ever seen of angels in the Bible, you will always see them, and angels always have wings. That is the Roman Catholic concept. Angels do not have wings. The only thing that has, and this is our key, the only thing that has wings in the Bible is demons. You will find that in the book of Ecclesiastes. When you come down through Ecclesiastes 10:20, you have got a little story. The story is, you are told, "Curse not the king, no not in thy thought; and curse not the rich in thy bedchamber: for a bird of the air shall carry the

voice, and that which hath wings shall tell the matter." What you have got there is this: that is a Tribulation context. That warning is for somebody in the Tribulation, who in their bedroom, with their wife or their husband or whoever, is talking about the Antichrist in a negative fashion, and somebody with wings, like a bird, going back and informing and telling the Antichrist what somebody is saying. That is how he is going to operate such a world-class system of manipulation and control. He is going to have secret agents in every part of everything that is going to hear everything everybody says that is left. This is where you are, when you could not figure out growing up how your mother figured things out, what would she say? She would just quote out of the Bible and say, "A little birdie told me." Your mother got that out of Ecclesiastes 10. She did not even figure it out. All those sayings come out of the Bible that you hear.

Somebody said, "Well, you cannot keep a good man down." That is the Rapture. When that day comes, if you have any goodness at all, it is because of the goodness of God, you will not keep you down. You are gone. The Bible says, or people say, "Birds of a feather flock together." It is in the Bible. It all goes in the Bible. All of those things come out of the Word of God. Here in Zechariah 5, you have got some woman who is connected with women with wind in her wings. We already know from the Bible that there is only, and I will tell you what, we have not done yet. We cannot get out of this. Look down in Zechariah 5:11. Let us get the rest over here.

*Zechariah 5:11*

*To build it an house in the land of Shinar: and it shall be established, and set there upon her own base.*

Verse 11 says they are going to build a house, "the land of Shinar." You know what Shinar is? That is Babylon. See how easy this becomes? We have got a woman who is the personification of wickedness. It has got to be the great whore of Revelation 7 and 18. It has got to be the whore of Proverbs 7, Proverbs 5, where she is defined as wickedness without any problem at all. Then we have got two other women that have wings. It has got to be connected with Ecclesiastes 10, something in the Tribulation period. All this is taking place in a place called Babylon. So what you have here by just taking the simple concepts of the Word of God is you have a thing laid out here that shows you something in the Tribulation period that has to do with the great whore of Revelation 7 and 18, that has to do with the demon spirits that are connected with her, maybe the ten confederated nations, maybe the three false parts of the Trinity, which are back there, the beast, the false prophet, and the Antichrist. You do not know how to put all that together. Well, what you have got is something in the Tribulation period that is the personification of wickedness, that is a woman that is in Babylon, and the devil is connected with it.

## IX. Zechariah Chapter 6: Four Beasts and Spirits

Then in Zechariah 6, you have got four beasts called "the four spirits of heaven" in verse 5. Without getting into this to a great degree here, for sake of time, I will tell you, this goes along with Revelation 6 again. Because Revelation 6, you have the four angels, or in Revelation 7:1, you have the four angels from the four corners of the earth. All of this stuff in Zechariah 6 and Zechariah 3, going back to Revelation 6, very frankly, and I cannot prove this, but when you get

all the minutes to get it together, here is what I do know. I know that when the Antichrist shows up in Revelation 6, he brings with him death, he brings with him famine, he brings with him war, he brings all of these things. I know that Zechariah 6 and Zechariah 3, where we were a little while ago, fit into that somehow. Here is what I know. When you see all these things, one place is horses, then it is beasts with chariots, then it is this and it is that. Let me tell you this, I do not know how it all collectively goes together, but I do know this. I know when the Antichrist comes at some time in the Tribulation period, I know that Revelation 9, your worst nightmares show up. Out of the bottomless pit, out of the pit of hell, come the beasts. The Bible describes them as a composite beast of the most grotesque, ugly things that you ever saw in your life. You know what? The Bible says that men, they torment men. The Bible gives a description of them, but how in the world do you take that and then get some? All I know is this: they are the most grotesque, ugly things out of the pit of hell, that the Bible says that hell opens up, the bottomless pit opens up. All these things come up, probably in Zechariah 6:3 and Revelation 6, you have got a composite that lays the whole thing out, that shows you how that process is going to be.

