

Is Jerusalem the Capital of Israel in Bible Prophecy?

Quite a few of my subscribers have asked me to comment on President Donald Trump's acknowledgement of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and I don't see that particular action in Bible prophecy; however, there's no doubt that in End Times Bible prophecy, Jerusalem is the capital of Israel so, all he is doing really, is bringing American foreign policy in line with Biblical prophecy (1). And I think that's a good thing even though in these End Times, Jerusalem is not a worthy City because Saint John says it is a 'Sodom and an Egypt', and we all know how much Israel spends to promote Tel Aviv as the gay capital of the world; I think that the 'Synagogue of Satan' has forgotten about the story of Sodom and Gomorrah. And I thought what we could do is: we could look at the first six verses of Zachariah, chapter number 12, and I've done a whole series on Zachariah's last three chapters because they are a very complete history of Jerusalem. And here in chapter number 12, Zachariah mentions Jerusalem eleven times; and he talks about three different wars in these End Times which Jerusalem is involved with and that would be the Ezekiel 38 war, which is the same as Armageddon, the Daniel 9 war, which brings about the destruction or division of Jerusalem, and the Wars of liberation between 1947 and the present. And although he does not present these wars in their chronological order, I'm going to read them as they are found in Zachariah.

ZECHARIAH 12

1) The burden of the word of the Lord upon Israel. Thus says the Lord, who stretches forth the heavens, and lays the foundations of the earth, and forms the spirit of man in him.

2) Behold I will make Jerusalem a lintel of surfeiting to all the people round about: and Judah also shall be in the siege against Jerusalem.

3) And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will make Jerusalem a burdensome stone to all people: all that shall lift it up shall be rent and torn, and all the kingdoms of the earth shall be gathered together against her.

4) In that day, says the Lord, I will strike every horse with astonishment, and his rider with madness: and I will open my eyes upon the house of Judah, and will strike every horse of the nations with blindness.

5) And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart: Let the inhabitants of Jerusalem be strengthened for me in the Lord of hosts, their God.

6) In that day I will make the governors of Judah like a furnace of fire amongst wood, and as a firebrand amongst hay: and they shall devour all the people round about, to the right hand, and to the left: and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place in Jerusalem.

So let's look at verse number 1: **'The burden of the word of the Lord upon Israel.'** So, in these End Times God's Word is going to be a burden upon Israel and Israel to a great degree is going to rebel against the Word of God. **'Thus says the Lord, who stretches forth the heavens, and lays the foundations of the earth, and forms the spirit of man in him.'** Notice here that Almighty God does three things; that's because He is a Trinity. And verse number 2 tells much the same story because these first six verses, in fact, all the verses in Zachariah 12, 13 and 14 are in pairs. Verse number 2: **'Behold I will make Jerusalem a lintel of surfeiting to all the people round about: and Judah also shall be in the siege against Jerusalem.'** And you have to totally discount the King James translation of this passage and, in fact, of all Zachariah, because whoever translated back in those days really messed up. This is the Catholic Douay Rheims translation and Jerusalem is clearly a **'lintel of surfeiting'** not a **'cup of trembling'**, as the false prophets tell you. And I don't blame them; they're relying on the inferior King James translation. A **'lintel of surfeiting'** means that Jerusalem will be a doorway to excess or luxuriousness and that lines up precisely with what John says in the book of Revelation. So, if you're going to let scripture interpret scripture, Jerusalem is not a 'cup of trembling' in either of these two verses.

These two verses are about present day Jerusalem and the enemies of Jerusalem in these End Times are the people round about; that would be her next-door neighbors which is not the same as the next verse, verse number 3: **'And it shall come to pass in that day** (now this is the very end, this is Armageddon) **that I will make Jerusalem a burdensome stone to all people** (not just the neighbors round about, and the reason Jerusalem is a burdensome stone now at Armageddon is because that's where Jesus will return on Mount Zion. Jerusalem, in this case, is a stand-in for Jesus and He opposes all the nations of the world; **'all the tribes of the earth will mourn'** when Jesus returns) **all that shall lift it up shall be rent and torn and all the kingdoms of the earth shall be gathered together against her.'** Notice how different that is than verse number 2 where it's just the people round about. And verse number 4: **'And in that day says the Lord I will strike every horse with astonishment and his rider with madness: I will open my eyes upon the house of Judah and will strike every horse of the nations with blindness.'** Now Judah and Jerusalem are together in verses 3 and 4 whereas in verse 2, Judah is also in the siege against Jerusalem. That's also not found in the King James but it's an important distinction between these two sections. And notice

that all the horses are struck with blindness. The horses, I am sure, and the riders, represent the armies of the world; in other words, the horses would be mechanized equipment. Could it be that Jesus is going to employ an EMP strike against all the mechanized equipment of the armies because Jesus will defeat all the armies of the world and they will come against Jerusalem.

And next, let's look at verses 5 and 6, which are completely different, because Zachariah goes back in time to 1947 when the United Nations declared Jerusalem and Israel to be a sovereign state: **'And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart: Let the inhabitants of Jerusalem be strengthened for me in the Lord of Hosts, their God'**. So Jerusalem was established and Israel was established and their leaders from Ben-gurion to the present, Benjamin Netanyahu, strengthened Jerusalem as a Holy City. In other words the Jews who established Israel read Torah and did mitzvot as Natan said they should do. In these End Times, they have gone away from that; they have become the 'synagogue of satan'. As John says, Jerusalem is the Great City in these End Times and I think it's probably even greater than Washington, as far as being able to manipulate all the leaders of the world. And verse number 6: **'In that day I will make the governors of Judah like a furnace of fire amongst wood, and as a firebrand amongst hay and they shall devour all the people round about.'** So this refers back to verse number 2. The people 'round about', in other words, from 1947 onward, it's the nations round about that Israel has conquered and that's why this is not the same as **'all the people'** as we find in Armageddon. **'They shall devour all the people round about, to the right hand, and to the left hand: and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place in Jerusalem'**. And, of course, this fulfills the Bible prophecy that the Jews would eventually return to their homeland.

So in conclusion, I am not sure if Donald Trump understands all of these phases in the history of Jerusalem. I'm not sure if he understands that Jerusalem is a **'Sodom and an Egypt'** in these End Times; but I do congratulate him because it took a lot of courage and if there's one thing Donald Trump is, he is courageous!

1) *Actually, Trump's action is prophesied in Isaiah 45:13.*