

Zechariah 16 – Messiah: The Humble King Rules

Zechariah – 9:9-10:1
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Types Messianic Prophecy

- How to understand various messianic prophecies
 - First Advent – His first coming (Mt 5:2)
 - Second Advent – His second coming (Is 63:1-6)
 - Both Advents – Both comings (Zc 9:9-10)
- Jews not aware of interval – *First Fruits* Dispensation
- Be aware of prophetic times

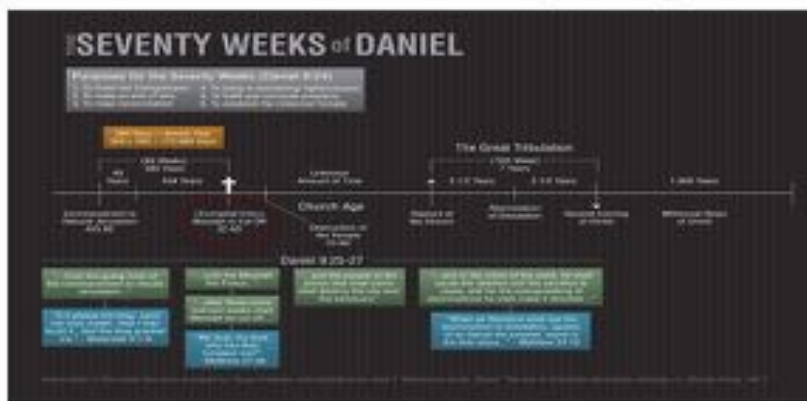
A Look at Prophetic Time (Lk 4:16-21)

- Christ reads Isaiah, stops in mid-sentence (Lk 4:17a)
 - He then says Isaiah's words are fulfilled in Him
 - He does not lay claim to the remainder of Isaiah's prophecy during His first advent (Suffering Messiah)
 - Remainder will be fulfilled in His second advent (Conquering King)
- God weaves both advents into Zechariah's prophecies

Premillennial View of Two Advents



Precision of Prophecy



Soft Lord - Humble King (Zc 9:9)

- First Advent - Humble King {Suffering Servant} (Is 53)
 - Christ demonstrated leadership through service (Is 43:1-17)
 - Triumphant entry into Jerusalem fulfilled Zechariah (Mt 21:1-11)
 - Jewish leaders would understand His action - rejected
- Jews did not want a humble king but a conqueror to subdue their enemies - Refused to serve Him or man

Conquering King (Zc 9:10)

- Second Advent - Christ comes as conqueror over sin
 - Preceded by Great Tribulation which demonstrates His control over creation to both Jews and Gentiles
 - *False Jews* will be razed by the Antichrist (Re 17:18)
 - *True Jews* will accept Him as Messiah
- He will rule the earth with peace and justice {Serving} (Re 19:11-21)

Christ Remembers His Oaths

- Christ saves His people because of His covenants:
 - Abraham {Circumcism} (Ge 15:1-7; 17:1-14)
 - Moses {Ten Words} (Ex 24:1-11; Mt 22:36-40; De 6:5; Lc 10:18)
- Redeems them as prisoners from the abyss of sin because of His righteousness, not theirs; gives them a double portion for His honor, not theirs

Christ Empowers *True Jews*

- During Great Tribulation Christ reunites His people sending them forth with the Gospel for all peoples
- Antichrist's kingdom built on Greek philosophy {Romans appropriated Greek philosophy as their own}
- The Gospel stronger than man's philosophy in the Day of the Lord {Not a reference to Maccabean Revolt}

Christ Conquerors Over Sinners

- Christ retrieves the kingdom He promised to Abraham for His people (Millennial Kingdom) (Ge 15:48-21)
- People cleanse the land from uncleanness establishing ceremonial cleanliness as a nation of priests (Ex 19:54; Ze 14:20-21)
- They are ecstatic in their joy of being in Christ (Ep 5:17-21)
- They are as jewels in the crown of Christ, cleansed from sin, pure, basking in the joy of His fellowship

