

THE RETURN OF CHRIST Zechariah

Thus the Lord my God will come,
and all the saints with You.
Zechariah 14:5

THE DAY OF THE LORD

Behold, the day of the Lord is coming, and your spoil (or, plunder, loot) will be divided in your midst. Zechariah 14:1

Literally:
The day is coming, the Lord's!

The Day of the Lord ends with the return of Christ. It is a span of time during which God personally intervenes in history, directly or indirectly, to accomplish some specific aspect of His plan. Besides being a time of judgment, it will also be a time of salvation as God will deliver the remnant of Israel, fulfilling His promise that "all of Israel will be saved" (Romans 11:26), forgiving their sins and restoring His chosen people to the land He promised to Abraham.

The phrase "the day of the Lord" is used nineteen times in the Old Testament and four times in the New Testament.

A FUTURE, LITERAL EVENT

The gathering against Jerusalem

For (God's actions) I will gather (who) all the nations (or, people) to (what) battle against (who) Jerusalem;
The city shall be taken (or, captured, seized),
The houses rifled (or, rob, plunder, loot),
And the women ravished (or, rape, to violate sexually),
Half of the city shall go into captivity,
But the remnant (or, remainder, rest) of the people shall (what) not be cut off from the city. Zechariah 14:2

The Lord will fight for His people

Then (who) the Lord will (1) go forth and (2) fight against (who) those nations, (to what extent) as He fights in the day of battle.
Zechariah 14:3

Question

When did God fight for His people?

Therefore it is said in the Book of the Wars of the Lord.
Numbers 21:14a

Question: Who is this who comes from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah, this One who is glorious in His apparel, traveling in the greatness of His strength?

Answer: "I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save."

Question: Why is Your apparel red, and Your garments like one who treads in the winepress?

Answer: "I have trodden the winepress alone, and from the peoples no one was with Me. For I have trodden them in My anger, and trampled them in My fury; their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, and I have stained all My robes. For the day of vengeance is in My heart, and the year of My redeemed has come." Isaiah 63:1-4

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

Revelation 19:11-16

The Lord stands on the Mount of Olives

And (when) in that day (what) His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley; half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south.

Zechariah 14:4

The Lord provides a means of escape for His remnant

Then (what) you shall flee through (where) My mountain valley, for the mountain valley shall reach to Azal.

Yes, (what) you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Zechariah 14:5a

The words of Amos, who was among the sheepbreeders of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel, (when) two years before the earthquake. Amos 1:1

THE RETURN OF THE LORD

Thus the Lord my God will come, and all the saints (or, holy ones) with You. Zechariah 14:5b

CHANGES TO THE CREATION

It shall come to pass in that day that there will be no light; the lights will diminish. It shall be one day which is known to the Lord— neither day nor night. But at evening time it shall happen that it will be light. And in that day it shall be that living waters (or, running, fresh, freely flowing) shall flow from Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and half of them toward the western sea; in both summer and winter it shall occur. And the Lord shall be King over all the earth.

In that day it shall be— "The Lord is one," and His name one.

All the land shall be turned into a plain (or, deep rift) from

Geba (6 miles E of Jerusalem) to

Rimmon south of Jerusalem (33 miles SW of Jerusalem). Jerusalem shall be raised up and inhabited in her place from

Benjamin's Gate (in north wall of city) to the place of the

First Gate (NE corner of the city) and the

Corner Gate (NW corner of the city), and from the

Tower of Hananel (near NE corner of the wall) to the

king's winepresses (SE of the city near pool of Siloam).

The people shall dwell in it; and no longer shall there be utter destruction, but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

Zechariah 14:8-11

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. Romans 8:18-22

DESCRIPTION OF GOD'S DESTRUCTION OF HIS ENEMIES

Destruction of Flesh

And this shall be the plague with which the Lord will strike (who) all the people who fought against Jerusalem:

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

Zechariah 14:12

Such also shall be the plague on the horse and the mule, on the camel and the donkey, and on all the cattle that will be in those camps. So shall this plague be. Zechariah 14:15

Confusion of Israel's Enemies

It shall come to pass in that day that a great panic from (who) the Lord will be among them. Everyone will seize the hand of his neighbor, and raise his hand against his neighbor's hand; Judah also will fight at Jerusalem.

And the wealth of (who) all the surrounding nations shall be gathered together: Gold, silver, and apparel in great abundance.

Zechariah 14:13-14

Question

So what are we to do?

Answer

Colossians 3:1-17