

# Ezekiel the Prophet, Yesterday, 2Day & 2Moro — An Overview

## (Ezekiel's Writings Unraveled)

**NB.** It is imperative that this exposition is read in conjunction with the [MS Excel Blueprint](#) file and the thirteen MS Word Scroll documents, included separately as Part Two & Part Three respectively. [www.thefinalword.co.za](http://www.thefinalword.co.za) Internet Ministries ©

### INTRODUCTION

The following scriptures lucidly sum up Ezekiel's ministry to his brethren — the captives: *And lo, you are to them as a singer of love songs with a beautiful voice, and able to play well on an instrument; for they hear your words, but they do not do them.* Eze 33:32 **But become doers of the Word, and not hearers only**, deceiving your own selves. James 1:22

This exposition elucidates the revelation of the shocking truth of what the prophet Ezekiel endeavoured to convey through his writings to the Israelites during their captivity. There are many in the Christian and Jewish world, who possibly will not be able to receive what beloved Jehovah, actually intended to convey to the Israelite captives — via the prophets, Isaiah, Ezekiel and Jeremiah (Jeremiah not taken into captivity). Sadly, the captives, because of their innate rebelliousness blew it 'big time' — with horrendous attendant consequences for themselves, and future generations! Consequences that were carried forward resulting in the birth of the New Testament age of Grace — characterized by: "...the just(ified) shall live by faith" — Gal 3:11.

Praise beloved Abba that the prophetic writings of Ezekiel are within themselves chronologically dated. However, in our Bibles of today, some of the chronology is out of sequence (see diagrams below), and yet, the bible translators seemingly chose to ignore this reality; and went ahead with their translations perpetuating the out of sequence error? There is a possible explanation for this, and that is, in their translating endeavours they merely followed the sequence of the chapters and verses as per the Latin Vulgate. The chapters and verses were inserted into Holy Writ by the Roman Catholics, Cardinal Caro (\*A.D.1236) and Robert Stephens (\*A.D.1551). \*Halley's Bible Handbook, Ibid p755.

Our work with the book of Revelation (The Final Word — [www.thefinalword.co.za](http://www.thefinalword.co.za)) revealed the selfsame chronological (sequential) problem. In this thesis, the chronological error has been corrected. The chronology begins in the 5<sup>th</sup> year (592 B.C.) of the 4<sup>th</sup> month on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of King Jehoiachin's captivity, and ends in 27<sup>th</sup> year (570 B.C.) on the 1<sup>st</sup> month on the 1<sup>st</sup> day. There are a total of 13 primary messages (scrolls) spanning a 22-year timeframe.

After the date is given by Ezekiel the message(s) usually begins with beloved Jehovah communicating with Ezekiel in the following manner:

- The Heavens were opened up and I saw visions of Jehovah (1:1)
- The Word of Jehovah became known to Ezekiel (1:3)
- And He said to me, Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak to you (2:1)
- **And the Spirit entered into me when He spoke to me, and set me on my feet, so that I heard Him who spoke to me** (2:2)
- And the hand of the Lord Jehovah fell on me there (8:2)
- And came the Word of Jehovah to me, saying (20:2)
- Speak and say, So says the Lord Jehovah (29:3)
- In the visions of God He brought me into the land of Israel (40:2)
- **And the Man said to me, Son of man, behold with your eyes and hear with your ears, and set your heart on all that I shall show you** (40:4).
- Beloved Jehovah, from time to time, communicates via His Holy Spirit direct into Ezekiel's heart.

### 13 PRIMARY MESSAGES

5<sup>th</sup> year: 1 message

6<sup>th</sup> year: 1 message

7<sup>th</sup> year: 1 message

9<sup>th</sup> year: 1 message

10<sup>th</sup> year: 1 message

11<sup>th</sup> year: 3 messages

12<sup>th</sup> year: 3 messages

(No messages for the next 12 years)

25<sup>th</sup> year: 1 message

27<sup>th</sup> year: 1 message

## CHRONOLOGY

CURRENT BIBLE SEQUENCE

| Year | Month | Day | Chapter |
|------|-------|-----|---------|
| 30** | 4     | 5   | 1:1     |
| 5    | ?     | 5   | 1:2 +   |
| 6    | 6     | 5   | 8 +     |
| 7    | 5     | 10  | 20 +    |
| 9    | 10    | 10  | 24 +    |
| 11   | ?     | 1   | 26 +    |
| 10   | 10    | 12  | 29:1-16 |
| 27   | 1     | 1   | 29:17 + |
| 11   | 1     | 1   | 30:26 + |
| 11   | 3     | 1   | 31+     |
| 12   | 12    | 1   | 32:1-16 |
| 12   | ?     | 15  | 32:17 + |
| 12   | 10    | 5   | 33:21 + |
| 25   | 1     | 10  | 40 +    |

CORRECTED SEQUENCE

| Year     | Month    | Day       | Chapter |
|----------|----------|-----------|---------|
| 5        | ?        | 5         | 1:2,3   |
| 30 (5)** | 4        | 5         | 1:1,4   |
| 6        | 6 (8?) * | 5 (24?) * | 8 +     |
| 7        | 5        | 10        | 20 +    |
| 9        | 10       | 10        | 24 +    |
| 10       | 10       | 12        | 29:1-16 |
| 11       | 1        | 7         | 30:26 + |
| 11       | 3        | 1         | 31 +    |
| 11       | ?        | 1         | 26 +    |
| 12       | ?        | 15        | 32:17 + |
| 12       | 10       | 5         | 33:21 + |
| 12       | 12       | 1         | 32:1-16 |
| 25       | 1        | 10        | 40 +    |
| 27       | 1        | 1         | 29:17 + |

\* See MS Excel Blueprint document for explanation. \*\* Ezekiel born 622 B.C (622-592=30). Alvin Showalter, Harmony of History and the Bible.  
+ Denotes to the end of the chapter

## BRIEF HISTORICALS

The Israelites (Judah and Israel) were a chosen people that were supposed to be set apart to Jehovah. They were to be obedient to His Laws, and if they were, His promise was to bless them as a nation. Their blessings were to be so great, that the surrounding nations would be drawn to them through jealousy; and enquire of them the name of their God? And in so doing, all of the surrounding nation would be evangelized. Additionally, they were a nation chosen to physically bring forth the Messiah. Sadly the Israelites in the main were rebellious, wicked and totally corrupt! This is why, after many warnings to repent and return to the ways of Jehovah they were sent into captivity. The calling of the Israelites to repentance were the primary responsibilities of the prophets, Ezekiel (Babylon), Jeremiah (Judah). Daniel was the prophet to the nations.

According to his own witness, Ezekiel was the son of Buzi (a priest in the Temple at Jerusalem prior to captivity) and was thirty years of age at the time of his calling — seemingly thirty was the qualifying age for all aspirant prophets (Ch 1:1-2). Ezekiel's name means, "God is Mighty"— Ezekiel born in Jerusalem 622 B.C.

The separation of the two houses occurred around 975 B.C. owing to the division of the Israelite Kingdom into the House of Israel (King Jeroboam – 10 tribes), and the House Judah (King Rehoboam). Ultimately the House of Israel and its capital Samaria was conquered by the Assyrians and the Northern Kingdom taken into captivity around 721 B.C. During the period of division, Judah was strengthened by the migration of the priests and Levites; who were kicked out of their office in the north (see below scripture), because they would not compromise on the issue of idol worship, etc. These people wanted to remain loyal to Jehovah and so they headed back to Judah. Hence, in Ezekiel's scrolls there is reference to: The Sons of Israel, The whole House of Israel, The House of Israel and the House of Judah. There is also reference to the Elders of Israel and the Elders of Judah. **The office of the 'elders' signifies that both tribes were fully constituted in captivity.** Of course, this revelation blows the British Israelite theory of the 'Ten Lost Tribes' right out of the proverbial water, so to speak. There was no attempt to reunite both houses whilst they were in captivity. This is understandable; as legally they could only be united once they were back in the land and being obedient to Jehovah (Eze 37:15 - 22).

**2 Chronicles 11:13-16 (KJV) "And the priests and the Levites that were in all Israel resorted to him out of all their coasts. For the Levites left their suburbs and their possession, and came to Judah and Jerusalem: for Jeroboam and his sons had cast them off from executing the priest's office unto the LORD: And he ordained him priests for the high places, and for the devils, and for the calves which he had made. And after them out of all the tribes of Israel such as set their hearts to seek the LORD God of Israel came to Jerusalem, to sacrifice unto the LORD God of their fathers."**

The Israelites were taken into captivity over a twenty-one year period — see chart below. The captives, were dispersed among the following seven locations along the Chebar River: Tel-abib, Tel-melah, Tel-harsha, Cherub, Addan, Immer and Casiphia). \*Bible Atlas, Y.Aharoni and M. Avi-Yonah).

The Judeans' and remnant of Israel were taken into Babylonian captivity over three specific time periods — see below.

### THREE EXILIC PERIODS: PRIMARILY THE HOUSE OF JUDAH

|                               |          |   |  |
|-------------------------------|----------|---|--|
| 1st exilic period             | 607 B.C. | Jehoiakim left in power by Nebuchadnezzar                         | Sons of nobility including Daniel taken hostage      |
| 2nd exilic period             | 597 B.C. | Jehoiakim and Jeconiah both deposed and Zedekiah placed on throne | Nobility, warriors and craftsmen taken               |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> exilic period | 586 B.C. | Zedekiah deposed and Gedaliah left as governor                    | Only a remnant left in Jerusalem, including Jeremiah |

### THREE CONTEMPORARY PROPHETS

| Jeremiah  | Ezekiel                                    | Daniel                                     |
|---|--|--|
| Ministry began in the reign of Josiah. He remained in Judea | Ministry began with the Second Deportation | Ministry began with the First Deportation  |
| The Weeping Prophet   | Prophet of Hope                            | Prophet of the Nations                     |
| Main focus upon the land                                    | Main focus upon the land                   | Main focus on the nations                  |
| Prophesied to the Jews of Jerusalem                         | Prophesied to the Jews by the River Chebar | Prophesied to the Chaldeans in Babylon     |
| Writes from Jerusalem                                       | Writes from Mesopotamia                    |  |
| -   | Mentions Daniel three times                | Mentions Jeremiah                          |
| Ends with the fall of Jerusalem (586 B.C.)                  | Ends with a vision of a future Temple      | Ends with a promise of future resurrection |

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Seemingly Daniel was taken into captivity during the 1st exilic period, 607 B.C. And Ezekiel followed in the 2nd exilic period, 597 B.C. Jeremiah remained in Judah until his death in 574 B.C. Temple destroyed: 586 B.C. Restoration 536 B.C — 520 B.C. Completed: 516 B.C and dedicated 515 B.C. = 70 years as prophesied:

**In terms of Ezekiel Chapter 21:27 it is worth noting that there were no further kings over Israel from the time of the Temple's destruction in 586 B.C.** Chapter 21:27 prophetically points to the future when the crown and scepter would rightfully belong to Jesus — another compelling reason why He should have been received as Messiah and King by His people, prior to His crucifixion. We will produce further convincing evidence in this regard later in this document.

By divine decree, not only was Jerusalem desolate for 70 years (Dan 9:2) but according to Jeremiah 29:10, the Jews would be captive in Babylon for 70 years as well. Their 70 years is confirmed by comparing the first exilic date of 607 B.C. with the date that Cyrus's allowed the captives to leave Babylon in order to return Jerusalem. This occurred in 537 B.C. If we subtract 537 B.C from 607 B.C we get 70 years — **isn't this amazing! Two different time frames, two different applications, and yet, they both confirm 70 years exactly.** We indeed serve a mighty God.

