

“THE DAY OF THE LORD”

Zechariah 13-14 is difficult to fully understand, as much of it is written in symbolic language. However, some of the basic points stand out that have had their fulfillment in the provision of God in heaven to bring redemption to an obedient people. FIRST, there is the reference to the DEATH of Christ, and the ultimate DESTRUCTION of the city of Jerusalem and the end of the Jewish economy that would officially end with the death of Christ, but ultimately be removed with the invasion of Jerusalem by the Romans, led by Titus, the “prince” of the Roman empire in A.D. 70.

First, let’s look at the words of our Lord in Matthew 23-24 and Luke 20-22. He beheld the city, and told how the enemies would come and compass it round in the day of visitation. He said some would fall by the edge of the sword and some taken captive, as the city would be trodden down of the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled. In Luke 21:27, He said they would see the Son of man “coming in a cloud with power and great glory.” Matthew records that would be “immediately after the tribulation of those days” that there would be the sign of the son of man in heaven. coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.” This was NOT describing the coming of Jesus in the clouds at the end of the world, but events that would take place when the eagles would be gathered together. VINE states “the vultures are probably intended. The meaning seems to be that, as these birds of prey gather where the carcass is, so the judgments of God will descend upon the corrupt state of humanity. The figure of the “eagle” is used in Ezek. 17 to represent the great powers of Egypt and Babylon, as being employed to punish corrupt and faithless Israel.” (VINE, p. 189). Then He stated that “this generation shall not pass till all these things be fulfilled” (Matt. 24:28-35). True, when the Lord returns, but here the clouds are associated with the Lord’s coming in Jerusalem’s fall.

Now let’s return to the words of Zechariah. About the middle of his prophecy, it is stated, “Behold the day of the Lord is coming” (Zech. 14:1). Then, the term “in that day” is used 8 times before 9 in chapters 12 and 13 and 5 more times in the rest of the book.