I know this. I know the Bible says that during that time, men want to die, and they cannot die. I also know this. I know every horror movie that we have ever seen in our lives, the cheap budget ones anyhow, they all fall with the same concept. Did you ever see it? Did you ever see it how that they live forever and ever and ever and ever, and they keep coming? That is why they keep coming, like Freddy Krueger 1, Freddy Krueger 2, Jason 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, The Night of Mary and Elstee, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12. You know why? Because they never die. Where do they get that concept from? I will tell you why, because there is coming a period of time on earth when Freddy Krueger is going to show up at your house, so is the Terranelle's stream, so is every other horror movie you ever saw, and those things are going to show up, and they are going to come down there, and they are going to torment men. Men want to die. They cannot die. They cannot be killed. The beast cannot be killed, and it is just like Friday night at the Fright Night, all over the place, except it takes place right on this earth in the Tribulation Period. When those unsaved men write those movie scripts, when those unsaved men put those concepts together, they only got one original source they can work with, and it comes out of the Bible. Because they are demon-possessed and because they are unsaved men, they get the other side of it, so everybody out there goes to the movie, gets scared out of their wits and comes out saying, "Wow, I am glad that is just a movie." Yeah, it is now, friend. But wait until the Rapture takes place. Wait until Freddy comes to call. Oh, yeah, it all comes out of that book. Everything you ever saw in your life has its basis right there. I mean, you want to find a Star Wars alien one, two, and three, and put all that stuff together, and Lord of the Rings, you go back to Genesis 1:1. You want to put all the horror movies together, The Thing and Freddy Krueger, and Hell and Outstate, you go to Revelation 11 and 12. It all fits into your Bible someplace. Man takes it and tries to make it like it is not real, so people will not take the Bible seriously, that they will equate the horror in the Bible just like a movie that you go, and when you go home, you do not have to worry about it.

Zechariah chapter 7, chapter 8, chapter 9, and chapter 10. to save some time here. They all deal with the Tribulation period. Key words: Zechariah 8:23, "those days." Zechariah 10:1, "Form and

the Latter Rain." Zechariah 10:5, "Battle of Armageddon." All things that I have given you before. No time to spend on that, get you to meet stuff here.

## X. Zechariah Chapter 11 & 12: The Foolish Shepherd

Zechariah 11 and 12, here we go. The greatest chapter in the Old Testament on the Antichrist. It is a great chapter. I have got to read this one for you. Let us pick it up in Zechariah 11:7.

*Zechariah 11:7-10*

*And I will feed the flock of slaughter, even you, O poor of the flock. And I took unto me two staves; the one I called Beauty, and the other I called Bands; and I fed the flock.*

*Three shepherds also I cut off in one month; and my soul loathed them, and their soul also abhorred me.*

*Then said I, I will not feed you: that that dieth, let it die; and that that is to be cut off, let it be cut off; and let the rest eat every one the flesh of another.*

*And I took my staff, even Beauty, and cut it asunder, that I might break my covenant which I had made with all the people.*

"Beauty" and "Bands" are defined in the Bible for you. We do not have time to do it right now, but they have to do with the nation of Israel. "Three shepherds also I cut off in one month, and my soul loathed them, and their soul also abhorred me." There is an indication that might be, well, never mind. "Then said I, I will not feed you. That that dieth, let it die, and that is to be cut off. Let it be cut off, and let the rest eat every one the flesh of another." "I took my staff, even Beauty, and cut it asunder, that I might break my covenant that I had made with all the people," the nation of Israel. Now, you know what you have got up to that point? That is what I just told you a little while ago. This is the Antichrist in the middle of the Tribulation period breaking the covenant that he made with the nation of Israel in the first three and a half years.

Now, watch this. Watch this.

*Zechariah 11:11-13*

*And it was broken in that day: and so the poor of the flock that waited upon me knew that it was the word of the LORD.*

*And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver.*

*And the LORD said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was prized at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the LORD.*

"And it was broken in that day, and so the poor of the flock that waited upon me knew that it was the word of the Lord. And I said unto them, if you think me good, give me my price, and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price, watch it, thirty pieces of silver." Wow, wow, wow, wow. Exactly what Christ is sold out to by Judas, who is the Antichrist, Revelation 12, book of John.

Only two men called the son of perdition in the Bible: Judas and the Antichrist. How one got where and where got one is the mystery of Revelation 17 and 18, which is solvable in the King James 1611 Authorized Version. Oh, yeah.

Here we go. Zechariah 11:14.

*Zechariah 11:14*

*Then I cut asunder mine other staff, even Bands, that I might break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.*

"Then I cut asunder my other staff, even Bands, that I might break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel." Watch this.

