

Zechariah 14:1-15

Zechariah 14:1 – **“Behold, a day is coming for the Lord, when the spoil taken from you will be divided in your midst.**

1. “a day” as used here refers to more than a 12 or 24 hour length of time. This is a connected sequence of events
2. A day “for the Lord” means:
 - a. This day is for the Lord’s benefit and purpose
 - b. This is opposite a day of man or a day in the fallen age rule by Satan, the god of this age.
 - c. This is the day the Lord takes charge to do his work and do it his way
3. Jerusalem will be plundered. The Jews are defeated and so overwhelmed that the plunder (spoil) taken from them will be divided in front of this conquered people

14:2 – **“For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city shall be taken and the houses plundered and the women raped. Half of the city shall go out into exile, but the rest of the people shall not be cut off from the city.**

1. This day for the Lord begins with the Lord gathering all the nations against Jerusalem
 - a. The nations are mentioned four times in Zechariah 14:
 - i. 14:2 – “For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle.”
 - ii. 14:14 – “the wealth of all the surrounding nations shall be collected”
 - iii. 14:16 – “Then everyone who survives of all the nations that have come against Jerusalem shall go up year after year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Booths.”
 - iv. 14:19 – “This shall be the punishment to Egypt and the punishment to all the nations that do not go up to keep the Feast of Booths.”
 - b. This reference to the nations is similar to:
 - i. Revelation 16:14, 16 – “For they are demonic spirits, performing signs, who go abroad to the kings of the whole world, to assemble them for battle on the **great day of God the Almighty**... And they assembled them at the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.
2. Jerusalem falls to the nations
 - a. Jerusalem is plundered
 - b. Women raped
 - c. Half the population goes into exile
 - d. But, the other half of the population “shall not be cut off from the city”
 - i. “cut off”
 - ii. Half the population becomes the remnant that the Lord comes to deliver.
3. The “time of the Gentiles”:
 - a. began in 586 BC
 - b. goes through the Persian and Greek empires,
 - c. includes 70 AD
 - d. goes through 1948
 - e. continues until this time in Zechariah 14:2 when Jerusalem is trampled on by the Gentiles one last time... which is “the day for the Lord”
“They will fall by the edge of the sword (70 AD) and be led captive among all nations

(70 AD-today), and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled (Zech. 14:3).” – Luke 21:24

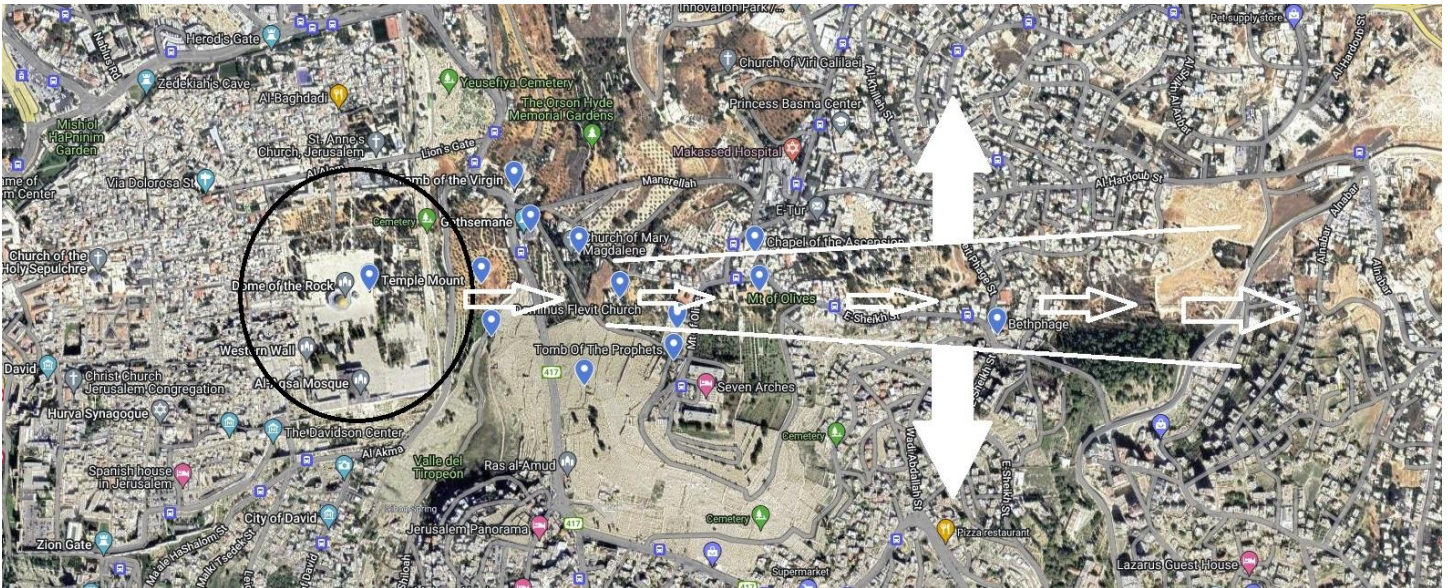
14:3 – **“Then the Lord will go out and fight against those nations as when he fights on a day of battle.**

