Zechariah

1 In the eighth month of the second year of
Darius, the word of the LORD came to the
prophet Zechariah son of Berechiah, the son of
Iddo, saying:
2 “The LORD was very angry with your fathers.
3 So tell the people that this is what the LORD
of Hosts says: ‘Return to me, declares the LORD
of Hosts, and I will return to you, says the LORD
of Hosts.’
4 Do not be like your fathers, to whom the
former prophets proclaimed that this is what
the LORD of Hosts says: ‘Turn now from your
evil ways and deeds.’
But they did not listen or pay attention to me,
declares the LORD.
5 Where are your fathers now? And the
prophets, do they live forever?
6 But did not my words and my statutes, which
I commanded my servants the prophets,
overtake your fathers? They repented and said,
‘Just as the LORD of Hosts purposed to do to us
according to our ways and deeds, so he has done
to us.’ ”
7 On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh
month, the month of Shebat,* in the second year
of Darius, the word of the LORD came to the

* **1:7 1:7** *Shebat* is the eleventh month of the Hebrew lunar calendar, usually occurring within the months of January and February.

prophet Zechariah son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo.

8 I looked out into the night and saw a man
riding on a red horse. He was standing among
the myrtle trees in the hollow, and behind him
were red, sorrel, and white horses.

9 "What are these, my lord?" I asked.

And the angel who was speaking with me
replied, "I will show you what they are."

10 Then the man standing among the myrtle
trees explained, "They are the ones the LORD
has sent to patrol the earth."

11 And the riders answered the angel of the
LORD who was standing among the myrtle trees,
"We have patrolled the earth, and behold, all the
earth is at rest and tranquil."

12 Then the angel of the LORD said, "How long,
O LORD of Hosts, will you withhold mercy from
Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, with which
you have been angry these seventy years?"

13 So the LORD spoke kind and comforting
words to the angel who was speaking with me.

14 Then the angel who was speaking with me
said, "Proclaim this word: This is what the LORD
of Hosts says: 'I am very jealous for Jerusalem
and Zion,

15 but I am fiercely angry with the nations that
are at ease. For I was a little angry, but they
have overdone the punishment.†'

16 Therefore this is what the LORD says: 'I will
return to Jerusalem with mercy, and there my

† **1:15 1:15** Or *they have added to the calamity*

house will be rebuilt, declares the LORD of
Hosts, and a measuring line will be stretched out
over Jerusalem.'
17 Proclaim further that this is what the LORD
of Hosts says: 'My cities will again overflow with
prosperity; the LORD will again comfort Zion
and choose Jerusalem.' "

2

1 Then I looked up and saw four horns.
2 So I asked the angel who was speaking with
me, "What are these?"
And he told me, "These are the horns that
have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem."
3 Then the LORD showed me four craftsmen.
4 "What are these coming to do?" I asked.
And he replied, "These are the horns that
scattered Judah so that no one could raise his
head; but the craftsmen have come to terrify
them and throw down these horns of the
nations that have lifted up their horns against
the land of Judah to scatter it."
5 Then I lifted up my eyes and saw a man with
a measuring line in his hand.
6 "Where are you going?" I asked.
"To measure Jerusalem," he replied, "and to
determine its width and length."
7 Then the angel who was speaking with me
went forth, and another angel came forward to
meet him
8 and said to him, "Run and tell that young
man: 'Jerusalem will be a city without walls
because of the multitude of men and livestock
within it.

9 For I will be a wall of fire around it, declares
the LORD, and I will be the glory within it.' "
10 "Get up! Get up! Flee from the land of the
north," declares the LORD, "for I have scattered
you like the four winds of heaven," declares the
LORD.
11 "Get up, O Zion! Escape, you who dwell with
the Daughter of Babylon!"
12 For this is what the LORD of Hosts says:
"After glory he has sent me* against the nations
that have plundered you—for whoever touches
you touches the pupil† of his eye—
13 I will surely wave my hand over them, so
that they will become plunder for their own
servants. Then you will know that the LORD of
Hosts has sent me."
14 "Shout for joy and be glad, O Daughter of
Zion, for I am coming to dwell among you,"
declares the LORD.
15 "On that day many nations will join
themselves to the LORD, and they will become
my people. I will dwell among you, and you will
know that the LORD of Hosts has sent me to you.
16 And the LORD will take possession of Judah
as his portion in the Holy Land, and he will once
again choose Jerusalem.
17 Be silent before the LORD, all people, for he
has roused himself from his holy dwelling."