### TEMPLE HISTORY

The Temple described in Ezekiel 40 – 47 has been variously described as:

- Ezekiel's Temple.
- The Third Temple.
- The Fourth Temple.
- The Millennial Temple.

A brief look at the origin and subsequent history of the Temple (House of Jehovah) quickly clears up any confusion relating to this matter. The Tabernacle was still functioning during King David's reign; nevertheless, he wished to build a house for Jehovah. Jehovah gave David the Blueprint for the building, but told him that because he was a man with blood on his hands he would not be permitted to construct the House of God. And that Solomon, his son, would be permitted to do so when he became king. However, Jehovah permitted David to gather all the materials that would be required for the construction of the Temple. The Temple was a natural progression of the Tabernacle.

So, the **first Temple** ever built in Israel was designated Solomon's Temple (even though it was the House of Jehovah). As prophesied that Temple was totally destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar (his Generals) in BC 586. After 70 years of captivity in Babylon, King Cyrus permitted the Israelites to return to Jerusalem for the purpose of rebuilding the Temple from scratch. The basic Temple was completed in B.C. 516, and dedicated in B.C. 515. This Temple was designated the **2<sup>nd</sup> Temple** (Ezra and Nehemiah were the major role players) **and** was nowhere near the glory of the first Temple. The following scripture confirms this fact:

*Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? And how do ye see it now? Is it not in your eyes as nothing? Hag 2:3*

Seemingly, the designated 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple in appearance could not be compared to the grandeur of Solomon's Temple. In addition, the Ark of the Covenant, together with other important Temple vessels was missing.

The rebuilt Temple was destroyed by fire (act of Jehovah) after Antioch Epiphanies desecrated the altar by offering swine upon it (167 B.C.). The Temple was rebuilt and dedicated in 165 B.C. King Herod demolished the building and completely rebuilt it from about B.C. 20 through to A.D.11. He increased the size in some areas, and when eventually completed was more beautiful than the former glory of Solomon's Temple.

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| 173 B.C. | Israel - Seleucid King, Antiochus IV Apiphanes, desecrates the Temple in <a href="#">Jerusalem</a> and sacrifices a pig. Maccabean revolt begins led by three sons of the priest Matthias: Judas, Jonathan, and Simon |
| 165 B.C. | Israel - Temple is rededicated and Temple sacrifices restored   |
| 20 B.C.  | Israel - King Herod begins work on rebuilding the Temple in Jerusalem   |

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In terms of succession Herod's Temple must be designated the **3rd Temple**. So, in Jesus' day, it was Herod's or the **3<sup>rd</sup> Temple** that was in use and is the Temple that He frequented.

Since the **3<sup>rd</sup> Temple** was destroyed by the Romans in A.D. 70 as prophesied by Jesus (Matt 24), it goes without saying that Ezekiel's Temple Blueprint; based on numeric succession is the **4<sup>th</sup> Temple** however, it was never built (the reasons for this are illuminated on page 12/13). The Temple Mount Faithful are determined to rebuild Solomon's Temple regardless of the financial and political cost! It is reported that over many years they have accumulated many of the vessels that are required for Temple worship. Some say that they even have the corner stone and the red heifer, etc? All three Temples have been built, destroyed and rebuilt on Mount Moriah – the place where tradition has it that Abraham offered Isaac up as a sacrifice.

There are a number of differences between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Temples that we need to highlight. However, we have chosen the 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple designation rather than the 3<sup>rd</sup>; because two profound incidences took place in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple:

1. Jehovah vacated His Temple.
2. The Ark of the Covenant disappeared

1) According to Ezekiel 10:18 & 11:23 respectively the Glory of Jehovah vacated the Temple! This tragic event was a result of His continuous crying out for the children of Israel (and their leaders) to repent from their diabolical, rebellious and evil ways — over, and over; His pleading fell on deaf ears, until finally He had to abandon them for the sake of His holiness. It is beyond belief what was going on in the Temple while Abba was residing there. Again! We implore the reader to read the MS scrolls for the details which brought about this tragic occurrence. The net result being beloved Jehovah never returned to the Temple and it was only much later in the form of His Son that He returned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Temple (Herod's); but never manifested His glory as He had done in the previous Temples and tabernacle.

2) Just prior to the Babylonian destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple (586 B.C.) the Ark of the Covenant mysteriously vanished? Even to this day, it has never been found and remains a profound mystery. However, in reality, after Jehovah vacated His Temple there was no more need of the Ark. There are many reasons for this, but we believe the primary reason is that in former times prior to Jehovah abiding in His earthly Temple, the Ark was the symbol of His presence amongst the Israelites — even the enemies of Israel were acutely aware of the fact that the Ark represented Jehovah's presence; and therefore His providential protection and provision.

The fact that the Ark is nowhere mentioned in the Blueprint of Ezekiel's Temple is a noticeable omission indicating that the 4<sup>th</sup> Temple was to be built for our Lord Jesus to eventually occupy. This supposition will be proved further on in this document.

**And it will be when you have multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, says Jehovah, they shall say no more, the ark of the covenant of Jehovah! Nor shall it come to mind; nor shall they remember it; nor shall they visit it; nor shall it be made any more. Jeremiah 3:16.**

Some differences between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Temple:

- The entire mountaintop will be a most set-apart place - Ezekiel 43:12
- The area of the set-apart place shall be greater than any previously built - Ezekiel 45:1 +
- There is NO wall of partition to exclude Gentiles (compare Ephesians 2:14) The Gentiles were previously welcome in the Outer Courts, but excluded from the inner courts on pain of death.
- There is No Court of Women (compare Galatians 3:28 (Outer Court and Inner Court only)
- There is No Laver (see Ezekiel 36:24-27, John 15:3)
- There is No Table of Shewbread (see Micah 5:4, John 6:35)
- There is No Lamp stand or Menorah (see Isaiah 49:6, John 8:12)
- There is No Golden Altar of Incense (Zechariah 8:20-23, John 14:6)
- There is No Veil (Isaiah 25:6-8, Matthew 27:51)
- No Ark of the Covenant (Jeremiah 3:16, John 10:30-33)
- Major Changes to the Altar: The sacrificial Altar will be approached by a ramp from the East. Previous altars were all approached from the South. Now there will be stairs to the altar, not a ramp as previously. The top of the altar is now described by the Hebrew word "ariel" [Isaiah 29:1] meaning "hearth of G-d" or "lion of G-d." [Rev. 5:5].

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We must also note that the first Temple was Solomon's; the second was Ezra/Nehemiah's (perhaps it should have been designated King Cyrus's Temple?) which was demolished by Herod and extensively remodeled and was designated the 3<sup>rd</sup>. The prophet Ezekiel (chapters 40-47) describes in great detail a Temple in Israel that is much too large to fit on the present Temple Mount site.

The rebuilt second Temple lacked five important possessions that reflected the revelation of the Holy presence of Jehovah:

- the Holy Ark,
- the fire which descended from heaven to consume the sacrifices,
- the Holy Presence of G-d Himself,
- the Spiritual envelopment of the visitor.
- And the Holy Breast plate of the High Priest which was able to answer questions.

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*"In the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood the number of the years by books, which came of the Word of Jehovah to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish **seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.**" (Dan 9:2) "For so says Jehovah, When according to My Word seventy years have been **fulfilled for Babylon**, I will visit you and confirm My good Word to you, to bring you back to this place." (Jeremiah 29:10)*

After seventy years, 607 B.C. – 537 B.C. (generation) in captivity, the majority of the captives had completely assimilated into the Babylonian culture and because of this fact; they were not predisposed to return to Jerusalem in order to build the Temple and settle the land. The return took place in three-stages as enumerated below, and was accomplished over a very lengthy period.

### **Thee Stages Of Return To Rebuild:**

- 538 – Zerubbabel. 458 – Ezra. 445 – Nehemiah.

### **Three Post-Exilic Prophets**

- 520 – Haggai. 520 – Zechariah. 435 – Malachi.

### **Three Post-Exilic Histories**

- 483 – Esther. 458 – Ezra. 445 – Nehemiah

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The number of the first returnees is enumerated in the book of Ezra.

*Ezra 2:2 "These are the ones who came with **Zerubbabel**: Jeshua, **Nehemiah**, Seraiah, Reelaiah, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispar, Bigvai, Rehum, Baanah. This is the number of the men of the people of the sons of Israel: The whole congregation together was **forty-two thousand, three hundred and sixty**, besides their servants and their maids, **seven thousand three hundred and thirty-seven**. And among them were **two hundred** singing men and singing women." Ezra 2:64-65*

## PROPHETIC STRUCTURE

There appears to be only two reliable dates in terms of technically constructing a Blueprint regarding the chronology of Ezekiel. They are as follows:

- 1) 586 B.C: Temple destroyed — signifying the beginning of Jerusalem's 70 years of desolation (586 B.C – 516 B.C).
- 2) 572 B.C: Chapter 40:1, wherein it is stated: "14 years after the city was stricken."
  - Ezekiel last message ended in 570 B.C. on the 1<sup>st</sup> day and 1<sup>st</sup> month. It is quite possible that he died some time during, or, after 570 B.C. as there are no further messages; and there is no mention of him returning to Jerusalem with the captives.
  - The captives remained in Babylon for approximately another 33 years after Ezekiel's last message (570 B.C minus 537 B.C = 33 years). King Cyrus captured Babylon in 539 B.C. It seems that those captives, who wished to return to Jerusalem, did so sometime around 537 B.C. By and large the majority elected to stay and this is the reason that many years later the apostle Peter wrote from Babylon (1 Pet 5:13) and not from Rome as some allege. Their return was made possible because King Cyrus was motivated to do so after being shown the following prophecy of Isaiah:

*"Who says of **Cyrus**, He is My shepherd, and shall do all My pleasure; even saying to Jerusalem, You shall be built; and to the Temple, Your foundation shall be laid." (Isaiah 44:28).*

*"In the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood the number of the years by books, which came of the Word of Jehovah to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish **seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.**" (Dan 9:2) *"For so says Jehovah, When according to My Word seventy years have been **fulfilled for Babylon**, I will visit you and confirm My good Word to you, to bring you back to this place."* (Jeremiah 29:10)*

The entire forty-eight chapters of the book of Ezekiel have been extrapolated and placed into an accompanying panoramic MS Excel document. This panoramic document takes on the appearance of a scroll, which is the selfsame format of the original documents, hereafter referred to as a Blueprint. In addition, there are thirteen MS Word documents in scroll format. The forty-eight chapters naturally divide into thirteen scrolls. The author cannot over emphasize the importance of reading each scroll in-depth. The reason being, that the contents of the scrolls unpack in minute detail the cause and the ensuing effect of the rebelliousness of the children of Israel; and that Jehovah is a just God, and indeed, very, very slow to anger! And that it was His intention to not only protect them whilst in captivity, but fully restore them upon their return. The MS Blueprint document, together with the thirteen scrolls; **are profound revelations of what beloved Jehovah's words through the prophet Ezekiel were intended to convey to the captives.** It is the writer's opinion, relative to the past, and our day, that Ezekiel's writings were and have been grossly misinterpreted!