*Zechariah 11:15-17*

*And the LORD said unto me, Take unto thee yet the instruments of a foolish shepherd.*

*For, lo, I will raise up a shepherd in the land, which shall not visit those that be cut off, neither shall seek the young one, nor heal that that is broken, nor feed that that standeth still: but he shall eat the flesh of the fat, and tear their claws in pieces.*

*Woe to the idol shepherd that leaveth the flock! the sword shall be upon his arm, and upon his right eye: his arm shall be clean dried up, and his right eye shall be utterly darkened.*

"And the Lord said unto me, take unto thee yet the instruments of a foolish shepherd." Here he comes, here he comes. I am telling you, first three and a half years he makes a covenant, then he breaks the band. God gave you the key with the thirty pieces of silver. Now, here he comes. Do not miss it. "For lo, I will raise up a shepherd in the land," Antichrist, "which shall not visit those that be cut off, neither seek the young one, nor heal that which is broken, nor feed them that stand as still. But he shall eat the flesh of the fat and tear their claws in pieces." Look at verse 17. "Woe to the idle shepherd," idle as in false God. Watch it very carefully. You know what your NIV says instead of "idle"? "Woe unto the worthless shepherd." Oh, that is going to help you in your cross-reference. You see, I have got an NIV, "worthless shepherd." There is a little note here to study the word "worthless." Go back here to the Defiant of Word for "worthless." Your NIV is worthless. Compare with previous verse. Got it now. Got it. Boy, I love them study Bibles.

Here is the idle shepherd. Idle. I-D-O-L. Because he causes the world to worship him in 2 Thessalonians 2. 1 Thessalonians 5. Isaiah 31. All this goes into Daniel 7. All this fits back into that thing. It has to do with the breaking of the covenant of Israel. Now look at this. "Woe unto the idle shepherd that leaveth the flock! The sword shall be upon his arm. Bad arm. Upon his right eye. Bad eye. And his arm shall be clean dried up, and his right eye shall be utterly darkened." Oh, he gets a head wound that affects his arm. You never bid it up, man. You know when you go down through history in the church age? There have been six men or five men who have been perfect types to the Antichrist. There are eighteen in the Old Testament. There are five from the church age on. You know who the greatest type of the Antichrist was? It was number five. Number five was Adolf Hitler. Perfect type. Perfect type. If you go back there and you look at those old archive footages, you know when the Nazi National Association Party started out,

they did not have a lot of members, so they all hyped up their numbers. I saw a picture. Adolf Hitler's membership card. You know what the number on his card was? 555. You know who 444 was? It was Kaiser Wilhelm. You know whom 333 was? You can walk it right back in history. He was 555. You know why? That was in 1945. Because the next one is going to be 666. You know who is coming after 666? 777, man. In the July 11th plot of 1944, Adolf Hitler, down at Wolflauer, got blown up and almost killed. You ever see pictures after him? He has got a head wound, and the rest of his life he had a bad right arm. Oh! Oh, to be I.B.L.E. That is the book. Oh, I will get the new look from the old book. I do not need that stuff, man. I will just tell you what. You have got a Bible, friend. You have got everything you need. If you get God's systematic theology, Zechariah 11:17 says he has got a bad arm and a bad right eye. Ezekiel 30:21, Jeremiah 48:25, Job 38:15, Job 13:4, Psalm 10:15, Psalm 37:17, and forty other places lay that out. Greatest chapter in the Old Testament on the Antichrist that fits in with everything else. You lose the whole thing by changing the word "idle" to "worthless."

Zechariah chapter 13. We do not have time to get into all this either, because I have got one more chapter we are going to spend a little time on. It brings us to the end. Zechariah chapter 13, Second Coming of Christ, the Millennium. Verse 1 says, "In that day a fountain opened up in the house of David." Yes, sir. That is the Millennium. That is that water that comes out of the Holy Oblation, runs down into the Dead Sea. The Dead Sea becomes alive, and the fish come back alive. The desert blooms like a rose. It runs over into the Mediterranean Sea. Wherever it goes, it brings life. Picture the Holy Spirit of God. Then verse 6, a great study there. We do not have time to get into all this. It says, "Wounded in the house of my friend." Boy, what a great concept, talking about Christ wounded in the house of the nation of Israel, His friends. Well, we do not have time to get into that. But up to this point, everything so far has been the Jew in the Tribulation. We have broken it down. We have used the format of the Scriptures to lay it out, the details of the Tribulation.

## XI. Zechariah Chapter 14: The Second Coming of Christ

It all brings us up to Zechariah chapter 14, the greatest chapter in the Second Coming of Christ in the Old Testament. I am telling you, let me read it for you. Zechariah 14:1.