1. The Lord is a warrior and will engage in physical battle with the militaries of the nations
2. The Lord intervenes

14:4 – **“On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives that lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward.**

1. “On that day” used here is the first of seven uses of this phrase in Zechariah 14:
 - a. 14:4 – “On that day his feet shall stand on the **Mount of Olives.**”
 - b. 14:6 – “On that day there shall be **no light, cold, or frost.**”
 - c. 14:8 – “On that day **living waters** shall flow out from Jerusalem”
 - d. 14:9 – “On that day the **Lord will be one** and his name one.”
 - e. 14:13 – “on that day a **great panic** from the Lord shall fall on them”
 - f. 14:20 – “on that day there shall be **inscribed** on the bells of the horses, **‘Holy to the Lord.’**”
 - g. 14:21 – “no longer be a **trader (Canaanite)** in the house of the Lord of hosts on that day.
2. Mount of Olives
 - a. This is the only place “Mount of Olives” is mentioned in the OT. The mound east of Jerusalem is mentioned when:
 - i. David flees in 2 Samuel 15:30 – *“So David went up by the Ascent of the Olives”*
 - ii. When glory leaves temple in Ezekiel 11:23 – *“the glory of Yahweh went up from the midst of the city and stood on the mountain which is on the east side of the city.”*
3. Acts 1:11

14:5 – **“And you shall flee to the valley of my mountains, for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal. And you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the Lord my God will come, and all the holy ones with him.**



1. Azal or Azel is some unknown location to the east.
 - a. This is the only place this word is used.
 - b. Some say it relates to the Hebrew word *esel* which is a preposition meaning “beside. Thus, it would mean “the valley of the mountain shall reach to (each)side.”
 - c. It is likely a location far enough to the east to be safe, but also large enough to hold a large amount of people

2. Uzziah’s earthquake (750 BC):

“Archaeologists excavating in Jerusalem, near the Temple Mount and a First-Temple-era wall have unearthed evidence of an 8th century BC earthquake. The earliest floor of the southernmost room of a building bore evidence of destruction, but not by fire, and was dated to a time period when no known conquest of Jerusalem occurred. Stones from an upper part of the northern walls had collapsed, shattering a row of vessels that had been along the wall beneath. The excavation directors from the Israel Antiquities Authority believe this corresponds to the great earthquake which occurred in the days of King Uzziah, and is mentioned in Amos 1:1 and Zech. 14:5. Archaeological evidence for “Uzziah’s earthquake” has been found at other sites in Israel, including at Hazor and Tell es-Safi/Gath, but this is the first time archaeologists have identified evidence of the earthquake in Jerusalem. A similar 8th-century destruction layer was noted in a collapsed building 100 meters south of the current dig, which was excavated in the 1970’s, but it was not associated with Uzziah’s earthquake at that time.” – August 2021 from The Shiloh Excavations - <https://biblearchaeology.org/current-events-list/4843-evidence-of-earthquake-from-the-time-of-king-uzziah-discovered-in-jerusalem>

3. Holy Ones would be believers and angels, possibly Jews being led from Petra.
 - a. 1 Thessalonians 3:13 – “May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.”
 - b. Jude 14 – “Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about them: “See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones”
 - c. Revelation 19:11-21

14:6 – **“On that day there shall be no light, cold, or frost.**

14:7 – **“And there shall be a unique day, which is known to the Lord, neither day nor night, but at evening time there shall be light.**

14:8 – “On that day living waters shall flow out from Jerusalem, half of them to the eastern sea[d] and half of them to the western sea. It shall continue in summer as in winter.

14:9 – “And the Lord will be king over all the earth. On that day the Lord will be one and his name one.

14:10 – “The whole land shall be turned into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. But Jerusalem shall remain aloft on its site from the Gate of Benjamin to the place of the former gate, to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king's winepresses.

14:11 – “And it shall be inhabited, for there shall never again be a decree of utter destruction. Jerusalem shall dwell in security.

14:12 – “And this shall be the plague with which the Lord will strike all the peoples that wage war against Jerusalem: their flesh will rot while they are still standing on their feet, their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongues will rot in their mouths.

14:13 – “And on that day a great panic from the Lord shall fall on them, so that each will seize the hand of another, and the hand of the one will be raised against the hand of the other.

14:14 – “Even Judah will fight at Jerusalem. And the wealth of all the surrounding nations shall be collected, gold, silver, and garments in great abundance.

14:15 – “And a plague like this plague shall fall on the horses, the mules, the camels, the donkeys, and whatever beasts may be in those camps.

Micah 4:11-13, all

Revelation 16:12-16 – the sixth bowl – an demonic attempt to remove all opposing ideas

Revelation 16:17-21 – the seventh bowl – lightning, thunder, earthquake, islands and mountains gone

Revelation 19:19-21

Acts 1:9-11

Joel 3:12-17