## SUMMARY OF THE MS EXCEL BLUEPRINT DOCUMENT

**Ref 1- 7:** The Word of Jehovah became known to Ezekiel in the **5<sup>th</sup> year, 4<sup>th</sup> month, 5<sup>th</sup> day**, of King Jehoiachin's captivity, which in real-time was 592 B.C; and in the MS Blueprint document equates to the 1st Scroll. On this particular day, Ezekiel together with some of his contemporaries was at one of the seven locations (already elucidated) alongside the Chebar River. Whilst there, he experienced visions of Jehovah comprising of: Jehovah upon His throne in all His glory, and the Four Living Creatures (beings) together with the wheels within in the wheels. The seeming mystery (?) of the wheels, within the wheels, is actually no mystery at all. The answer to this seeming riddle is found within the scripture itself. Wherein chapter 1 verse 20 and 21 respectively state that the **spirit** (Hebrew, רוּחַ = *rūach* – *roo'-akh* = **breath = life**) of the Living Creatures is in the wheels. During the vision Ezekiel receives his prophetic calling to the rebellious house of Israel. He is also given a small scroll to eat, which is written on the inside and outside containing weepings, and mourning and woe! Ezekiel was instructed by Jehovah to fill his belly with the scroll and as he ate it, it became sweet in his mouth. The scroll in itself, is an enigma, as nowhere within the forty chapters is it revealed what the contents of the scroll was, suffice to say; in the beginning Ezekiel was told that it contained weepings, and mourning, and woe. **Events 1 – 7 occur on the 5<sup>th</sup> day.**

**Ref 8:** Ezekiel translated (carried in the spirit) to the captives at Tel-Abib on the banks of the River Chebar. Upon his arrival he was struck dumb for a period of seven days and was unable to communicate with the Tel-Abib captives during this time. **Event 8 occurs between the 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> day.**

**Ref 9:** At the end of seven days Jehovah appointed Ezekiel a Watchman over the House of Israel and he was instructed to give the captives a warning from Him. It is the writer's belief that it was at this time that Ezekiel revealed to the captives the contents of the small scroll. Chapter 3:16-21 supports this supposition.

**Ref 10:** Jehovah instructed Ezekiel to come out of his house and meet Him on the plain. Therefore, one can deduce from this instruction that Tel-Abib was Ezekiel's permanent place of residents, although he seemingly moved between the other

localities on the Chebar as well. Once there, Ezekiel sees the glory of Jehovah, which was the same as he had originally seen by the Chebar River (Ch 1:1, 26-28).

**Ref: 11** Ezekiel told by Jehovah that the captives would bind him in his house. No doubt the desire to bind Ezekiel was the outcome of him delivering the small scroll message. As we will see a bit later, the binding is preparation for his left and right side 430 days of repentance. Ezekiel remained dumb for 7 ½ years. It is important to mention that his dumbness was related to general conversations only and that whenever Jehovah spoke to him his tongue was loosed in order to convey Jehovah's messages.

**Ref 12:** Ezekiel instructed by Jehovah to make a model of Jerusalem and act out via his model the coming siege and famine of Jerusalem as a sign to the House of Israel (this he does before he is bound, and is perhaps another reason for the elders binding him in his house). There is an approximate 56 day window period for Ezekiel to prepare and demonstrate his model of the besieging of Jerusalem to the captives, and for them to bind him. The window period begins at the end of the seven days (**Ref 8**) and ends on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of the 6<sup>th</sup> month.

**Ref 13:** His mammoth 430 days of repentance (for the iniquities of the House of Israel and the House of Judah) begins on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the 6<sup>th</sup> month, in the 5<sup>th</sup> year of King Jehoiachin's captivity. During the 390 days (left side) Ezekiel only eats and drinks food prepared from the recipe, which Abba gave him. The 430 days of repentance is based upon the day for a year, a day for a year principle as per chapter 4:4-8. From King David's death, to the start date of the 430 days (10<sup>th</sup> day of the 6<sup>th</sup> month, the 5<sup>th</sup> year of King Jehoiachin's captivity) is exactly 430 years — a day for a year, Ch 4:4-8.

**Ref 14:** At the end of the 430 days, Ezekiel once again prophetically demonstrates via his model the famine conditions that will come upon Jerusalem (Ch3:25, 26. 4:1-3.); ***the reader must take cognizance of the fact that the 430 days carry-over into the 6<sup>th</sup> year of King Jehoiachin's captivity, and end in the 11<sup>th</sup> month on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of that year.*** In the chapter and verse format of our Bibles of today, it is virtually impossible to grasp this reality!

**Ref 15:** Jehovah's horrendous indictment against both houses.

**Ref 16:** Prophecy against the leaders of Israel.

**Ref 17:** Prophecy the end has come upon the land. **Event 9 -17 (excluding 14) occur during the 56-day window period.**

**6<sup>th</sup> year, 11<sup>th</sup> month, 11<sup>th</sup> day.**

**Ref 18:** The 430 days of repentance are over, and Ezekiel is sitting in his house (no longer bound) with the **Elders of Judah** sitting before him. The elders anticipating the end of the 430 days no doubt came to hear if there was a "word from the Jehovah".

**Ref 19: Ezekiel taken in a vision to Jerusalem and witnesses the following:** Image of jealousy. Evil abominations in the Temple (70 elders of Israel), Image room (House of Israel). Women weeping for Tammuz. Twenty-Five men worshipping the sun (House of Israel). Hateful things the House of Israel does to the House of Judah. **Jehovah cries in a loud voice:** "Put a mark of the foreheads of the men who are groaning and mourning..." Iniquity of the House of Israel and Judah. Jehovah's Throne: Glory of Jehovah and the likeness of the Cherubs. The likeness of the four faces of the Cherubs. Glory of Jehovah over the cherubs. 25 Evil rulers of the people. Prophecy judgement upon the twenty-five rulers of the people (House of Israel). Pelatiah son of Benaiah dies. Jehovah to be a little sanctuary to exiles. Promise of Restoration in Jesus. **Jehovah abandons His Temple!**

**Ref 20: Spirit returns Ezekiel to the Babylonian exiles.**

**Ref: 21:** Ezekiel instructed by Jehovah to make an exile vessel which he had to demonstrate to the various exilic villages on the Chebar River; and act out exile for the remnant of the House of Judah still in Jerusalem. Their exile came to pass 586 B.C. **Event 18 - 21 occur on the 11<sup>th</sup> day.**

**"And in the morning..."**

**Ref 22:** This burden concerns the King of Jerusalem and all the House of Israel.

**Ref 23:** Ezekiel a sign to the Captives.

**Ref 24:** Ezekiel to eat his bread in fear and trembling as a sign.

**Ref 25:** Proverb.

**Ref 26:** No More Delay.

**Ref 27:** Prophecy to the foolish Prophets.

**Ref 28:** Ezekiel sets his face against the daughters of his people.

**Ref 29: Elders of Israel come and sit before Ezekiel.**

**Ref 30:** Repent.

**Ref 31:** Noah, Daniel and Job.

**Ref 32:** Parable of the Vine.

**Ref 33:** Origin of Jerusalem.

**Ref 34:** Jerusalem indicted as a Harlot.

Ref 35: Speak a riddle to the House of Israel.

Ref 36: Interpretation of the riddle

Ref 37: Prophecy of Divine Judgement. **Event 22 - 37 occur on the 12<sup>th</sup> day.**

**7<sup>th</sup> year, 5<sup>th</sup> month, 10<sup>th</sup> day.** Some of the Elders of the House of Israel come and sit before Ezekiel and enquire if there is a word from Jehovah for them? 20:1.

Ref 38: House of Israel reminded of the Promised Land.

Ref 39: Law given and violations thereof.

Ref 40: Drop a word towards the south and prophesy against the forests.

Ref 41: Drop a word towards the holy places and prophesy against the land of Israel.

Ref 42: Prophecy judgement against the iniquity in the House of Israel.

Ref 43: King of Babylon Jehovah's instrument of judgement.

Ref 44: Ezekiel to make known to Jerusalem (the bloody city) her abominations!

Ref 45: The House of Israel as dross and to be judged as such.

Ref 46: Treachery of the Priest's and Prophets.

Ref 47: Harlotry of the two divided kingdoms.

Ref 48: Ezekiel to judge the two kingdoms. **Event 38 - 48 occur on the 10<sup>th</sup> day.**

**9<sup>th</sup> year, 10<sup>th</sup> month, 10<sup>th</sup> day.**

Ref 49: King Nebuchadnezzar prophesied to capture Jerusalem. King Nebuchadnezzar set forth for Jerusalem 11th day,

Ref 50: Ezekiel's wife dies as a prophetic sign to the House of Israel.

Ref 51: Ezekiel speaks to the Exiles.

Ref 52: Ezekiel as sign because all he has done.

Ref 53: Prophecy against the Ammonites Edom, Philistines and Cherethites judged because of their vengeance against Judah. **Events 38 - 48 occur between the 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> day.**

**10<sup>th</sup> year, 10<sup>th</sup> month, 12<sup>th</sup> day.**

Ref 54: Prophecy against Pharaoh and all Egypt.

**11<sup>th</sup> year, 1<sup>st</sup> month, 7<sup>th</sup> day.**

Ref 55: Prophecy against Pharaoh King of Egypt.

**11<sup>th</sup> year, 3<sup>rd</sup> month, 1<sup>st</sup> day.**

Ref 56: Prophecy to Pharaoh King of Egypt

**11<sup>th</sup> year, (no month), 1<sup>st</sup> day**

Ref 57: Prophecy against Tyre.

Ref 58: Ezekiel to mourn over Tyre.

Ref 59: Prophecy against the Ruler of Tyre.

Ref 60: Lament over the king of Tyre.

Ref 61: Prophecy against Sidon.

**12<sup>th</sup> year, (no month), 15<sup>th</sup> day**

Ref 62: Ezekiel to wait for the multitudes of Egypt. Elam and her multitudes. Meshech. Tubal and all her multitudes. Edom her kings and rulers. Rulers of the north and the Sidonians.

Ref 63: Blood on Ezekiel's hands if he fails to warn the House of Israel.

**12<sup>th</sup> year, 10<sup>th</sup> month, 5<sup>th</sup> day.**

Ref 64: On the evening of the (4th?) Ezekiel's tongue loosed by Abba (his tongue had been bound for 7 & 1/2 years and could only speak when he was given a word from Jehovah).

Ref 65: Morning of the 5th a man comes from Jerusalem to tell Ezekiel that the city has fallen.

Ref 66: Prophecy against the shepherds of Israel.

Ref 67: Promise of restoration.

Ref 68: Prophecy against Mount Seir.

Ref 69: Prophecy to the Mountains of Israel.

Ref 70: Promise of a restored united kingdom: conditional upon acceptance of their Messiah (Fulfilled when Jesus road into Jerusalem a week before His Crucifixion and offered the Kingdom).

Ref 71: House of Israel defiled their land.

Ref 72: Prophecy to the dry bones — confirmation of promised restoration. Write on a stick — promise of a unified nation — postponed until the return of Jesus.

Ref 73: Prophecy concerning Gog of Magog. Prophecy against Gog.

**12<sup>th</sup> year, 12<sup>th</sup> month, 1<sup>st</sup> day.**

Ref 74: Ezekiel to lament over Pharaoh King of Egypt.

**25<sup>th</sup> year, 1<sup>st</sup> month, 10th day.**

Ref 75: Ezekiel taken by Jehovah to Israel where he is shown a completely New Temple (design).

Ref 76: Jesus takes him on a detailed tour of the Temple. He is told to declare all he sees to the house of Israel.

Ref 77: And the Glory of Jehovah came from the east.

Ref 78: House of Israel shall no more defile the place of Jehovah's Throne.

Ref 79: Law of the House (Temple).

Ref 80: Measurement of the Altar.

Ref 81: Statutes of the Altar.

Ref 82: **Glory of Jehovah fills His House.**

Ref 83: Thus says the Lord Jehovah. Ref 84: **And the name of the city from that day shall be JEHOVAH IS THERE.**

**27<sup>th</sup> year, 1<sup>st</sup> month, 1<sup>st</sup> day.**

Ref 85: Nebuchadnezzar King of Babylon rewarded

Ref 86: Prophecy against Egypt.