3

1 Then the angel showed me Joshua the high

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* **2:12 2:12** Or *After he has honored me and sent me* † **2:12 2:12** Or *the apple*

priest standing before the angel of the LORD,
with the adversary* standing at his right hand
to accuse him.
2 And the LORD said to the adversary: "The
LORD rebukes you, O adversary! Indeed, the
LORD, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebukes you!
Is not this man a firebrand† snatched from the
fire?"
3 Now Joshua was dressed in filthy garments
as he stood before the angel.
4 So the angel said to those standing before
him, "Take off his filthy clothes!"
Then he said to Joshua, "See, I have removed
your iniquity, and I will clothe you with splendid
robes."
5 Then I said, "Let them put a clean turban on
his head." So a clean turban was placed on his
head, and they clothed him, as the angel of the
LORD stood by.
6 Then the angel of the LORD gave this charge
to Joshua:
7 "This is what the LORD of Hosts says: 'If you
walk in my ways and keep my instructions, then
you will govern my house and will also have
charge of my courts; and I will give you a place
among these who are standing here.
8 Hear now, O high priest Joshua, you and
your companions seated before you, who are
indeed a sign. For behold, I am going to bring
my servant Zemah.‡

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* **3:1 3:1** Hebrew *ha-satan*, a title (*the adversary* or *the accuser*), not a proper name; also in verse 2 † **3:2 3:2** That is, *a burning stick* ‡ **3:8 3:8** *Zemah* means *Branch* or *Shoot*; see 6:12.

9 See the stone I have set before Joshua; on
that one stone are seven eyes.§ Behold, I will
engrave on it an inscription, declares the LORD
of Hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of this
land in a single day.
10 On that day, declares the LORD of Hosts, you
will each invite your neighbor to sit under your
own vine and fig tree.' "

4

1 Then the angel who was speaking with me
returned and woke me, as a man is awakened
from his sleep.
2 "What do you see?" he asked.
"I see a solid gold lampstand," I replied, "with a
bowl at the top and seven lamps on it, with
seven spouts to each of the lamps.*
3 There are also two olive trees beside it, one
on the right side of the bowl and the other on its
left."
4 "What are these, my lord?" I asked the angel
who was speaking with me.
5 "Do you not know what they are?" replied
the angel who was speaking with me.
"No, my lord," I answered.
6 So he said to me, "This is the word of the
LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might nor by
power, but by my spirit, says the LORD of Hosts.
7 What are you, O great mountain? Before
Zerubbabel you will become a plain. Then he

§ **3:9 3:9** Or *facets* * **4:2 4:2** Hebrew *seven and seven spouts;* LXX *seven spouts*

will bring forth the capstone accompanied by
shouts of ‘Grace, grace to it!’ ”
8 Then the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
9 “The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the
foundation of this house, and his hands will
complete it. Then you will know that the LORD
of Hosts has sent me to you.
10 For who has despised the day of small
things? But these seven eyes† of the LORD,
which scan the whole earth, will rejoice when
they see the chosen capstone‡ in the hand of
Zerubbabel.”
11 Then I asked the angel, “What are the two
olive trees on the right and left of the
lampstand?”
12 And I questioned him further, “What are the
two olive branches beside the two gold pipes
from which the golden oil§ pours?”
13 “Do you not know what these are?” he
inquired.
“No, my lord,” I replied.
14 So he said, “These are the two anointed
ones* who are standing beside the Lord of all
the earth.”

