

Zechariah 13- looking forward to Millennial reign

v.1 In that day: Zechariah 12 ended with Israel's return to the LORD through the once rejected but now embraced Messiah.

“According to the verse before us this provision is inexhaustible. There is a fountain opened; not a cistern nor a reservoir, but a fountain. A fountain continues still to bubble up, and is as full after fifty years as at the first; and even so the provision and the mercy of God for the forgiveness and the justification of our souls continually flows and overflows.” (Spurgeon)

“Sin and uncleanness must be put away. They cannot be excused, condoned, or compromised with. The foundations of the throne of God are righteousness and justice.” (Morgan)

v (2-6) Cleansing from idolatry and false prophets.

Idolatry and false prophecy were the two main ways Israel was led astray from God.

Zechariah prophesied a coming day when public opinion would not tolerate false prophets. There would be such a commitment to the LORD and His truth that even the family of a false prophet would condemn the false prophet.

Every prophet will be ashamed of his vision when he prophesies: Those who had been false messengers of God would be **ashamed** of their message. They will put away the clothing of the prophets (**a robe of coarse hair**) and earn an honest living.

This does not say that true prophecy will cease; but only those who **deceive** have **spoken lies in the name of the LORD.**

Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends: The man accused of being a false prophet insists the scars on his body are not the self-inflicted wounds often associated with false prophets, but merely the result of a brawl in his friend's house.

Some apply to false prophets, some apply prophetically to Jesus

The Shepherd struck, the nation scattered.

v (7) **Striking the Man Who is the Companion of the LORD.**

Against My Shepherd: In the context, and especially in light of the quotation of this passage in [Matthew 26:31](#), we understand that the **Shepherd** is Jesus the Messiah – and it is God the Father Himself who calls for the **Shepherd** to be struck.

Zechariah relates a thought also stated in [Isaiah 53:10](#): *Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief.* The prophets Isaiah and Zechariah gloriously and emphatically, state that the LORD ordained the Servant of the LORD's suffering. This was *God's doing!* He gave the command to **strike the Shepherd**. Jesus was no victim of circumstance or at the mercy of political or military power. It was the planned, ordained work of the LORD God, prophesied by Isaiah hundreds of years before it happened. This was *God's victory*, not Satan's or man's triumph.

As Paul says in [2 Corinthians 5:19](#), *God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself.* The Father and the Son worked together at the cross.

The Man who is My Companion: The ancient Hebrew word for **My Companion** is used in [Leviticus 6:2](#) and [18:20](#) to mean a “near neighbor.” According to Baldwin, this describes someone who is more than a *friend* of the LORD; this **Shepherd** “dwells side by side with the Lord, His equal.”

“God would not apply this epithet to any godly or ungodly man whom he might have appointed shepherd over a nation. The idea of nearest one (or fellow) involves not only similarity in vocation, but community of physical or spiritual descent, according to which he whom God calls his neighbor cannot be a mere man, but can only be one who participates in the divine nature, or is essentially divine.” (Keil)

v.9 I will bring the one-third through the fire: After the dispersion of Israel there will come a time of devastation and purification through fiery trials. Two-thirds will be destroyed and the remaining third will be put **into the fire** but preserved.

This seems to suggest that only one-third of the Jewish people will survive the Great Tribulation. If this is the case, no wonder these years are called *the time of Jacob's trouble* ([Jeremiah 30:7](#)), and why Jesus said the Great Tribulation will be the most horrific time in human history ([Matthew 24:21](#)

They will call on My name, and I will answer them: This prophetically refers to the Jewish people who survive the Great Tribulation, come to salvation in the second half of that final period and welcome Jesus in the name of the LORD. This group – which includes the 144,000 of Revelation 7 and 14, but is not limited to that number – will make up the core of a restored Israel as Jesus establishes His millennial rule over the earth.