Once again, the writer cannot over emphasize the necessity of reading this synopsis in conjunction with the MS Blueprint document.

## HEART OF EZEKIEL'S MESSAGE

The heart of the prophet Ezekiel's messages to the Israelite captives was a continuation of the warnings given to them whilst in the land, by the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah, prior to their captivity. By and large, the messages were **repent** from **gross wickedness** and **corruption** and return to **holy living**. And that failure to heed these warnings would result in captivity, and the total destruction of the Temple and Jerusalem. Regrettably beloved Jehovah's warnings through the prophets went completely unheeded — resulting in massive loss of life, and eventual captivity.

Whilst in captivity, Ezekiel called by Jehovah to be a watchman to the house of Israel and Judah. In response to the continued wickedness of those in captivity and Jerusalem, Ezekiel, over and over, called them to repentance. We must not lose sight of the fact that ancient Babylon was the home of the occult, dating back to the days of Nimrod.

At the time of his calling Ezekiel experienced a number of heavenly visions including the glory of Jehovah, the four living beings together with their legendary wheels-within-wheels. According to the scripture (Eze 1:20-21) the wheels-within-wheels are the spirits of the Living Beings. Via the models he was instructed to construct at various times he acted out coming famine, siege and ultimate destruction of the Temple and Jerusalem. He also acted out the capture of King Hezekiah of Judah, his entourage, and their being taken into captivity. He endured dumbness for seven & a half years in addition to his beautiful wife being taken from him (she died at the command of Jehovah) 18 years before his last message in 570 B.C. He was bound by the captives and cast into his house wherein beloved Abba instructed him to make recompense for the sins of Israel by lying upon his left side 390 days; and 40 days for the sins of Judah days totaling 430 days — a day for a year principle. During the 390 days he was only allowed to eat food that mirrored the horrendous famine conditions that would prevail in Jerusalem and surrounding areas.

In a vision (591 B.C. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Scroll) he was transported in the spirit to Jerusalem and told to judge the city. Whilst there, he is shown first-hand the wickedness that was being perpetuated in the Temple and the city — wickedness that was so gross, that it would cause beloved Jehovah to ultimately vacate his Temple.

After he judged the city, he was returned in the spirit to captives and shared with them in great detail his recent experiences. Nebuchadnezzar's final siege saw the literal fulfillment of Ezekiel's prophetic judgment with the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple in 586 B.C.

He was also shown Jehovah's ultimate judgment upon the gentile nations that had come against Israel as part of His judgment upon the Israelites for their continued disobedience. During the twenty-two years of his calling, it is highly probable that Ezekiel was despised by the captive; for it is clear they took no cognizance of his messages whatsoever! There is no indication that they heeded Ezekiel's warning to repent. Therefore, life must have been extremely difficult for the prophet of Abba. Even though he knew from the outset that the captives would not listen to him — because Abba warned him at the time of his calling that it would be thus.

*And He said to me, Son of man, go! Go up to the house of Israel and speak to them with My Words. For you are not sent to a people of a deep lip and of a difficult language, but to the house of Israel; not to many people of a deep lip and of a difficult language, whose words you cannot hear. **Surely, if I had sent you to them, they would have listened to you. But the house of Israel will not listen to you, for they will not listen to Me; for all the house of Israel are strong of forehead and hard of heart.** Behold, I have made your face strong against their faces and your forehead strong against their foreheads. I have made your forehead as an adamant harder than flint. Do not be bowed down by their faces, though they are a rebellious house. **And He said to me, Son of man, receive all My Words which I shall speak to you in your heart, and hear with your ears. And go! Go to those of the captivity, to the sons of your people, and speak to them, and tell them, So says the Lord Jehovah; whether they will hear or whether they will forbear.** Eze 3: 4-11*

*And lo, you are to them as a singer of love songs with a beautiful voice, and able to play well on an instrument; **for they hear your words, but they do not do them.** Eze 33:32*

## NEW TEMPLE BLUEPRINT (DESIGN)

The purpose and objective of the Ezekiel's Temple Blueprint has in the writer's opinion been grossly misunderstood — with resultant horrendous consequences relative to Ezekiel's day, extending to Jesus' offer of the kingdom; and subsequent birth of the New Testament age. The total disregard by the captives for the Temple Blueprint **conditionally** shown to them by Ezekiel, and the subsequent knock-on affects thereof, are expounded in the following paragraphs.

**All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. And it shall rise and dwell in its place, from Benjamin's Gate to the place of the First Gate; to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananeel to the king's winepresses. And they shall dwell in it, and there shall never again be a shutting in, but Jerusalem shall dwell safely.** Zed 14: 10 -11

In 572 B.C, which was 14 years after Jerusalem was destroyed (586 B.C), in a vision Ezekiel was transported to Jerusalem where he was shown the land of Israel, together with a new city and new Temple (design).The Temple Blueprint was for a completely new Temple — never before seen in Israel. Whereupon he was told to declare all that he had seen to the captives upon his return. **However, the revelation of the Blueprint to them was conditional.**

**Eze 40:1 In the twenty-fifth year of our captivity, in the beginning of the year, in the tenth of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was stricken, in the same day the hand of Jehovah was on me, and brought me there (Jerusalem). In the visions of God He brought me into the land of Israel, and made me rest on a very high mountain. And it went up, as the structure of the city on the south. And He brought me there, and behold, a man whose appearance was like the appearance of bronze, and a line of flax in his hand, and a measuring reed. And he stood in the gate. And the man said to me, **Son of man, behold with your eyes and hear with your ears, and set your heart on all that I shall show you. For you are brought here so that I might show them to you, declare all that you see to the house of Israel.**** Eze 40: 1-4

## WHAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN

*For I know the purposes which I am purposing for you, says Jehovah; purposes of **peace** and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Jer 29:11*

Underpinning Ezekiel's thirteen messages was beloved Jehovah's desire for repentance, and conditional to that repentance was the promise of total forgiveness and full restoration upon the return of the captives to their land. Concurrent to their obedience, were the following: An everlasting promise of **peace and safety**, and that **the two houses would once again be united**, as well as being located back in their **respective tribal lands**. Moreover, King Jesus would ultimately be their King and He would justly rule over them. In addition, the Israelites would have occupied all the territory promised to Abraham — it would have been huge in comparison to what they eventually occupied. In our day, the present state of Israel inhabits a veritable 'parking lot' as opposed to the promise given to Abraham. During the Messianic millennium reign there would have had a population explosion! — Thereby, fulfilling the Abrahamic promise to become as the grains of sand upon the seashore. Also, during the millennial they would have evangelized all the nations of the world. Furthermore, Satan being bound for a thousand years; the wolf would have dwelt with the lamb, little children would have played with snakes and not been harmed! The blessings of absolute abundance, and long levity would have been the order of the day! Regrettably, as already elucidated their collective rejection of Ezekiel's messages; **'failure to repent and then to do'** — had on-going and ultimately eternal repercussions!

### 1. Promise of Peace and Safety

*And I will cut a **covenant of peace with them**. It shall be an everlasting covenant with them. And I will place them, and multiply them, and will set **My sanctuary** in their midst forever. Eze 37:26 And no more shall they be a prey to the nations, nor shall the beast of the land eat them. But they shall dwell **safely**, and none shall terrify them. Eze 34:28 And I will make a covenant of **peace** with them, and will send the evil beasts out of the land. And they shall dwell **safely** in the wilderness and sleep in the woods Eze 34:25*

### 2. Two Houses United

*And I shall put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and **I will place you in your own land**. And you shall know that I Jehovah have spoken and have done it, says Jehovah. Eze 37:14 And say to them, So says the Lord Jehovah: Behold, I will take the sons of Israel from among the nations where they have gone, and will gather them on every side, and will **bring them into their own land**. Eze 37:21 **And I will make them one nation in the land on the mountains of Israel, and one King shall be king to them all. And they shall not still be two nations, nor shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all.** Eze 37:22 Say to them, So says the Lord Jehovah: Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel, his companions, and I will put them with him, with the stick of Judah, and will make them one stick, and they shall be one in My hand. Eze 37:19*

### 3. Division of Land

*So says the Lord Jehovah: This shall be the border by which you shall inherit the land according to the twelve tribes of Israel. Joseph shall have two parts. Eze 47:13 **And you shall divide this land for yourselves by the tribes of Israel.** Eze 47:21*

### 4. A King

*Behold, the days come, says Jehovah, that I will raise to David a righteous Branch, **and a King shall reign and act wisely, and shall do judgment and justice in the earth.** (Jer 23:5). For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given;*

and the government shall be on His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. **There is no end of the increase of His government and peace on the throne of David, and on His kingdom, to order it and to establish it with judgment and with justice from now on, even forever. The zeal of Jehovah of Hosts will do this.** Isaiah 9:6–7.

## WHEN THEY RETURNED (B.C, 537) TO BUILD CYRUS'S TEMPLE THERE WAS NO PEACE – ONLY FEAR!

They did **not** set about immediately building Cyrus's Temple, but, instead set about building the **altar** of the old Temple. How do we know this? Read on...

*And some of the chief of the fathers, when they came to the house of Jehovah at Jerusalem, **offered freely for the house of God to set it up in its place.*** Ezra 2: 68

***But Zerubbabel, and Jeshua, and the rest of the chief of the fathers of Israel, said to them, You have nothing to do with us to build a house to our God. But we ourselves together will build to Jehovah, the God of Israel, as King Cyrus the king of Persia has commanded us.*** Ezra 4:3

## ALTAR BEGUN

*And Jeshua the son of Jozadak stood up, and his **brothers the priests, and Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and his brothers.** **And they built the altar of the God of Israel in order to offer burnt offerings on it,** as it is written in the Law of Moses the man of God. **And they set the altar on its bases, for fear was on them because of the people of those countries.** Ezra 3:1-3*

**Do we see!** Their primary reason for building the altar first, and not the Temple (which is what the people actually gave their finances for) was out of **fear!!** “*And they set the altar on its bases, for fear was on them because of the people of those countries.*” FEAR being the **antithesis** of PEACE & SAFETY. Indeed! There is always a price attached to disobedience!

## ALTAR COMPLETE — SEVENTH MONTH

*From the first day of the seventh month they began to offer burnt offerings to Jehovah. **But the foundation of the Temple of Jehovah was not laid.*** Ezra 3:6

## FOUNDATION LAID — SECOND YEAR

***And in the second year of their coming to the house of God at Jerusalem, in the second month, Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and the rest of their brothers the priests and the Levites, and all they who had come out of the captivity to Jerusalem, began...*** (the foundations). Ezra 3:8

***But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers, ancient men who had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice...*** Ezra 3:12

It is clear from the above scripture that the older men had reservations which were expressed by their weeping. However, the die was cast and there was no turning back. It was only in the second year that the foundations were laid for the Temple. The construction of Temple was a stop-start affair — taking some 22 years before the Temple was dedicated! Even then, it could not be compared to its former glory. The city and the walls took even longer — the entire project taking some 93 years to bring to fruition.

## TEMPLE CONSTRUCTION

***Then the people of the land weakened the hands of the people of Judah, and troubled them in building.*** Ezra 4:4. *And they hired counselors against them to frustrate their purpose all the days of Cyrus king of Persia, even until the reign of Darius king of Persia.* Ezra 4:5.

## CONSTRUCTION CEASED (FOR 4 YEARS)...

***Now make a decree to cause these men to cease, and that this city be not built until the decree shall be given from me. And take heed that you do not fail to do this. Why should damage grow to the hurt of the kings? And when the copy of King Artaxerxes' letter was read before Rehum, and Shimshai the scribe, and their companions, they hurried to Jerusalem to the Jews, and made them stop by force and power. Then the work of the house of God at Jerusalem ceased. So it ceased to the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.*** Ezra 4:2–24.