5

1 Again I lifted up my eyes and saw before me
a flying scroll.
2 “What do you see?” asked the angel.

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† **4:10 4:10** Or *facets* ‡ **4:10 4:10** Or *the plumb line* § **4:12 4:12** Hebrew *from which the gold of new oil* * **4:14 4:14** Hebrew *the two sons*

"I see a flying scroll," I replied, "twenty cubits long and ten cubits wide.*"

3 Then he told me, "This is the curse that is going out over the face of all the land, for according to one side of the scroll, every thief will be removed; and according to the other side, every perjurer will be removed.

4 I will send it out, declares the LORD of Hosts, and it will enter the house of the thief and the house of him who swears falsely by my name. It will remain inside his house and destroy it, down to its timbers and stones."

5 Then the angel who was speaking with me came forward and told me, "Now lift up your eyes and see what is approaching."

6 "What is it?" I asked.

And he replied, "A measuring basket† is going forth." Then he continued, "This is their eye‡ in all the land."

7 And behold, the cover of lead was raised, and there was a woman sitting inside the basket.

8 "This is Wickedness," he said. And he shoved her down into the basket, pushing down the lead cover over its opening.

9 Then I lifted up my eyes and saw two women approaching, with the wind in their wings. Their wings were like those of a stork, and they lifted up the basket between heaven and earth.

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* **5:2 5:2** The flying scroll was approximately 30 feet long and 15 feet wide (9.1 meters long and 4.6 meters wide). † **5:6 5:6** Or *An ephah* ‡ **5:6 5:6** Or *their appearance*; one Hebrew manuscript, LXX, and Syriac *their iniquity*

10 “Where are they taking the basket?” I asked
the angel who was speaking with me.
11 “To build a house for it in the land of
Shinar,§” he told me. “And when it is ready, the
basket will be set there on its pedestal.”

6

1 And again I lifted up my eyes and saw four
chariots coming out from between two
mountains—mountains of bronze.
2 The first chariot had red horses, the second
black horses,
3 the third white horses, and the fourth
dappled horses—all of them strong.
4 So I inquired of the angel who was speaking
with me, “What are these, my lord?”
5 And the angel told me, “These are the four
winds* of heaven, going forth from their station
before the Lord of all the earth.
6 The one with the black horses is going
toward the land of the north, the one with the
white horses after them,† and the one with the
dappled horses toward the south.”
7 As the strong horses went out, they were
eager to go and patrol the earth; and the LORD
said, “Go and patrol the earth.” So they patrolled
the earth.
8 Then the LORD summoned me and said,
“Behold, those going to the land of the north
have given rest to my spirit in the land of the
north.”

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§ **5:11 5:11** That is, Babylonia * **6:5 6:5** Or *spirits* † **6:6 6:6** A proposed emendation reads *the one with the white horses toward the west*

9 The word of the LORD also came to me,
saying,
10 “Take an offering from the exiles—from
Heldai, Tobijah, and Jedaiah, who have arrived
from Babylon—and go that same day to the
house of Josiah son of Zephaniah.
11 Take silver and gold, make an ornate crown,
and set it on the head of the high priest, Joshua
son of Jehozadak.‡
12 And you are to tell him that this is what the
LORD of Hosts says: ‘Here is a man whose name
is Zemah,§ and he will branch out from his place
and build the temple of the LORD.
13 Yes, he will build the temple of the LORD; he
will be clothed in splendor and will sit on his
throne and rule. And there will be a priest on
his throne,* and there will be peaceful counsel
between the two.’
14 The crown will reside in the temple of the
LORD as a memorial to Helem,† Tobijah, Jedaiah,
and Hen‡ son of Zephaniah.
15 Even those far away will come and build the
temple of the LORD, and you will know that the
LORD of Hosts has sent me to you. This will
happen if you diligently obey the voice of the
LORD your God.”

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‡ **6:11 6:11** *Jehozadak* is a variant of *Jozadak*; see Ezra 3:2. § **6:12 6:12** *Zemah* means *Branch* or *Shoot*; the name plays on *yitsmah, he will branch out.* * **6:13 6:13** Or *And he will be a priest on his throne* † **6:14 6:14** Syriac *Heldai*; see verse 10. ‡ **6:14 6:14** Or *and the gracious*; Syriac *and Josiah*; see verse 10.