Land Flowing with Bounty

- Grain and wine denote the bounty of the land and the agrarian nature of their occupation in the Millennial Kingdom
- Bounty extends to children who will worship the Lord flourishing under His benevolent rule

Christ Nourishes the Land

- Rain (Dew) in the Old Testament signs of God's blessing on the land (De 11:13-17)
 - Early rain (Nourish the newly planted crops)
 - Latter rain (Ripen crops for the harvest)
- Christ nourishes His land for His people as promised
- Christ withholds rain on those who reject Him (Ze 14:16-17)

Christ's Dual Nature

Toward His People

- Gracious
- Defends them
- Rewards repentance as He promised
- Enter His Kingdom

Toward His Enemies

- Wrathful
- Smites them
- Rewards sin as He promised
- Enter Hell - Lake of Fire

God Encourages His People

- Millennial Kingdom blessings given to encourage His people about their future
 - They misinterpreted these blessings to be in their time
 - They did not understand the Suffering Messiah
 - They became discouraged waiting on God
 - They turned to self-righteousness - Kept *wrong* law
 - Blinded by their sinfulness - They rejected Messiah

Rabbinic Confusion

- Rabbi Hillel stated that Messiah had already come as King Hezekiah (110 BC-10 AD) {Sanhedrin 99A} (II. 3:22-38)
 - He would not come again {Rejected Zechariah}
 - Greatest of ancient Jewish Rabbis could not discern the difference between their Scriptures and their *traditions*
- Rabbi Gamaliel, also a great Rabbi, rejected Messiah {Paul was his disciple} (Ac. 5:34-39)

Jewish Preconceptions

- Jewish preconceived notions of Messiah and prophecy prevented them from understanding God's Word
 - They ignored what they did not understand - Servant
 - They romanticized what they thought they knew - King
 - Messiah considered to be a great rabbi-conquering king
 - They bragged about the coming messiah who would defeat all enemies making Jews the rulers over Gentiles

Jewish Bigotry

- Because of their expected victory over their enemies the Jews did not willingly proselyte to the Gentiles *(Jews)*
- Talmud filled with vile writings of how much better Jews were compared to Gentiles {Animals}
- They were not shy about their writings at times which worked to their undoing several times in history

Islam: Ignorance from Ignorance

- Islam as much a product of Jewish bigotry and Jewish misinterpretation and ignorance of Messianic prophecy
- Mohammed converted many Talmudic concepts into his caricature of their faith known as Islam
- Muslims became bitter enemies of the Jews who refused to submit to Mohammed and his gospel

Christendom Makes Same Errors

- Christendom made the same errors of ignorance
 - Rejected the true Gospel message for works of flesh
 - Bigotry of those who worship differently - Wars
 - Sword evangelism rather than biblical gospel evangelism
 - In modern times these *inferior* peoples have risen up to seek lordship over Christendom - Islam for example
 - Denial of Scriptural truth traps Christendom in sin

First Fruits Dispensation

- Jews did not perceive of Church - Unknown interval
 - They were confused by apparent a suffering servant who was also a conquering king - they chose the conqueror
- We are the *first fruits* of the New Covenant being harvested to bring *True Jews* to jealousy for Gospel
(Ro 11:11-12)
- *False Jews* seek an utopia for themselves over Gentiles

Hermeneutics Essential to Truth

- Application of exegetical hermeneutics essential to arriving at the truth of Scripture
 - Humility - Ignorance of God's mind (Ro 11:33-35, 1Co 2:2-11)
 - Willingness - Taught by God's Spirit (1Co 2:12-14)
 - Courage - Understand few will follow His truth (Mt 23:34)
- It is not that the Bible is confusing; it is that our minds our pridefully sinful, unwilling to submit to God (Ro 8:7)