*Then the same Sheshbazzar came and laid the foundation of the house of God which is in Jerusalem. And since that time even until now it has been building, but is not finished.* Ezra 5:16

## CONSTRUCTION CONTINUED...

Then Tatnai, governor of the province Beyond the River, Shethar-boznai, and their companions, according to that which Darius the king had sent, so they did speedily Ezra 6: 13. And the elders of the Jews built, and they were blessed through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. And they built and finished it according to the command of the God of Israel, and according to the command of Cyrus, and Darius, and Artaxerxes king of Persia. Ezra 6:14

## TEMPLE FINISHED

**And this house was finished on the third day of the month Adar, in the sixth year of the reign of Darius the king.** Ezra 6:15.

During all these years, and even into our day, Israel has no peace! Why? Because of disobedience! In spite of Ezekiel's Temple not being built – Jesus acknowledged Cyrus's Temple as His House.

And He taught, saying to them, Is it not written, "My house shall be called the house of prayer for all nations?" But you have made it a den of thieves. Mar 11:17

**An instruction so concise! And yet, an instruction so utterly ignored!**

## WHY EZEKIEL'S TEMPLE WAS NEVER BUILT

**In the twenty-fifth year of our captivity, in the beginning of the year, in the tenth of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was stricken, in the same day the hand of Jehovah was on me, and brought me there (Jerusalem). In the visions of God He brought me into the land of Israel, and made me rest on a very high mountain. And it went up, as the structure of the city on the south. And He brought me there, and behold, a man whose appearance was like the appearance of bronze, and a line of flax in his hand, and a measuring reed. And he stood in the gate. And the man said to me, Son of man, behold with your eyes and hear with your ears, and set your heart on all that I shall show you (Temple design). For you are brought here so that I might show them to you, declare all that you see to the house of Israel.** Eze 40: 1-4

And He said to me, Son of man, the house of Israel shall no more defile the place of My throne, and the place of the soles of My feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the sons of Israel forever; **neither they, nor their kings, by their fornication, nor by the dead bodies of their kings in their high places.** Eze 43:7

In their setting of their doorstep by My threshold, and their doorpost by My doorpost; and the wall between Me and them, they have even defiled My holy name by their abominations which they have done. And I have consumed them in My anger. Eze 43:8

**Now let them put away their fornication, and the dead bodies of their kings from Me,** and I will dwell in their midst forever. Eze 43:9

**You, son of man, declare to the house of Israel, the Temple house (Sanctuary), so that they may be ashamed of their iniquities. And let them measure its size. And if they are ashamed of all that they have done, the form of the house, and its arrangement, and its exits, and its entrances, and all its forms, and all its statutes, and all its forms, and all its laws, make known to them. And write them before their eyes, so that they may observe all its form, and all its statutes, and do them.** Eze 43:11

The above incidences were taking place in Jerusalem and Solomon's Temple and hence in a vision (591 B.C. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Scroll) Ezekiel was transported in the spirit to Jerusalem and told to judge the city. Whilst there, he is shown first-hand the wickedness that was being perpetuated in the Temple, city and mountains — wickedness that was so gross; that it would cause beloved Jehovah to ultimately vacate His Temple. After he judged the city, he was returned in the spirit to captives and shared with them in great detail his recent experiences. Nebuchadnezzar's final siege saw the literal fulfillment of Ezekiel's prophetic judgment with the absolute destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple in 586 B.C.

The revelation of the Temple Blueprint (details) by Ezekiel to the captives was unequivocally **CONDITIONAL!** And that condition was simple and straightforward — repentances (**ashamed of**). The first thing Ezekiel was to do was to show the captives the Temple house (Sanctuary) from his Blueprint and they were then to measure it. Afterwards they were to repent and subject to their repentance he was to do the following, "**And write them before their eyes, so that they may observe all its form, and all its statutes, and do them.**" Eze 43:11

Nowhere do we read that the Israelites repented. Their unwillingness (rebelliousness) to repent cancelled the conditions that beloved Abba had set enabling Ezekiel to reveal the Blueprint (details) to the captives. Therefore, Ezekiel was bound by the conditions stipulated by beloved Abba and was legally obligated not to shown the captives the Blueprint details. The implications being; that Ezekiel's Temple (Blueprint) by divine decree could not be built. And must never be built! In addition, all the promises that beloved Abba had given (already elucidated) in relation to the Temple fell away. However, we know that in the future, the Jews (Zionists) will build a Temple of some sort from the following scripture.

...that you should not be soon shaken in mind or troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word or letter, as through us, as if the Day of Christ is at hand. Let not anyone deceive you by any means. For that Day shall not come unless there first comes a falling away, **and the man of sin shall be revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that**

is called God, or that is worshiped, **so that he sits as God in the temple of God, setting himself forth, that he is God.**  
2Th 2: 2 -4

And a reed like a rod was given to me. And the angel stood, saying, **Rise up and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and those who worship in it. But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it was given to the nations (Gentiles). And they will trample the holy city forty-two months.** Rev. 11: 1 -2

...and the man of sin shall be revealed, the son of perdition... Our Brother, Paul, clearly understood that before the return of our beloved Saviour — that great and terrible day of the Lord! And that a temple of some description would be functioning. And most importantly for the Jew, the daily sacrifice will be in operation.

And he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week. And in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the offering to cease, and on a corner of the altar desolating abominations, even until the end. And that which was decreed shall be poured on the desolator. Dan 9:27

We believe this son of perdition is none other than the Beast from out of the Sea from chapter 13 in the book of Revelation. He is the angel of the bottomless pit — Satan/Apollyon/Abaddon (destroyer) and according to the book of Revelation he comes with all manner of lying signs and wonders, with which to deceive the nations. He will be assassinated by dagger, and then come back to life, thereby feigning the resurrection, “...that they should make an image to the beast who had the **wound by a sword and lived.**” (Rev 13:14). According to the prophet Daniel, he also has an ability to succeed at war and does not worship the God of his fathers, but instead, Mars the Greek god of war. It is highly probable that he will be a Jew, who masquerades as their messiah. But halfway through the seven year covenant he reneges on his covenant and in so doing reveals his true colours — Satan!

## THE PROPHETIC PURPOSE OF EZEKIEL'S TEMPLE

Therefore say, so says the Lord Jehovah: **I will even gather you from the people and assemble you out of the lands, in those where you were scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.** And they shall come there, and they shall take away all its hateful things and all its abominations from it. **And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you. And I will remove the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them a heart of flesh, so that they may walk in My statutes and keep My ordinances, and do them.** And they shall be My people, and I will be their God. Eze 11:17 - 20

In that day will **I** (Jesus) raise up the TABERNACLE OF DAVID that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and **I** will raise up his ruins, and **I** will build it as in the days of old: That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and of all the heathen, which are called by My Name, saith the LORD that doeth this. Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt. And **I** will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. And **I** will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which **I** have given them, saith the LORD thy God. (Amos 9:11-15).

If the Israelites had repented then, they would have been shown all the Temple details by Ezekiel with the instruction to build that building upon their return and nothing else! Ezekiel's Temple was ultimately to be inhabited by our Lord Jesus had the Jews received Him as their King. Once they were back in the land, and had built Ezekiel's Temple, and subject to their continued obedience; beloved Abba would have raised King David back to life to rule over the restored House of Israel. He would have ruled over his people until the time Jesus offered the Kingdom. Until that time, the Israelites would have lived in peace and prosperity. Had Jesus been accepted by His people as King, within seven years (Daniel's last week) He would have overthrown the Roman government and would have ushered in the Millennial Kingdom – there would have been no 'Times of the Gentiles', or the age of Grace – hence the need for animal sacrifice (sin issue) in Ezekiel's Temple.

Eze And I will set up one Shepherd over them, and He shall feed them, **My servant David.** He shall feed them, and He shall be their Shepherd. And I Jehovah will be their God, and **My servant David a ruler among them.** I Jehovah have spoken. Eze 34: 23 – 24.

Dan 9:24 **Seventy weeks (70 wks = 490 yrs) are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy (Anoint Jesus)**

1. To finish the transgression
2. To make an end of sins
3. To make reconciliation for iniquity
4. To bring in everlasting righteousness
5. To seal up the vision and prophecy
6. To anoint the most Holy

**Dan 9:25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: (69 wks = 483 yrs ) the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.**

483 years later, and a few days before Passover, Jesus road into Jerusalem and said the following:

**“And as He drew near, He beheld the city and wept over it, saying, If you had known, even you, even at least in this day of yours, the things for your peace. But now they are hidden from your eyes... Luk 19 41-42**

When Jesus road into Jerusalem he fulfilled Dan 9:24-25 perfectly and the nation as a whole should have acknowledged Him as their long awaited Messiah.

*And when they drew near Jerusalem, and had come to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, Go into the village across from you. And immediately you will find an **ass tied, and a colt with her**. Untie them and bring them to Me. And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, The Lord has need of them, and immediately He will send them. All this was done so that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet (Zechariah 9:9), saying, **Tell the daughter of Zion, Behold, your King comes to you, meek, and sitting on an ass, even a colt the foal of an ass.**” And the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. And they brought the ass, even the colt, and put their clothes on them, and He sat on them. And **a very great crowd spread** their garments in the way. Others cut down branches from the trees and spread them in the way. **And the crowds who went before,** and those who followed, cried out, saying, **Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!** Mat 21:1-9*

*For the days will come on you that your enemies will raise up a rampart to you, and will surround you, and will keep you in on every side. And they will tear you down, and your children within you, and will not leave a stone on a stone **because you did not know the time (day) of your visitation.**” (Luk 19: 43-44)*

**“Behold, your house (Temple) is left to you **desolate. And truly I say to you, you will not see Me until it come when you say, Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**” Luk 13:35.**

## **TESTIMONY OF FULFILLED MESSIANIC PROPHECY – THE JEWS SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED JESUS AS THEIR MESSIAH**

Much of the greatest amount of fulfilled prophecy relates to the Messiah. There are two main reasons why this is especially strong evidence for Scriptural authority. First, the prophecies are both numerous and highly detailed, extending to some of the minutiae of Jesus' life on Earth. Secondly, the prophecies are incontestably earlier than their fulfillments'. Even before the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, it was universally accepted that the Old Testament books in which they occur were in existence before our Lord's first coming.

