

**BOOK OF ZECHARIAH**  
**THE REVELATION OF MESSIAH-PART 3**  
**ZECHARIAH 14:1-21**

**Introduction**

Here we see that the prophet reverts to the theme of Chapter 12 where we saw the worldwide confederacy of nations that come against Jerusalem.

This is the time that immediately precedes the Messiah's return to earth!

He uses the phrase "*The day of the LORD*" to describe this period of time.

**I. THE DAY OF THE LORD. (Verse 1a)**

**A. The Day Of The LORD Defined.**

The Term "*the Day of the Lord*" occurs 25 times in 23 verses, including the books of Isaiah, Ezekiel, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Zephaniah, Zechariah, Malachi, Acts, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, and 2 Peter.

*The Day of the Lord* is **not** a term which just applies to a twenty-four hour period. It refers to a whole schedule of events that **begin immediately following the rapture** of the Church and more precisely **are culminated at this event we see at the end of the Tribulation Period.**

John Walvoord wrote about the Day of the LORD in his commentary on "*The Thessalonian Epistles*", p 76, "*The Day of the Lord is a period of time in which God will deal with wicked men directly and dramatically in fearful judgment. Today a man may be a blasphemer of God, an atheist, can denounce God and teach bad doctrine. Seemingly, God does nothing about it. But the day designated in Scripture as the 'day of the Lord' is coming when God will punish human sin, and will deal in wrath and in judgment with a Christ-rejecting world. One thing we are sure of God in His own way will bring every soul into judgment.*"

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*The Day Of The LORD Defined.*

**B. The Day Of The LORD Described.**

**1. It Is Described As A Day Of Darkness.**

There are some very vivid descriptions in Scripture of "*the day of the LORD*". It is most often described as a "*day of darkness*".

Isaiah describes it in Isaiah 13:9 as "...*cruel both with wrath and fierce anger...*"

*Zephaniah 1:15-16* calls it "*a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers.*"

He also says that "*the mighty man shall cry there bitterly.*"

*Joel 2:2* calls it "*a day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness*"

Joel also says that "*there hath no been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it...*"

Amos says in Amos 5:18-20 that "*the day of the LORD is darkness, not light...even very dark and no brightness in it.*"

This period will include times of both literal, physical darkness as well as deep spiritual darkness.

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*John 3:19—“And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.”*

Men loved darkness...so the LORD gives it to them!

*It Is Described As A Day Of Darkness.*

**2. It Is Described As A Day Of Destruction.**

*1 Thessalonians 5:3 "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape."*

The Day of the Lord will be a time of cataclysmic destruction. While the world is presently scrambling for peace, safety, security and freedom from terrorism, the greatest devastation the world will ever experience is yet out on the horizon.

*Isaiah 13:6-8— “Howl ye; for the day of the LORD is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty. 7 Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt: 8 And they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth: they shall be amazed one at another; their faces shall be as flames.”*

*Isaiah 13:13—“Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger.”*

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*Joel 1:15—“Alas for the day! For the day of the LORD is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.”*

*Ezekiel 7:25—“Destruction cometh; and they shall seek peace, and there shall be none.”*

**3. It Is Described As A Day Of Distress.**

*Luke 21:25-26—“And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men’s hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.”*

The day is peculiarly the LORD’s, because in it He will finally dispense His justice!

*THE DAY OF THE LORD...*

**II. THE SPOIL SHALL BE DIVIDED. (Verse 1b)**

Jerusalem is seen as having already experienced the sorrow of defeat as her enemies divide the spoil in the midst of the city.

**A. The Battle For Jerusalem. (Verse 2a)**

**1. The Great Invasion.**

The result of the invasion was given in verse 1b.

The LORD will sovereignly draw all the nations against Jerusalem.

All the nations have been infected over the years with the virus of hatred for Israel! The LORD uses that hatred to draw them to their own destruction!

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But, Jerusalem is going to fall to her enemies before the LORD comes to her aid!

**B. The Horrors Of War. (Verse 2b)**

1. Jerusalem, The City, Is Taken!
2. Its Property Is Confiscated And Divided!
3. Its Women Are Violated!
4. Its Population Is Decimated!  
2/3 will be cut off and die! (13:8)  
  
1/3 will be brought through the fire! (13:9)  
  
1/2 of the 1/3 will be taken captive! (14:2c)

**III. THEN SHALL THE LORD GO FORTH AND FIGHT. (Vs 3)**

When the outlook for Jerusalem and Israel appears the darkest, that's when the LORD will come forth to deliver them!

**IV. THE COMING OF THE LORD DESCRIBED. (Vs 4-5)**

Here we see very plainly the personal, visible, bodily, literal return of the Lord Jesus Christ in power!

1. **The mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst! (Vs 4)**  
Those seeking to escape Jerusalem by going east have this barrier, the mount of Olives, supernaturally transformed by the LORD into an escape route!
2. **This escaping remnant will flee to the place the LORD opens up for them! (Vs 5)**
3. **The LORD shall come with all His saints! (Vs 5)**

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Here we see the glorious appearing of the Messiah with His saints!

**4. The day with no night! (Vs 6-7)**

The day of Christ's return will be unusual from the angle of this phenomena of nature.

Darkness is over!

**V. MESSIAH'S KINGDOM DESCRIBED!**

**A. Living Waters! (Vs 8)**

The land will suffer no drought, but will have ample, abundant waters in both the summer and winter.

**B. Messiah Reigns Supreme! (Vs 9a)**

**C. One LORD! (Vs 9b)**

No opposing gods of any kind!

**D. The Topography Of The Land Changed! (Vs 10)**

Jerusalem will be elevated to even greater prominence!  
Jerusalem will be renovated for the kingdom of the LORD!

**E. True Peace And Safety! (Vs 11)**

No more utter destruction! Strife and warfare will be ended!

**F. Israel's Enemies Demise Is Described! (Vs 12-15)**

**G. The Survivors Of The Tribulation! (Vs 16-**

1. **They will go up annually to Jerusalem to worship King Jesus and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles! (Vs 16)**

It was the feast of ingathering, joy, and rest!

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It typifies and commemorates the culmination of  
God's promises to Israel and His plan of the ages!

- 2. The demise of those who refuse to come! (Vs 17-19)**  
No rain. A plague.

**H. HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD! (Vs 20-21)**

These words were on the crown that the High Priest of Israel wore.

Now they are even on the bells of the horses.  
That which was once used for war and personal purposes will be completely dedicated to the LORD!

Sin brought a distinction between the sacred and the profane.  
But now one thing will be as sacred as another.

*"...there shall be no more the Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts."*

This is another way of stating that holiness will pervade everything!

Canaanite was a name that implied ungodly practices.  
(Associated with deceit, oppression, idolatry)  
But now, with King Jesus on the throne, none of that will be tolerated! All will be holy!

**Conclusion**

A comparison of the things we have studied to the things we see happening in the world today should tell us that we are very near the time when these things will be taking place!

The question is, are you ready for the coming of the LORD?