Let's go back and look at the fountain

John 7

v.2 Feast of Tabernacles- will be celebrated this year this coming Friday

Pool of Siloam

2 Kings 20:20 refers to pool and tunnel made by King Hezekiah , tunneled through 1777 feet of solid rock from the spring of Gihon to the pool, the city wall was extended to enclose the water source so they could hold out against Assyrians

- there is an inscription in the tunnel describing how they excavated from above and below and met in the middle-

The "Water Pouring" Ritual

During the seven days' Festival, each morning a procession of pilgrims and citizens followed a white-robed Levitical priest, who was carrying a golden pitcher. He led the people through the "Water-Gate" to the Pool of Siloam where he filled the pitcher.

The procession then followed him back to the Temple all the way singing, waving their palm branches, and dancing in the streets.

A most impressive ritual - the "Water-Pouring" ceremony! It was the highlight of the Festival.

Earlier that morning of the seventh and last day, the sacrifices had already been laid upon the "bronze grating" of the great altar. (Exodus 38:30)

The blood of the sacrifices had also been poured out at the base of the altar, to fulfill the law of atonement: *"It is the blood that makes atonement for the soul."* (Leviticus 17:11)

Now the white robed priest bearing the golden pitcher with water from the Pool of Siloam, approached the altar.

Another priest met him, bearing a golden pitcher of wine for the "drink offering," also prescribed in the Torah. (Leviticus 23:13)

Together they mounted the ramp to the altar of burnt offering. Simultaneously, they poured the water and the wine down the silver funnels, emptying at the base of the altar.

(2) Witness of the Holy Scriptures (Old Testament)

The Levitical choirs burst into song - the messianic and prophetic words of Isaiah:

*Behold, God is my salvation,
I will trust and not be afraid;
For GOD the LORD is my strength and song;
And He is become my salvation.
Therefore with joy shall ye draw water
out of the wells of salvation.
(Isaiah 12:2-3 JPSA)*

And God's invitation announced by Isaiah:

Ho! everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat ... without money and without price. Why do you spend money for that which is not bread, and your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen diligently to Me, and eat what is good, and let your soul delight itself in abundance. Incline your ear and come to Me. Hear and your soul shall live. (Isaiah 55:1-3)

Thus said the LORD:

I will pour water upon the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground. I will pour out My Spirit upon thy seed, and My blessing upon thine offspring.
(Isaiah 44:3; 58:11 JPSA)

And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make strong thy bones, and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring whose waters never fail.

Messiah's Presence at the "Water Pouring" Ritual

The Messianic hope promised in the Hebrew Scriptures in the Jerusalem Temple, "on the last day, that great day of the Feast of Sukkot," called "Hoshanna Rabbah" which means "The Great Salvation" or "Great Deliverance."

Picture with me, in the present tense, the Temple scene:

The Temple courts are illuminated by extra lamp-stands, as at Hanukkah. The impressive Levitical choirs are robed in white. Soon they will burst into songs of the Hallel Psalms 113-118 and of the Prophets.

The white-robed priest bearing the golden pitcher of water is on his way from the Pool of Siloam to perform the high-light of the Festival, the "Water-Pouring" ritual at the great "brazen altar of burnt offering."

JESUS - YESHUA - IS STANDING IN THE SHADOWS OF THE GREAT PILLARS, WATCHING. He is the eternal Ben-Elohim, Son of God - HaDavar - the Logos; the Living Word that became flesh, Who spoke the Torah at Mount Sinai for the observance of the Festival. **Now, He stands in Person to view His own ordained Feast of Tabernacles!**

Immediately following the Levitical Choirs singing the Hallel Psalms, accompanied by wind, string and percussion instruments - on the last echo of the crescendo - His Voice burst forth in a compassionate cry:

If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.

v.39 speaking of the Holy Spirit flowing through us

- reflect on Feast of Tabernacles- provision in wilderness, Holy Spirit, water channeled from the spring of water into protected area

Matthew 26 for Communion