

Zechariah 9:1-8

Setting:

Zechariah is good parallel book to Revelation. It fills in some of the blanks, some of the details left out of Revelation. Chapter 9 prophesies have an immediate future and end-times future. It's a dual prophesy.

Vs1-6: burden means Zechariah is relieving something that is hard to take. It is a burden of the word of the Lord. There's judgement involved. These cities that are mentioned here, Nebuchadnezzar came down and conquered them in line, in order as mentioned in scripture. This is just a forerunner of what's going to happen again in the future.

1: the land around Lebanon will be judged again when all the eyes of the world are on Israel and the Lord.

2: the city of Tyrus was a major economic city known as Lebanon today.

3: Tyrus had a double wall around the city, 150 feet high. They were an extremely rich, sea faring people. They had an island, too. Nebuchadnezzar took 13 yrs to break into the city on the coast. They had built another city on the island. Alexander the Great went out to the island city, building an 800-meter causeway out to the island, using his 50,000-man army, and he got a navy from someone else, and he took the city after a 7-month siege.

4: The rich and powerful city was destroyed by Alexander the Great.

5: The king that walked away, bore holes through his heels, tied leather straps to them, and dragged him to his death through the streets.

6: the Philistines continually made warfare with Israel. They were still around when Alexander came around. God told Israel to get rid of them, but they didn't. Alexander the Great got rid of them himself. There is still a remnant of the Philistines, but Alexandra got rid of their power, never to assemble again. Israel is the only nation in history that has been conquered and reassembled with identity intact, over and over again. The only Philistine peoples that are there today are in disarray, and this is referred to as the bastard dwelling in Ashdod.

Vs7: this is a picture of the end times. These very same cities, the very same groups of people mentioned here are still battling Israel. They continually bombard and attack Israel to this day. These people eat and drink blood. This is forbidden in scripture. It is part of a pagan ritual. The Lord is going to stop this abomination.

Vs8: here is a dual prophesy. The secular history: Alexander the Great, after he captured all these cities, came down to Jerusalem. They hated the Jews, and they wanted to torture the High Priest in front of all the other people. Alexander had a vision. When they got to Jerusalem, the high priest came out in all his regalia, with his priests behind him, and the city people behind them, out to meet Alexander. They are carrying the Book of Daniel. Alexander paid homage to the high priest. His high officers said 'what's going on here?'. Alexander said he had a vision of a man in the same outfit as this high priest and he was told not to touch him. They went in the temple, worshipped, and marched right on by Jerusalem. He had never

done anything like that before. Many oppressors have passed through Jerusalem since then, but when Christ returns, no one will ever touch Jerusalem again.

Ezekiel 28:25-26: this was written 600 B.C. When Israel accepts Christ as messiah, they will dwell in their land safely and with confidence, and after Christ has passed judgement on all their enemies. Jesus Christ is going to take care of all the fighting in the Mideast, not anyone else.