7

1 In the fourth year of King Darius, the word
of the LORD came to Zechariah on the fourth
day of the ninth month, the month of Chislev.*
2 Now Bethel-sharezer, with Regem-melech
and his men, had sent† to plead before the LORD
3 by asking the priests of the house of the
LORD of Hosts, as well as the prophets, “Should I
weep and fast in the fifth month, as I have done
these many years?”

4 Then the word of the LORD of Hosts came to
me, saying,
5 “Ask all the people of the land and the
priests, ‘When you fasted and mourned in the
fifth and seventh months for these seventy
years, was it really for me that you fasted?
6 And when you were eating and drinking,
were you not doing so simply for yourselves?
7 Are these not the words that the LORD
proclaimed through the earlier prophets, when
Jerusalem and its surrounding towns were
populous and prosperous, and the Negev and
the foothills‡ were inhabited?’ ”

8 Then the word of the LORD came to
Zechariah, saying,
9 “This is what the LORD of Hosts says:

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* **7:1 7:1** *Chislev* is the ninth month of the Hebrew lunar calendar, usually occurring within the months of November and December.
† **7:2 7:2** Or *the people of Bethel had sent Sharezer and Regem-melech, along with their men,* ‡ **7:7 7:7** Hebrew *Shephelah* or *lowlands*; that is, the western foothills of Judea

‘Administer true justice. Show loving devotion§
and compassion to one another.
10 Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless,
the foreigner or the poor. And do not plot evil in
your hearts against one another.’
11 But they refused to pay attention and
turned a stubborn shoulder; they stopped up
their ears from hearing.*
12 They made their hearts like flint and would
not listen to the law or to the words that the
LORD of Hosts had sent by his spirit through the
earlier prophets. Therefore great anger came
from the LORD of Hosts.
13 And just as he had called and they would
not listen, so when they called I would not listen,
says the LORD of Hosts.
14 But I scattered them with a whirlwind
among all the nations that they had not known,
and the land was left desolate behind them so
that no one could come or go. Thus they turned
the pleasant land into a desolation.”

8

1 Again the word of the LORD of Hosts came,
saying:
2 This is what the LORD of Hosts says: “I am
jealous for Zion with great zeal; I am jealous for
her with great fervor.”

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§ **7:9 7:9** Forms of the Hebrew *chesed* are translated here and in most cases throughout the Scriptures as *loving devotion*; the range of meaning includes *love*, *goodness*, *kindness*, *faithfulness*, and *mercy*, as well as *loyalty to a covenant*. * **7:11 7:11** Hebrew *they made their ears too heavy to hear*

3 This is what the LORD says: “I will return to
Zion and dwell in Jerusalem. Then Jerusalem
will be called the City of Truth, and the
mountain of the LORD of Hosts will be called the
Holy Mountain.”
4 This is what the LORD of Hosts says: “Old
men and old women will again sit along the
streets of Jerusalem, each with a staff in hand
because of great age.
5 And the streets of the city will be filled with
boys and girls playing there.”
6 This is what the LORD of Hosts says: “If this
is impossible* in the eyes of the remnant of this
people in these days, should it also be impossible
in my eyes?” declares the LORD of Hosts.
7 This is what the LORD of Hosts says: “I will
save my people from the land of the east and
from the land of the west.
8 I will bring them back to dwell in Jerusalem,
where they will be my people, and I will be their
faithful and righteous God.”
9 This is what the LORD of Hosts says: “Let
your hands be strong, you who now hear these
words spoken by the prophets who were present
when the foundations were laid to rebuild the
temple, the house of the LORD of Hosts.
10 For before those days neither man nor beast
received wages, nor was there safety from the
enemy for anyone who came or went, for I had
turned every man against his neighbor.