| <b>PROPHECIES CONCERNING JESUS' BIRTH</b> | <b>PROPHECY</b> | <b>FULFILMENT</b>  |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1 Born of the seed of woman               | Gen. 3:15       | Gal. 4:4           |
| 2 Born of a virgin                        | Isa. 7:14       | Matt. 1:18, 24, 25 |
| 3 Son of God                              | Ps. 2:7         | Matt. 3:17         |
| 4 Seed of Abraham                         | Gen. 22:18      | Gal. 3:16          |
| 5 Son of Isaac                            | Gen. 21:12      | Luke 3:34          |
| 6 Son of Jacob                            | Num. 24:17      | Luke 3:34          |
| 7 Tribe of Judah                          | Gen. 49:10      | Luke 3:23, 33      |
| 8 Family line of Jesse                    | Isa. 11:1       | Luke 3:23, 32      |
| 9 House of David                          | Jer. 23:5       | Luke 2:4           |
| 10 Born at Bethlehem                      | Mic. 5:2        | Matt. 2:1          |
| 11 Presented with gifts                   | Ps. 72:10       | Matt. 2:1, 11      |
| 12 Herod kills children                   | Jer. 31:15      | Matt. 2:16         |

| <b>PROPHECIES CONCERNING JESUS' MINISTRY</b> | <b>PROPHECY</b>          | <b>FULFILMENT</b> |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Preceded by a messenger                    | Isa. 40:3                | Matt. 3:1, 2      |
| 2 Year Christ begins ministry                | Dan. 9:25 ; Isa. 61:1, 2 | Matt. 4:16-20     |
| 3 Ministry to begin in Galilee               | Isa. 9:1                 | Matt. 4:12-17     |
| 4 Will perform miracles                      | Isa. 35:5, 6             | Matt. 9:35        |
| 5 Teaching in parables                       | Ps. 78:2                 | Matt. 13:34       |

|                                |           |               |
|--------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| 6 Enters Jerusalem on a donkey | Zech. 9:9 | Matt. 21:7-10 |
|--------------------------------|-----------|---------------|

| PROPHECIES OF JESUS' LAST DAYS  | PROPHECY        | FULFILMENT      |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 Betrayed by a friend  | Ps. 41:9        | Matt. 10:4      |
| 2 Sold for 30 pieces of silver, which was thrown down in God's house and used to buy a potter's field | Zech. 11:12, 13 | Matt. 27:3-7    |
| 3 Forsaken by disciples   | Zech. 13:7      | Mark 14:50      |
| 4 Accused by false witnesses  | Ps. 35:11       | Matt. 26:59, 60 |
| 5 Dumb before accusers  | Isa. 53:7       | Matt. 27:12     |
| 6 Wounded and bruised   | Isa. 53:5       | Matt. 27:26     |
| 7 Smitten and spat upon   | Isa. 50:6       | Matt. 26:67     |
| 8 Mocked  | Ps. 22:7, 8     | Matt. 27:31     |
| 9 Hands and feet pierced  | Ps. 22:16       | John 20:25-27   |
| 10 Crucified with thieves   | Isa. 53:12      | Matt. 27:38     |
| 11 Made intercession for persecutors  | Isa. 53:12      | Luke 23:34      |
| 12 Rejected by His own people   | Isa. 53:3       | John 7:5, 48    |
| 13 Friends stood afar off   | Ps. 38:11       | Luke 23:49      |
| 14 People shook their heads   | Ps. 109:25      | Matt. 27:39     |
| 15 Stared upon  | Ps. 22:17       | Luke 23:35      |
| 16 Garments parted and lots cast  | Ps. 22:18       | John 19:23, 24  |
| 17 Suffered thirst  | Ps. 69:21       | John 19:28      |
| 18 Gall and vinegar offered Him   | Ps. 69:21       | Matt. 27:34     |
| 19 Made forsaken cry  | Ps. 22:1        | Matt. 27:46     |
| 20 Committed Himself to God   | Ps. 31:5        | Luke 23:46      |
| 21 Bones not broken   | Ps. 34:20       | John 19:33      |
| 22 Heart broken   | Ps. 22:14       | John 19:34      |
| 23 His side pierced   | Zech. 12:10     | John 19:34      |
| 24 Darkness over the land   | Amos 8:9        | Matt. 27:45     |
| 25 Buried in rich man's tomb  | Isa. 53:9       | Matt. 27:57-60  |

| PROPHECIES AFTER JESUS' DEATH | PROPHECY  | FULFILMENT |
|-------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| 1 Resurrection                | Ps. 16:10 | Acts 2:31  |
| 2 Ascension                   | Ps. 68:18 | Acts 1:9   |

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In Jesus' day, as a direct result of His rejection by His people, He prophesied a futuristic desolation regarding Jerusalem and the Temple. These tumultuous events are recorded in Luke 13 and 19 (also Matt 24) respectively. Jesus' prophetic utterances were fulfilled in AD 70 when the Roman's besieged and sacked Jerusalem. According to Josephus millions of Jews perished during the preceding siege and the eventual sacking of the city.

*“And as He drew near, He beheld the city and wept over it, saying, **If you had known, even you, even at least in this day of yours, the things for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.** For the days will come on you that your enemies will raise up a rampart to you, and will surround you, and will keep you in on every side. And they will tear you down, and your children within you, and will not leave a stone on a stone **because you did not know the time (day) of your visitation.**” (Luk 19: 41-44)*

*“Behold, **your house** (Temple) is left to you **desolate**. And truly I say to you, you will not see Me until it come when you say, **Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**” Luk 13:35.*

**We can safely deduce from the above scripture in terms of the Old Covenant, that when there is no functioning Temple in Jerusalem, the land is deemed desolate!**

Indeed! Our day bears witness that Jerusalem has no peace, and perhaps more importantly for the Jew (Zionists), there is still no Temple — which equates to no sacrifice, and therefore no forgiveness of sin (as long as they reject Jesus).

Through their collective rejection of the Son of God, the judgment upon both houses going forward was prophesied to become much more severe! **“Your house shall be left to you desolate...”** This desolate state (no Temple) is to continue up to the time of the return of Jesus, when the remnant shall say, **“Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord”**. Obviously this desolation does not apply to ‘Born Again’ Jews — the New Man in Christ Jesus. However, there yet remains a day of restoration. This restoration however, must not be confused with the present-day counterfeit **Zionist** in-gathering. This Zionist in-gathering has been permitted by beloved Abba to fulfill prophecy, so that in the ‘last days’ the Jews would be gathered back in the land, in order to be deceived by the false Messiah. Beloved Abba used King Nebuchadnezzar to fulfill His purposes regarding the Jews and the surrounding nations, and then later rewarded him – see below scriptures.

*Son of man, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon caused his army to serve a great service against Tyre. Every head was made bald, and every shoulder was peeled. **Yet neither he nor his army had any pay for Tyre**, for the service that he had served against it. Eze 29:18*

*So the Lord Yahweh says this: **Behold, I will give the land of Egypt to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon**. And he shall take her host, and take her spoil, and seize her plunder. **And it shall be the wages for his army**. Eze 29:19*

***I have given him the land of Egypt for his labor** with which he served against it, **because they worked for Me**, says the Lord Yahweh. Eze 29:20*

### HEAVY PRICE TAG

**It is crucial to understand that this yet to come restoration comes with a heavy price tag, namely, the blood of Jesus, and Jacob’s refining fire – the one past, the other, in the imminent future.** The foregoing must not be perceived as anti-Semitic in any manner whatsoever; but, rather the last prophetic warning to the Jewish people to unhardened their hearts and acknowledge their beloved Saviour — while there is still time. **They must be aware of the Zionists diabolical schemes.**

### PROPHECY FORETELLING JESUS’ BIRTH & KINGSHIP

*The Lord shall be king over all the earth. (Zech. 14:9. See also Psalm 72; Dan. 2:44; 7:27)*

*Behold, the days come, says Jehovah, that I will raise to David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and act wisely, and shall do judgment and justice in the earth. (Jer 23:5).*

**And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne. Rev 12:5**

*And you, O slain, wicked king of Israel, of whom has come his day in the time of iniquity of the end. So says Jehovah: **Remove the diadem, and take off the crown**. This shall not be as it was. **Lift up the low one (Jesus), and put down the high one (Zedekiah – Jeremiah 52:1- 5, 11)**. Ruin, ruin, ruin, I will appoint it. **Also this shall not be until the coming of Him (Jesus) whose is the right. And I will give it to Him**. Ezekiel 21:25-27.*

**The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until Shiloh come: And unto him shall the obedience of the peoples be. Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass’s colt unto the choice vine; he has washed his garments in wine, and his vesture in the blood of grapes: his eyes shall be red with wine, and his teeth white with milk. Genesis 49:10-12. See Revelation 19: 13, 15b.**

*Now all this happened so that might be fulfilled that which was spoken of the LORD by the prophet, saying, **“Behold, the virgin shall conceive in her womb, and will bear a son. And they will call His name Emmanuel,” which being interpreted is, God with us**. Matthew 1:22-23.*

**And she shall bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus:** for He shall save His people from their sins. Mat 1:21

*But when the **fullness of the time** came, God sent forth His Son, coming into being out of a woman, having come under Law, that He might **redeem those under Law**, so that we might **receive the adoption of sons**. (Gal 4:4 -5)*

**For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be on His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. There is no end of the increase of His government and peace on the throne of David, and on His kingdom, to order it and to establish it with judgment and with justice from now on, even forever. The zeal of Jehovah of Hosts will do this. Isaiah 9:6 –7.**

**And she brought forth her son, the First-born, and wrapped Him, and laid Him in a manger-- because there was no room for them in the inn. And in the same country there were shepherds living in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came on them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them. And they were grievously afraid. And the angel said to them, Do not fear. For behold, I give to you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For to you is born today, in the city of David, a Savior, who is Jesus the Lord. And this is a sign to you. You**

will find the babe wrapped, lying in a manger. **And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.** And it happened as the angels departed from them into Heaven, the shepherds said to one another, Indeed, let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing which has happened, which the Lord made known to us. And hurrying they came and sought out both Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in the manger. And seeing, they publicly told about the word spoken to them concerning this Child. And all those who heard marveled about the things spoken to them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these sayings, meditating in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as was spoken to them. Luke 2:7-20

**And when eight days were fulfilled to circumcise the child, His name was called JESUS,** the name called by the angel before He was conceived in the womb. And when the days of her purification according to the Law of Moses were fulfilled, they brought Him to Jerusalem, to present Him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord) and to offer a sacrifice according to that said in the Law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Luke 2:21 -24

And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. And this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel. And the Holy Spirit was on him. And it happened to him, being instructed by the Holy Spirit, he was not to see death before he would see the Christ of the Lord. And he came by the Spirit into the Temple. And as the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do according to the custom of the Law concerning Him, even he received Him in his arms and blessed God, and said, Lord, now You will let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word. **For my eyes have seen Your Salvation which You have prepared before the face of all the peoples...** Luke, 2: 25-31

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham: Abraham fathered Isaac, and Isaac fathered Jacob, and Jacob fathered Judah and his brothers. And Judah fathered Pharez and Zarah of Tamar. And Pharez fathered Hezron, and Hezron fathered Ram, and Ram fathered Amminadab, and Amminadab fathered Nahshon, and Nahshon fathered Salmon. And Salmon fathered Boaz of Rahab, and Boaz fathered Obed of Ruth, and Obed fathered Jesse, and Jesse fathered David the king. And David the king fathered Solomon of her who had been wife of Uriah. And Solomon fathered Rehoboam, and Rehoboam fathered Abijah, and Abijah fathered Asa. And Asa fathered Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat fathered Jehoram, and Jehoram fathered Uzziah. And Uzziah fathered Jotham, and Jotham fathered Ahaz, and Ahaz fathered Hezekiah. And Hezekiah fathered Manasseh, and Manasseh fathered Amon, and Amon fathered Josiah. And Josiah fathered Jehoiachin and his brothers, at the time they were carried away to Babylon. And after the carrying away to Babylon, Jehoiachin fathered Shealtiel, and Shealtiel fathered Zerubbabel. And Zerubbabel fathered Abiud, and Abiud fathered Eliakim, and Eliakim fathered Azor. And Azor fathered Sadoc, and Sadoc fathered Achim, and Achim fathered Eliud. And Eliud fathered Eleazar, and Eleazar fathered Matthan, and Matthan fathered Jacob. And Jacob fathered Joseph, the husband to be of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. **So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations. And from David until the carrying away into Babylon, fourteen generations. And from the carrying away into Babylon until Christ, fourteen generations.** Mat 1:1-17

**N.B.** The generations referred to here are individuals (bloodline) and not years as in 40 or 70.

## **JESUS IN THE TEMPLE**

**As A Young Boy:** After three days they found him in the Temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Luke 2:46 ...and He said to them, **Why did you look for Me? Do you not know that I must be about My Father's business?** Luke 2:49 ...and Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. Luke 2:52.