*Zechariah 14:1-9*

*Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee.*

*For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.*

*Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.*

*And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the*

*west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.*

*And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee.*

*And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark:*

*But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light.*

*And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be.*

*And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.*

"Behold, the day of the Lord," Second Coming, "cometh and thy spoil, shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem," he does, Battle of Armageddon, "to battle. And the city shall be taken and the houses rifled and the women ravished. And half the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the Lord go forth and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle." That is Joshua 10 for those of you that are covering it. "And his feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem, on the east. And on the Mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley. And half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountain, for the valley of the mountain shall reach unto Azal. Ye shall flee as he fled from before the earthquakes in the days of Uzziah, King of Judah, and the Lord God shall come. And the Lord God shall come and all the saints with him, and it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear nor dark, but it shall be one day which shall be known unto the Lord, not day or night. But it shall come to pass, and at evening it shall be light," Battle of the Second Coming of Christ. "It shall be in that day that living water shall go out of Jerusalem, half toward the former sea, and half toward the hinder sea in summer and in winter it shall be. And the Lord shall be king over all the earth." Sorry, Allah. Sorry. Backseat. Cannot help you. Sorry. Sorry, everybody. Sorry, Buddha. Hit the road. Confucius. Change your name to Confusion because it is not going to work. It is all gone. Finished. Over with. It is not going to happen. See you later. "The Lord, the Lord, the Lord shall be king over the earth." Revelation 19 says He is crowned King of Kings. "In that day there shall be one Lord and his name one."

## XII. The Route of the Second Coming

Zechariah 14 brings us to an end of a great journey through the Bible. If you are a Bible student, you start in Exodus 3:5 and wind up in Zechariah 14 and Joshua 5. The only two places in your Bible where somebody is told to take the shoes off their feet because the ground they stand on is

holy. One place is where Moses met God on Mount Sinai over there in Exodus 3. One of the places where Joshua met the Lord over there in Joshua 5, right on the Mount of Olives. Both of them are told to take the shoes off their feet. You know why? Because point A and point B is the route of the Second Coming of Christ that is laid out through the Word of God for you all the way through the Bible. It starts in Exodus 3:5 and it ends in Zechariah 14 and Joshua 5:15. It starts in Exodus 3 on Mount Sinai where Moses met God. From that point on, Moses and the nation of Israel go on a journey. That journey is recorded to you in the Old Testament step by step, but nothing in the recording of that journey matches up to the real journey. That journey is not only the route of the nation of Israel, it is the route of the Ark of the Covenant. The Ark of the Covenant is a picture of Jesus Christ. Along that journey through the wilderness journey and all the nations, you have a picture of exactly what is going to take place.

I am going to walk you through it. Exodus 3:5, it starts on Mount Sinai. Then in Deuteronomy 33:1-2, he says this: "The Lord came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints: from his right hand went a fiery law for them." That sounds nice, but that just did not happen back there in the Old Testament. Oh, they came from Sinai and he rose up from Seir, but he did not shine anywhere. He gave them a cloud of smoke by day and a pillar of fire by night. There was no, he gave Moses the Ten Commandments, but there was not any fiery law came from his hand. Oh, but there will be at the Second Coming because that is the same route.

Then you jump over to Song of Solomon 3:6. They ask the question, "Who is this that cometh out of the wilderness?" See that thing from Sinai to Seir coming out of the wilderness. Bible says "pillars of smoke, valiant men, valiant of Israel with swords in their hand, experts at war." Psalm 68 takes it a little bit farther. "Let God arise." Well, he did not rise back in the Old Testament. He was talking to the people through Moses. What do you mean, "Let God arise"? "Let his enemies be scattered. Let them also that hate him flee before him. As smoke is driven away, so drive them away: as wax melteth before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God." There was no presence of God in the Old Testament. It was Moses. "O God, when thou wentest forth before thy people, when thou didst march through the wilderness; Selah. The earth trembled, the heavens also dropped at the presence of God: even Sinai itself was moved at the presence of God, the God of Israel." Somebody said, "Well, that is just talking about when he led them out." Really? Well, it says here that "the earth shook and the heavens dropped." It did not happen back in Exodus, but it will happen at the Second Coming of Christ.