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* **8:6 8:6** Or *marvelous*; twice in this verse

11 But now I will not treat the remnant of this
people as I did in the past," declares the LORD of
Hosts.
12 "For the seed will be prosperous, the vine
will yield its fruit, the ground will yield its
produce, and the skies will give their dew. To
the remnant of this people I will give all these
things as an inheritance.
13 As you have been a curse among the
nations, O house of Judah and house of Israel, so
I will save you, and you will be a blessing. Do
not be afraid; let your hands be strong."
14 For this is what the LORD of Hosts says:
"Just as I resolved to bring disaster upon you
when your fathers provoked me to anger, and I
did not relent," says the LORD of Hosts,
15 "so now I have resolved to do good again to
Jerusalem and Judah. Do not be afraid.
16 These are the things you must do: Speak
truth to one another, render true and sound
judgments in your gates,
17 do not plot evil in your hearts against your
neighbor, and do not love to swear falsely, for I
hate all these things," declares the LORD.
18 Then the word of the LORD of Hosts came to
me, saying,
19 "This is what the LORD of Hosts says: The
fasts of the fourth, the fifth, the seventh, and the
tenth months will become times of joy and
gladness, cheerful feasts for the house of Judah.
Therefore you are to love both truth and peace."
20 This is what the LORD of Hosts says:
"Peoples will yet come—the residents of many

cities—
21 and the residents of one city will go to
another, saying: ‘Let us go at once to plead
before the LORD and to seek the LORD of Hosts.
I myself am going.’
22 And many peoples and strong nations will
come to seek the LORD of Hosts in Jerusalem
and to plead before the LORD.”
23 This is what the LORD of Hosts says: “In
those days ten men from the nations of every
tongue will tightly grasp the robe of a Jew,
saying, ‘Let us go with you, for we have heard
that God is with you.’ ”

9

1 This is the burden of the word of the LORD
against the land of Hadrach
and Damascus its resting place—
for the eyes of men
and of all the tribes of Israel
are upon the LORD*—
2 and also against Hamath,
which borders it,
as well as Tyre and Sidon,
though they are very shrewd.

3 Tyre has built herself a fortress;
she has heaped up silver like dust,
and gold like the dirt of the streets.
4 Behold, the Lord will impoverish her
and strike down her power on the sea,†

* **9:1 9:1** Or *for the eye of the LORD is on all men and all the tribes of Israel* † **9:4 9:4** Or *cast her wealth into the sea*

and she will be consumed by fire.

5 Ashkelon will see and fear;
Gaza will writhe in agony,
as will Ekron,
for her hope will wither.
There will cease to be a king in Gaza,
and Ashkelon will be uninhabited.
6 A mixed race will occupy Ashdod,
and I will cut off the pride of the Philistines.
7 I will remove the blood from their mouths
and the abominations from between their teeth.
Then they too will become a remnant for our God;
they will become like a clan‡ in Judah,
and Ekron will be like the Jebusites.
8 But I will camp around my house because of an army,
because of those who march to and fro,
and never again will an oppressor overrun my people,
for now I keep watch with my own eyes.
9 Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion!
Shout in triumph, O Daughter of Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you,
righteous and victorious,§
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
10 And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim*
and the horse from Jerusalem,

‡ **9:7 9:7** Or *like a leader* § **9:9 9:9** Or *righteous and endowed with victory* * **9:10 9:10** That is, the northern kingdom of Israel

and the bow of war will be broken.
Then he will proclaim peace to the nations.
His dominion will extend from sea to sea,
and from the Euphrates†
to the ends of the earth.
11 As for you,
because of the blood of your covenant,
I will release your prisoners
from the waterless pit.
12 Return to your stronghold,
O prisoners of hope;
even today I declare
that I will restore to you double.
13 For I will bend Judah as my bow
and fit it with Ephraim.
I will rouse your sons, O Zion,
against the sons of Greece.‡
I will make you like the sword
of a mighty man.
14 Then the LORD will appear over them,
and his arrow will go forth like lightning.
The Lord GOD will sound the ram's horn
and advance in the whirlwinds of the south.
15 The LORD of Hosts will shield them.
They will destroy and conquer with
slingstones;
they will drink and roar as with wine.
And they will be filled like sprinkling bowls,
drenched like the corners of the altar.
16 On that day the LORD their God will save them
as the flock of his people;
for like jewels in a crown

† **9:10 9:10** Hebrew *the River* ‡ **9:13 9:13** Hebrew *the sons of Javan*

they will sparkle over his land.
17 How lovely they will be,
and how beautiful!
Grain will make the young men flourish,
and new wine, the young women.