**As An Adult:** Not until halfway through the Festival did Jesus go up to the Temple courts and begin to teach. The Jews were amazed and asked, **"How did this man get such learning without having studied?"** John 7:14-15.

And the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem, and it was winter. And Jesus walked in the Temple in Solomon's Porch. Then the Jews encircled Him and said to Him, **How long do you make us doubt? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly. Jesus answered them, I told you and you did not believe.** The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. But you did not believe because you are not of My sheep. As I said to you, My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give to them eternal life, and they shall never ever perish, and not anyone shall pluck them out of My hand. My Father who gave them to me is greater than all, and no one is able to pluck them out of My Father's hand. I and the Father are one! **Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him. Jesus answered them, I have shown you many good works from My Father; for which of these do you stone Me? The Jews answered Him, saying, We do not stone you for a good work, but for blasphemy, and because you, being a man, make yourself God.** John 12: 22-33.

**When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the Temple courts he found men selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the Temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. 16 To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a market!"** John 2:13-16. **On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the Temple area and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves, and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the Temple courts.** And as he

taught them, he said, "Is it not written: 'My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations'? But you have made it 'a den of robbers.' The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching. When evening came, they went out of the city. Mark 11:15-19.

## KINGDOM OFFERED: ORDINARY PEOPLE HAILED JESUS AS KING

But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, coming into being out of a woman, having come under Law, that He might redeem those under Law, so that we might receive the adoption of sons. (Gal 4:4-5)

Behold, the days come, says Jehovah, that **I will raise to David a righteous Branch, and a King** shall reign and act wisely, and shall do judgment and justice in the earth. Jeremiah 23:5.

In that day will **I** (Jesus) raise up the TABERNACLE OF DAVID that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and **I** will raise up his ruins, and **I** will build it as in the days of old: That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and of all the heathen, which are called by My Name, saith the LORD that doeth this. Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt. And **I** will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. And **I** will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which **I** have given them, saith the LORD thy God. (Amos 9:11-15).

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem; **behold, your King** comes to you. He is righteous and victorious, meek and **riding on an ass, even on a colt, the son of an ass.** Zechariah 9:9.

And when they drew near Jerusalem, and had come to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, Go into the village across from you. And immediately you will find an **ass tied, and a colt with her.** Untie them and bring them to Me. And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, The Lord has need of them, and immediately He will send them. All this was done so that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet (Zechariah 9:9), saying, **Tell the daughter of Zion, Behold, your King comes to you, meek, and sitting on an ass, even a colt the foal of an ass.** And the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. And they brought the ass, even the colt, and put their clothes on them, and He sat on them. And **a very great crowd spread their garments in the way.** Others cut down branches from the trees and spread them in the way. **And the crowds who went before, and those who followed, cried out, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!** Mat 21:1-9

On the next day, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, **a great crowd who had come to the Feast (Passover) took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him. And they cried, Hosanna! Blessed is the King of Israel who comes in the name of the Lord!** And finding an ass colt, Jesus sat on it; as it is written, Fear not, daughter of Zion; **behold, your King comes sitting on the foal of an ass. But His disciples did not know these things at the first. But when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things to Him.** John 12: 12-15. April 6<sup>th</sup>, 32/33 A.D. five days before his crucifixion – Passover 3 days later. (Alvin F Showwalter – New Chronological Harmony of History & the Bible – page 184.)

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to her, how often would I have gathered your children together, even as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, **and you would not! Behold, your house is left to you desolate. For I say to you, you shall not see Me from now on until you say, Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.** (Matt 23:37 – 39)

And **as He drew near, He beheld the city and wept over it,** saying, If you had known, even you, even at least in this day of yours, the things for your peace! **But now they are hidden from your eyes.** For the days will come on you that your enemies will raise up a rampart to you, and will surround you, and will keep you in on every side. And they will tear you down, and your children within you, and will not leave a stone on a stone **because you did not know the time (day) of your visitation.** (Luk 19: 41-44)

## JESUS' KINGSHIP REJECTED BY THE PHARISEES

And it was the preparation of the Passover, and about the sixth hour. **And he said to the Jews, Behold your king! But they cried out, Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!** Pilate said to them, **Shall I crucify your king? The chief priests answered, we have no king but Caesar. Then he delivered Him up to them that He might be crucified. And they took Jesus and led Him away.** John 19: 14-16.

Pilate then said to Him, **Are you a king then? Jesus answered; you say that I am a king. To this end I was born, and for this cause I came into the world,** that I should bear witness to the truth... John 18:37.

## Crown of Thorns & Kingly Robe

And the soldiers plaited a crown of thorns and put it on His head. And they put a purple robe on Him, and said, Hail, King of the Jews! And they struck Him with their hands. Then Pilate went out again and said to them, Behold, I bring him out to

you so that you may know that I find no fault in him. Then Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them, Behold the man! John 19: 2-5.

And it was the preparation of the Passover, and about the sixth hour. **And he said to the Jews, Behold your king! But they cried out, Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!** Pilate said to them, **Shall I crucify your king? The chief priests answered, we have no king but Caesar. Then he delivered Him up to them that He might be crucified. And they took Jesus and led Him away.** John 19: 14-16.

Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, **Do not write, the king of the Jews,** but that he said, I am king of the Jews. John 19:21. **Pilate answered, what I have written I have written.** John 19:22.

## THE CRUCIFIXION

Therefore **let all the house of Israel know** assuredly that God made this same Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ. Act 2:36

**Dan 9:26 And after threescore and two weeks (62 wks = 434 yrs ) shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary (70 A.D.); and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.**

And Pilate wrote a title and put it on the cross. And the writing was, **JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.** John 19:19.

**Then many of the Jews read this title,** for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. John 19:20.

Then when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, it is finished! **And He bowed His head and gave up the spirit.** John 19:30.

But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a lance, and instantly there came out blood and water. **For these things were done so that the Scripture might be fulfilled,** "Not a bone of Him shall be broken. And again another Scripture says, "They shall look upon Him whom they pierced." John 19:33, 34, 36-37.

And their bodies will lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, **where also our Lord was crucified.** Rev 11:8.

And he who saw (John the Apostle) bore record, and his record is true. And he knows that he speaks true, so that you might believe. John 19:35

## TEMPLE VEIL RENT

...by the way which He (Jesus) dedicated for us, a new and living way, through the **veil, that is to say, His flesh...** Heb 10:20

**And crying again with a loud voice, Jesus released His spirit.** And, behold! **The veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom.** And the earth quaked, and the rocks were sheared. Matthew 27: 50 - 51. Torn from top to bottom is clearly a sign of divine intervention.

...and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom every building having been fitly framed together, **grows into a holy sanctuary** in the Lord; in whom you also are built together for a dwelling place of God through the Spirit. Eph 2:20 – 22

**48 However, the Most High does not live in houses made by men.** As the prophet says: 49 'Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house will you build for me? says the Lord. Or where will my resting place be? 50 Has not my hand made all these things?' Acts 7:48-50.

The renting of the veil in the Temple at the precise moment Jesus gave up His spirit is an indispensable key to unlocking the enigmatic chapters 40 thru 42 of Ezekiel's prophecies, in relation to the so-called Millennial Temple; and attendant birthing of the New Covenant.

## AFTER THE RESURRECTION

"When they therefore were come together, they asked of **Him,** saying, Lord, wilt Thou at this time **restore again the kingdom to Israel?** And He said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in His own power. Acts 1:6.

But His disciples did not know these things at the first. **But when Jesus was glorified,** then they remembered that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things to Him. John 12:12–16.

## JEWS BLINDED TO THIS DAY

And we are not like Moses, who put a veil over his face so that the sons of Israel could not steadfastly look to the end of the thing being done away. (But their thoughts were blinded; for until the present the same veil remains on the reading of the old covenant, not taken away.) But this veil has been done away in Jesus. **But until this day, when Moses is read, the veil is on their heart. But whenever it turns to the Lord, the veil shall be taken away.** 2 Cor 3: 13 - 16

Therefore **let all the house of Israel know** assuredly that God made this same Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ. Act 2:36

## TIMES OF THE GENTILES

We believe the time of the Gentiles comes to a close at the Second Coming, after the great battle of Jerusalem. And then Jesus will turn His attention to the Jewish remnant who will meet him on the Mt of Olives, as per the prophecies of Zechariah.

And they (**Jews**) shall fall by the sword's edge. And shall be led away captive into all nations. **And Jerusalem shall be trodden down by the nations (Gentiles) until the times of the nations is fulfilled. Luke 21:24.**

Partially fulfilled in AD 70 when the Romans totally destroyed the Temple and Jerusalem – awaiting further fulfillment in the imminent future.

For I do not want you to be ignorant of **this mystery**, brothers, lest you should be wise within yourselves; **that blindness in part** has happened to Israel, **until the fullness of the nations (Gentiles) has come in.** **And so all Israel shall be saved;** as it is written, "**There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob.**" Romans 11:25 – 26.

1Pe 2:6 Therefore also it is contained in the Scripture: "Behold, I lay in Zion a chief corner Stone, elect, precious, and he who believes on Him shall never be ashamed." 1Pe 2:7 Therefore to you who believe is the honor. But to those who are disobedient, He is the Stone which the builders rejected; this One came to be the Head of the corner, 1Pe 2:8 and a Stone-of-stumbling and a Rock-of-offense to those disobeying, who stumble at the Word, to which they also were appointed. 1Pe 2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for possession, so that you might speak of the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 1Pe 2:10 you who then were not a people, but now the people of God, those not pitied then, but now pitied.

**In terms of the title of this exposition – Ezekiel the Prophet, Yesterday, 2Day & 2Moro; a summary of Ezekiel's writings pertaining to the above three categories follows:**

## YESTERDAY

A godly man raised by beloved Jehovah to speak to His people, the Israelites, whilst in Babylonian captivity — regarding their horrendous moral decline and gross disobedience as a nation. Beloved Jehovah's heartfelt call for repentance and obedience, coupled to this the promise of return and restoration to both houses into their tribal lands. Promise from scripture that King David would once again rule over them. Points to the coming Messiah and acknowledgement by the Israelites that He is their long-awaited Saviour! His total and absolute destruction of Israel's enemies! Overthrow of Roman rule and the building of Ezekiel's Temple on the Mt of Olives — ushering in of the millennial reign — the Golden Age!

In that day will **I** (Jesus) raise up the **TABERNACLE OF DAVID that is fallen**, and close up the breaches thereof; and **I** will raise up his ruins, and **I** will build it as in the days of old: That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and of all the heathen, which are called by My Name, saith the LORD that doeth this. Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt. And **I** will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. And **I** will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which **I** have given them, saith the LORD thy God. (Amos 9:11-15).

Jesus completely fulfilled Daniel 9: 24-26 and should have been received by His people as their long-awaited Messiah.

**Dan 9:25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: (69 wks = 483 yrs ) the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.**

Exactly 483 years after the above command, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a colt of a donkey and offered the kingdom. **Regrettably He was rejected and Dan 9:26 was fulfilled instead of Dan 9: 24.**

**Dan 9:26 And after sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself. And the people of the ruler who shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. And the end of it shall be with the flood, and ruins are determined, until the end shall be war.**

Therefore **let all the house of Israel know** assuredly that God made this same Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ. Act 2:36

Biblical and secular history records that the Author of Life was rejected by His own, and then brutally murdered upon a stake. Had Jesus been received by His people as their long-awaited King — all six components of Dan 9:24 would have begun to be fulfilled at the end of the seventieth week. See below:

**Dan 9:24** *Seventy weeks (70 wks = 490 yrs) are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, **to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy** (Jesus).*

- **To finish the transgression**
- **To make an end of sins**
- **To make reconciliation for iniquity**
- **To bring in everlasting righteousness**
- **To seal up the vision and prophecy**
- **To anoint the most Holy**

Jesus would have been anointed King, overthrown Roman rule over Palestine and built Ezekiel's Temple. In addition, He would have raised King David and they would have ruled from Jerusalem for 1000 years — hence the provision for animal sacrifices (sin issue) in Ezekiel's Temple Blueprint. After the 1000 years the battle of Gog and Magog would have taken place, followed by the Great White Throne Judgment and the arrival of the New Jerusalem (New Heaven and Earth) wherein the marriage supper of the Lamb would have taken place. There would have been no 'Times of the Gentiles', or the age of 'Grace'.