Oh, yeah, you come down from Mount Sinai. Then you come down through Sinai in the wilderness and you come out of the wilderness. Then you come down through the Paran and right down through the wilderness. Then in Judges 5, here is another one. He says, "The LORD came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints: from his right hand went a fiery law for them." He says that "the earth trembled." No, it did not. "The heavens dropped." You know what you have got? Judges 5. In Judges 5, you have got Deborah who is singing a song in victory because the man Sisera, who has been an enemy of Israel, has just been killed. When she is singing this song, she is singing about four or five standards of it in Joshua 5. There is not anything that lines up to the

battle because she starts talking about, she starts talking about the great victory that God gave in Seir and God gave in Edom. Hey, Seir and Edom were forty miles from where this battle took place. But you know whose Sisera is, do not you? He is one of the eighteen types of Antichrist in the Old Testament. You know how he died, do not you? Head wound. Oh, yeah. This song of victory back here is a prophetic song. It is talking about God, the Lord marching from Seir to Edom and the earth trembling and the heavens dropped.

Then Isaiah 63 it says, "Who is this that cometh from Edom?" Now we are moving out of Edom. "With dyed garments from Bozrah?" Verse 9 says, "day of vengeance." It talks about the great winepress of God. This is Revelation 19 when He comes back and He tramples the Antichrist armies in the Valley of Armageddon like grapes in a wine vat. Then in Habakkuk 3:3, it says, "God came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise. And his brightness was as the light; he had horns coming out of his hand: and there was the hiding of his power. Before him went the pestilence, and burning coals went forth at his feet." It did not happen in the Old Testament, it happened at the Second Coming of Christ.

You know what you have got? You have got a picture of when Christ comes back. He comes to Mount Sinai where He met Moses and told him to take his shoes off of his feet. Then He comes out of the wilderness up Paran, up through Seir, up through Edom, right up the King's Highway, right up the east side to the Promised Land, right across Jordan, and right into that thing. Zechariah 14 brings me into the Mount of Olives, and man, you know what you have got? You have got the route of the Second Coming of Christ when Christ comes back.

Listen to me. One of these days, one of these days the Rapture is going to take place. Tribulation is going to start. They are going to go through seven years. Not us. They are going to go through seven years. Then the Lord's day is going to come. The day that God has prophesied over 500 times in the Old Testament called "the day of the Lord," that day. Brother, I will tell you what, when He gets off that throne, He is going to leave that throne. He is going to come down from the third heaven. He is going to come down to those galaxies and those nebulas and the Milky Way and the star clusters and through the solar system from the north. Psalm 76. Come out Sinai right where He met Moses in Exodus 3. He is going to come across Sinai up through the wilderness across to Edom up to Seir through Paran right up the King's Highway right up the east side of the Dead Sea and cross Jordan right where Joshua put those twelve stones right at the same spot where Christ was baptized. He is going to come across the Gilgal. He is going to come down through Jericho, and it is going to fall just like it fell back in Joshua's time, and right to the Mount of Olives. You know what the Bible says in Zechariah 14? And at that Mount of Olives is the exact same spot where He met with Joshua. I said, "Take the shoes off your feet. The ground you are standing on is holy." The Bible says He is going to step off that white horse and He is going to step on that Mount of Olives. Right now that is where the Dome of the Rock is. Right now the Muslims have it. Right now that is the great temple of the rock, but that is the place back in 2 Samuel 24 where David bought the threshing floor, and that is the spot of the temple. I tell you when He steps off that horse on the Mount of Olives, the Bible says half cleaves this way,

half cleaves this way, and the Bible says in Zechariah 14:9, "And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one."

How many steps off that horse? Ezekiel 43:1-4. Zechariah 14 says He is going to go over and you are going to walk through that Eastern Gate. When He walks through that Eastern Gate, brother, He is going to walk in there and He is going to sit down on the throne and He is going to be crowned King of Kings and Lord of Lords. You know that Eastern Gate is walled up right now. You know how it got walled up? The Muslims walled it up. Back in 1543, one of the Turkish Ottoman Turks, Suleiman the Magnificent, had defeated the nation of Israel when they had Jerusalem. Suleiman the Magnificent thought he was God. He thought he was Christ, just like the Antichrist. He knew the prophecy in the Old Testament that someday in Zechariah, Ezekiel, that God, Christ was going to go through that Eastern Gate. He so fancied himself as God, just like the Antichrist will do. He so wanted to be worshipped and had himself to be called Suleiman the Magnificent, just like the Antichrist equating himself with God, that he announced on the next day that he was going to walk through that Eastern Gate. He was going to sit down on the throne and he was going to show the whole world he was God, just like the Antichrist is going to do in 2 Thessalonians 5. The scripture shall not be broken. My Bible tells me that Christ is going to go through that gate. That night old Suleiman went to bed, had a terrible dream and realized that he walked through the Eastern Gate with all of his glory. As soon as he walked through that, God appeared to him in heaven and struck him down and killed him. Scared him enough that he not only went through the Eastern Gate, but he ordered that the gate be walled up and nobody would go through.