10

1 Ask the LORD for rain in springtime;
the LORD makes the storm clouds,
and he will give everyone showers of rain
and crops in the field.
2 For idols speak deceit
and diviners see illusions;
they tell false dreams
and offer empty comfort.
Therefore the people wander like sheep,
oppressed for lack of a shepherd.

3 "My anger burns against the shepherds,
and I will punish the male goats.*
For the LORD of Hosts attends to his flock,
the house of Judah;
he will make them
like his royal steed in battle.
4 The cornerstone will come from Judah,
the tent peg from him,
as well as the battle bow
and every ruler together.
5 They will be like mighty men in battle,
trampling the enemy in the mire of the streets.
They will fight because the LORD is with them,

* **10:3 10:3** Or *the leaders*

and they will put the horsemen to shame.

6 I will strengthen the house of Judah
and save the house of Joseph.
I will restore them because I have compassion
on them,
and they will be as though I had not rejected
them.
For I am the LORD their God,
and I will answer them.
7 Ephraim will be like a mighty man,
and their hearts will be glad as with wine.
Their children will see it and be joyful;
their hearts will rejoice in the LORD.

8 I will whistle for them to gather,
for I have redeemed them;
and they will be as numerous
as they once were.
9 Though I sow them among the nations,
they will remember me in distant lands;
they and their children
will live and return.
10 I will bring them back from Egypt
and gather them from Assyria.
I will bring them to Gilead and Lebanon
until no more room is found for them.
11 He will pass through the sea of distress
and strike† the waves of the sea;
all the depths of the Nile will dry up.
The pride of Assyria will be brought down,
and the scepter of Egypt will depart.

† **10:11 10:11** LXX *They will pass through the sea of distress and strike*

12 I will strengthen them in the LORD,
and in his name they will walk,"
declares the LORD.

11

1 Open your doors, O Lebanon,
that the fire may consume your cedars!
2 Wail, O cypress,* for the cedar has fallen;
the majestic trees are ruined!
Wail, O oaks of Bashan,
for the dense forest has been cut down!
3 Listen to the wailing of the shepherds,
for their glory is in ruins.
Listen to the roaring of the young lions,
for the thickets of the Jordan are destroyed.
4 This is what the LORD my God says: "Pasture
the flock marked for slaughter,
5 whose buyers slaughter them without
remorse. Those who sell them say, 'Blessed be
the LORD, for I am rich!' Even their own
shepherds have no compassion on them.
6 For I will no longer have compassion on the
people of the land, declares the LORD, but
behold, I will cause each man to fall into the
hands of his neighbor and his king, who will
devastate the land, and I will not deliver it from
their hands."
7 So I pastured the flock marked for slaughter,
especially the afflicted of the flock. Then I took
for myself two staffs, calling one Favor and the
other Union, and I pastured the flock.

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* **11:2 11:2** Or *pine* or *juniper* or *fir*

8 And in one month I dismissed three
shepherds.
My soul grew impatient with the flock, and
their souls also detested me.
9 Then I said, “I will no longer shepherd you.
Let the dying die, and the perishing perish; and
let those who remain devour one another’s
flesh.”
10 Next I took my staff called Favor and cut it
in two,† revoking the covenant I had made with
all the nations.
11 It was revoked on that day, and so the
afflicted of the flock who were watching me
knew that it was the word of the LORD.
12 Then I told them, “If it seems right to you,
give me my wages; but if not, keep them.” So
they weighed out my wages, thirty pieces of
silver.
13 And the LORD said to me, “Throw it to the
potter”—this magnificent price at which they
valued me. So I took the thirty pieces of silver
and threw them to the potter in the house of the
LORD.
14 Then I cut in two my second staff called
Union, breaking the brotherhood between Judah
and Israel.
15 And the LORD said to me: “Take up once
more the equipment of a foolish shepherd.
16 For behold, I will raise up a shepherd in the
land who will neither care for the lost, nor seek
the young, nor heal the broken, nor sustain the
healthy, but he will devour the flesh of the
choice sheep and tear off their hooves.