## 2DAY

The overarching application of Ezekiel's messages for our day can be categorized as follows:

- Above all, obedience to the leading of the Holy Spirit and the written word.
- Be doers of the word.
- Righteous living.
- Serious study (rightly divide the word – 2 Tim 2:15) of the prophetic scriptures. This is vital, in order not to be deceived, and to know the right thing to do — especially when the word of the Lord tests you.
- The horrendous cost of disobedience!
- Under no circumstances whatsoever, must Ezekiel's Temple (or, any other Temple for that matter) be built in Jerusalem. True born again believers must resist this diabolical plan promoted by the Jewish Zionist and Christian Zionist organizations respectively.

## 2MORO

In light of the forgoing, the writer sees no future relevance regarding Ezekiel's messages, save to say; when Jesus returns He will gather the twelve tribes back into the land. And for Abraham's sake, will establish the millennial reign and all the promises of Ezekiel's restoration will be fulfilled — with exception of the physical Temple. The battle of Gog & Magog will occur after the millennial reign. In the writer's opinion - the 'Times of the Gentiles' ends at the Second Coming and the Battle of Jerusalem.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**N.B.** The below information had no impact on my findings whatsoever, as I had already come to my conclusions prior to the posting of these documents. In this regard, these documents have not influenced me in any manner whatsoever. However, it is my opinion that they reinforce what I have elucidated in this exposition.

"The context for Ezekiel's vision of a rebuilt Temple is actually the promised return of the Jews from Babylonian exile, not an event that might happen around 2,500 years later! It would have been utterly meaningless for the exiles longing to return to Israel to be told 'Be encouraged. Although this doesn't apply to you, it is going to happen in a few thousand years time.'  
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"The prophecies of Ezekiel and His contemporaries, such as Daniel and Joel, are much misunderstood today. Many Christians erroneously believe that Ezekiel writes of a future glory that the current nation of Israel will receive. **Most people fail to realize that the glory and restoration revealed to Ezekiel was to be fulfilled within 10 generations of the decree to rebuild and restore Jerusalem. (The decree described in Daniel 9:24-27 occurred in 457 B.C. God identified a specific time-frame during which Israel could usher in "an end to sin and everlasting righteousness."** But, God also specified the results if Israel did not keep His covenant. (Daniel 9:26; Luke 21:22) God used His inspired writers to safeguard a record in Scripture of the Jew's failure to keep His covenant, so future generations would not question why He revoked His promise to Israel." (Matthew 23:38; Romans 11).

"In the book of Jeremiah, God reveals some of His future plans for the restoration of Israel and the establishment of His Kingdom. Throughout the book of Jeremiah, God speaks of restoration for His people. Many Christians ignore this point: The promise of restoration in the Old Testament is limited to the restoration from the Babylonian destruction and the

subsequent establishment of God's kingdom at the end of the 70 weeks. In other words, the restoration promised in the book of Jeremiah (also Daniel, Isaiah and Ezekiel) has nothing to do with 1948 and Israel's independence from Great Britain. Rather, the promise of Israel's/Judah's restoration immediately follows the exile in Babylon."

"Plan A / Plan B, The visions found in Ezekiel represent God's original plans. **He intended to bring sin to an end long before now. If Israel had been faithful, sin could have been eliminated from Earth within the allotted time of 70 Jubilee weeks (490 years). The Messiah would have ruled from David's throne and established everlasting righteousness on Earth! (Daniel 9:24; Isaiah 9:7)** It is sad, but true that the history of mankind would have been entirely different since the birth of Jesus **if Israel had been faithful.** I call God's original plan, using Israel as the trustees of His truth, "Plan A." The visions of Ezekiel concern the climax of Plan A and point to Satan's complete destruction. Ezekiel saw Satan lead a host of evil people against the city of Jerusalem, but God rained fire down from Heaven and totally consumed the devil and all who were with him. Lucifer (Satan) will go to his destruction seeking God's throne. (It is interesting that the English transliteration "Gog" sounds almost like "God"). **However, the visions God gave to Ezekiel will not come to pass because they were conditional, based on Israel's faithfulness.** Essential elements found in Ezekiel's visions will happen at the end of the millennium; however, Israel's failure as a nation required that certain changes be made to the original plan which is presented in Revelation 20. But, the promise of sin's destruction and the reign of Jesus still stand and the devil and all people who love evil will be destroyed. Notice the parallel: Just as Ezekiel saw the wicked surround Jerusalem of old (Ezekiel 38,39) John saw the wicked rush against the beloved city — Jerusalem. (Revelation 20:9) John purposely uses the language of Ezekiel, "Gog and Magog," in Revelation, signifying that what was originally planned (Plan A) will ultimately be accomplished Plan B (Revelation 20:8)"

"Many scholars claim that God's promises to Israel were unconditional, citing Paul's statement in Romans 11:29 "for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable." There is no doubt that God will do all that He promises to do. However, **Old Testament history demonstrates that God has abandoned a whole generation for faithlessness and rebellion and then, started over with a new generation.** (Psalms 95:10, 11) God is faithful, and ultimately He will accomplish all that He has promised to do for Abraham's descendants..." *Public Domain – contact author for URL details.*

#### **TEMPLE: REDUNDANT BEFORE IT IS EVEN BUILT**

The problem with all this speculation about a future Temple in Jerusalem is simply this – from a Christian perspective – it is heresy. There is absolutely nothing in the New Testament about the need for another Temple in Jerusalem - just the reverse - the old Temple was declared redundant the moment Jesus died on the cross. The curtain separating the people from the Holy of Holies was torn in two – significantly from top to bottom. That is why the writer to the Hebrews says: 'By calling this covenant "new", he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and ageing will soon disappear.' (Hebrews 8:13). This is the theological explanation for the destruction of the Temple in 70AD. It had served its purpose. The true Temple had arrived.

In fact, it was never God's intention that a Temple be built in the first place. Like Israel's desire for a king it was more a sign that they wanted to be like the surrounding nations than do his will (See 1 Samuel 8:6-9). Having captured Jerusalem and built for himself a palace, David's impulse was to build a Temple for God as well. When he asked Nathan the prophet for advice, this is the reply he got:

Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"' (2 Samuel 7:5-7)

In a play on words, God then tells David he is not to build a house (Temple) for God but instead God will build a house (dynasty) for David. Just as God gave in to Israel's desire for a king, so he tells David that he will allow his son Solomon to build him a house, although the impression given is that God preferred to dwell with his people in a tabernacle because it kept his people dependent on his leading. The true and lasting Temple is Jesus. The sanctuary in Jerusalem, however beautiful, was only ever a copy and shadow of the heavenly one (Hebrews 8:1-5). This is how Jesus introduces the idea in John 2. Jesus answered them, "Destroy this Temple, and I will raise it again in three days." The Jews replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this Temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" But the Temple he had spoken of was his body. (John 2:19-21)

When Jesus entered the Temple and threw out the money changers he wasn't 'cleansing' it for future use. He was declaring it redundant. He himself is the one and only true Temple. The temporary earthly replica was now close to its 'sell by' date. The real, more glorious and lasting Temple had arrived. That is why in his conversation with the Samaritan woman, Jesus said we could now worship God anywhere (John 4:21-24). Jesus warned his followers to escape from Jerusalem when they saw the Roman army beginning to surround the city. He predicted that Herod's Temple, although unfinished, would be destroyed. (Matthew 24:15-20). The only Temple Jesus ever promised would be rebuilt was his body – in three days. Why? Because Jesus made the Temple redundant. The writer of Hebrews says, 'After he finished the sacrifice for sins...' (Hebrews 1:3 Message). Jesus fulfilled the role of Temple, High Priest and sacrificial lamb. That is why the offering of sacrifices since the death of Christ is now utterly futile. Only Jesus can take away our sin. Hebrews goes on to explain:

The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming—not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. If it could, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshippers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins. But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins... Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. (Hebrews 10:1-3, 11) The writer quotes from Psalm 40:6-8 to show that obedience is more important than sacrifice, and that the obedience of the Son of God in the offering of his body would supersede and annul the need for the perpetual offering of animal sacrifices. First he said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them"—though they were offered in accordance with the law. Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second. And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. (Hebrews 10:8-10)

God used the Roman General Titus to destroy the Temple **in the same way he had used the Babylonian King Cyrus to help build it**. When Jesus cried out 'It is finished' as he died on the cross, he did indeed 'make perfect those who draw near to worship... [and] take away sins' (Hebrews 10:1,4).

The Temple sacrifices, at best, only ever provided a temporary cover for sin. The daily sacrifices, and the smoke rising from the altar were a constant reminder of the need for a Saviour. How then could God encourage the sacrificial system to be reinstated when he had sent his son Jesus to be the ultimate sacrifice, to shed his own blood on the cross to take away our sin? To suggest sacrifices must be made once more undermines the New Testament's teaching that the work of Christ is sufficient, final and complete.

### THE TRUE TEMPLE IS ALREADY UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Those who advocate the need for a new Temple and reintroduction of sacrifices are ignoring the way the image of the Temple is invested with new meaning. Subsequent to Pentecost, the Temple imagery is applied to the Church, the Body of Christ, the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit. For example, Paul, writing to the Church in Ephesus, describes them as part of the new living Temple.

Consequently, you are ... members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy Temple in the Lord. (Ephesians 2:19-21)

In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul quotes from passages in Leviticus and Isaiah, both of which refer to the physical Tabernacle and Temple, and applies them to the Church.

For we are the Temple of the living God. As God has said: 'I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.' 'Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you.' (2 Corinthians 6:16-17 citing Leviticus 26:12 & Isaiah 52:11) In his letter to the Romans, Paul uses Temple language to describe how we are to offer, not a dead animal sacrifice but our bodies as living sacrifices as our act of worship (Romans 12:1-2).

Peter does the same thing describing the Church using Hebrew imagery associated with the Temple (Psalm 118:22; Isaiah 28:16). Christians are, he says, being made into the new house for God, in which Jesus is the 'precious cornerstone' (1 Peter 2:5-7).

So the Temple in Jerusalem was only intended to be a temporary building, a shadow pointing to the day when God would dwell with people of all nations through Jesus Christ.

The flow of biblical revelation is progressive and moves in one historical direction. **Christians who support the rebuilding of the Temple in the belief that future sacrifices will be memorial offerings, or can even atone for sin, are committing apostasy. Why? Because they are trying to reverse the flow of revelation and go back to the shadows when we already have the light of Christ. In the words of the writer to the Hebrews:**

It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age, if they fall away, to be brought back to repentance, because to their loss they are crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace. (Hebrews 6:4-6).

And that is the final rub. **People must choose between a religion and a relationship; between the words 'do' and 'done'; between law and grace;** between the need to offer continual sacrifices for sin or accept the finished work of Jesus Christ in our place; between a physical Temple and a spiritual one; between one in Jerusalem that is redundant and one that encompasses the whole world that is under construction.

*Acknowledgements: Above article entitled: Additional information from the web - URL unknown*

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