† **11:10 11:10** Or *broke it*; similarly in verse 14

17 Woe to the worthless shepherd,
who deserts the flock!
May a sword strike his arm
and his right eye!
May his arm be completely withered
and his right eye utterly blinded!”

12

1 This is the burden of the word of the LORD concerning Israel.

Thus declares the LORD, who stretches out the heavens and lays the foundation of the earth, who forms the spirit of man within him:

2 “Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples. Judah will be besieged, as well as Jerusalem.

3 On that day, when all the nations of the earth gather against her, I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples; all who would heave it away will be severely injured.

4 On that day, declares the LORD, I will strike every horse with panic, and every rider with madness. I will keep a watchful eye on the house of Judah, but I will strike with blindness all the horses of the nations.

5 Then the leaders of Judah will say in their hearts: ‘The people of Jerusalem are my strength, for the LORD of Hosts is their God.’

6 On that day I will make the clans of Judah like a firepot in a woodpile, like a flaming torch among the sheaves; they will consume all the peoples around them on the right and on the

left, while the people of Jerusalem remain
secure there.
7 The LORD will save the tents of Judah first,
so that the glory of the house of David and of the
people of Jerusalem may not be greater than
that of Judah.
8 On that day the LORD will defend the people
of Jerusalem, so that the weakest among them
will be like David, and the house of David will be
like God, like the angel of the LORD going before
them.
9 So on that day I will set out to destroy all the
nations that come against Jerusalem.
10 Then I will pour out on the house of David
and on the people of Jerusalem a spirit of grace
and prayer, and they will look to me,*
concerning the one they have pierced. They will
mourn for him as one mourns for an only child,
and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a
firstborn son.
11 On that day the wailing in Jerusalem will be
as great as the wailing of Hadad-rimmon in the
plain of Megiddo.
12 The land will mourn, each clan on its own:
the clan of the house of David and their wives,
the clan of the house of Nathan and their wives,
13 the clan of the house of Levi and their
wives, the clan of Shimei and their wives,
14 and all the remaining clans and their wives.

13

1 “On that day a fountain will be opened to the

* **12:10 12:10** Or *on me*

house of David and the people of Jerusalem, to
cleanse them from sin and impurity.
2 And on that day, declares the LORD of Hosts,
I will erase the names of the idols from the land,
and they will no longer be remembered. I will
also remove the prophets and the unclean
spirit* from the land.
3 And if anyone still prophesies, his father and
mother who bore him will say to him, 'You shall
not remain alive, because you have spoken
falsely in the name of the LORD.' When he
prophesies, his father and mother who bore him
will pierce him through.
4 And on that day every prophet who
prophesies will be ashamed of his vision, and he
will not put on a hairy cloak in order to deceive.
5 He will say, 'I am not a prophet; I work the
land, for I was purchased as a servant in my
youth.†'
6 If someone asks him, 'What are these wounds
on your chest‡?' he will answer, 'These are the
wounds I received in the house of my friends.'
7 Awake, O sword, against my shepherd,
against the man who is my companion,
declares the LORD of Hosts.
Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be
scattered,
and I will turn my hand against the little
ones.
8 And in all the land,

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* **13:2 13:2** Or *the spirit of impurity* † **13:5 13:5** Or *I am a farmer, for the land has been my livelihood since my youth.* ‡ **13:6 13:6** Literally *between your hands*

declares the LORD,
two-thirds will be cut off and perish,
but a third will be left in it.
9 This third I will bring through the fire;
I will refine them like silver
and test them like gold.
They will call on my name,
and I will answer them.
I will say, 'They are my people,'
and they will say, 'The LORD is our God.' "

14

1 Behold, a day of the LORD is coming when
your plunder will be divided in your presence.
2 For I will gather all the nations for battle
against Jerusalem, and the city will be captured,
the houses looted, and the women violated.*
Half of the city will go into exile, but the rest of
the people will not be removed from the city.
3 Then the LORD will go out to fight against
those nations, as he fights in the day of battle.
4 On that day his feet will stand on the Mount
of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of
Olives will be split in two from east to west,
forming a great valley, with half the mountain
moving to the north and half to the south.
5 You will flee by my mountain valley, for it
will extend to Azal. You will 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 you.†

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* **14:2 14:2** Qere *lain with*; Ketiv *ravished*, a coarser verb † **14:5 14:5** LXX *with him*

6 On that day there will be no light, no cold or
frost.‡
7 It will be a unique day known only to the
LORD, without day or night; but when evening
comes, there will be light.
8 And on that day living water will flow out
from Jerusalem, half of it toward the Eastern
Sea§ and the other half toward the Western
Sea,* in summer and winter alike.
9 On that day the LORD will become King over
all the earth—the LORD alone, and his name
alone.
10 All the land from Geba to Rimmon south of
Jerusalem will be turned into a plain, but
Jerusalem will be raised up and will remain in
her place, from the Benjamin Gate to the site of
the First Gate to the Corner Gate, and from the
Tower of Hananel to the royal winepresses.
11 People will live there, and never again will
there be an utter destruction. So Jerusalem will
dwell securely.

12 And this will be the plague with which the
LORD strikes all the peoples who have warred
against Jerusalem: Their flesh will rot while
they stand on their feet, their eyes will rot in
their sockets, and their tongues will rot in their
mouths.
13 On that day a great panic from the LORD
will come upon them, so that each will seize the

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‡ **14:6 14:6** Qere; Ketiv *the glorious ones will congeal* § **14:8 14:8** That is, the Dead Sea * **14:8 14:8** That is, the Mediterranean Sea, also called the Great Sea

hand of another, and the hand of one will rise
against the other.
14 Judah will also fight at Jerusalem, and the
wealth of all the surrounding nations will be
collected—gold, silver, and apparel in great
abundance.
15 And a similar plague will strike the horses
and mules, camels and donkeys, and all the
animals in those camps.

16 Then all the survivors from the nations that
came against Jerusalem will go up year after
year to worship the King, the LORD of Hosts,
and to celebrate the Feast of Booths.†
17 And should any of the families of the earth
not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the
LORD of Hosts, then the rain will not fall on
them.
18 And if the people of Egypt will not go up and
enter in, then the rain will not fall on them;‡ this
will be the plague with which the LORD strikes
the nations who do not go up to celebrate the
Feast of Booths.
19 This will be the punishment of Egypt and of
all the nations that do not go up to celebrate the
Feast of Booths.

20 On that day, HOLY TO THE LORD§ will be
inscribed on the bells of the horses, and the

† **14:16 14:16** That is, Sukkot, the autumn feast of pilgrimage to Jerusalem; also translated as *the Feast of Tabernacles* or *the Feast of Shelters* and originally called *the Feast of Ingathering* (see Exodus 23:16 and Exodus 34:22). ‡ **14:18 14:18** Hebrew *then not on them*; rain is implied from verse 17 § **14:20 14:20** That is, *the LORD*

cooking pots in the house of the LORD will be
like the sprinkling bowls before the altar.
21 Indeed, every pot in Jerusalem and Judah
will be holy to the LORD of Hosts, and all who
sacrifice will come and take some pots and cook
in them. And on that day there will no longer be
a merchant* in the house of the LORD of Hosts.

* **14:21 14:21** Or *Canaanite*

Masoretic English Tanakh

The Tanakh (Law, Prophets, and Writings) of the Holy Bible in English, conformed to the Masoretic Text.

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