

Interpretation Study Handout #14

Study Outline – Grace Bible Chapel

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April 24th, 2022

Introduction:

- **The Millennial Kingdom in Zachariah (Zach. 14:9-21)**

Some think this denotes particular favor to the people of the Jews, and points at their conversion and restoration in the latter days; but it is rather to be understood figuratively of the gospel-church, typified by Judah and Jerusalem, and it signifies the abundant graces with which the church shall be crowned, and the fruitfulness of its members, and the vast numbers of them. (1.) The church shall be like a fruitful country, abounding in all the rich products of the soil. The whole land of Judea, which is naturally uneven and hilly, shall be *turned as a plain*; it shall become a smooth level valley, from Geba, or Gibeah, its utmost border north, to Rimmon, which lay *south of Jerusalem* and was the utmost southern limit of Judea. The gospel of Christ, where it comes in its power, levels the ground; mountains and hills are brought low by it, that the Lord alone may be exalted. (2.) It shall be like a populous city. As the holy land shall be levelled, so the holy city shall be peopled, shall be rebuilt and replenished. Matthew Henry Commentary.

- **Are you comfortable with Matthew Henry's commentary assessment?**

- **What is the context of Zachariah 14?**

- **How does what is stated here fit with the context of Revelation 20?**

Exegesis of Zechariah 14:6ff (The Kingdom of Christ):

- Vs. 6-7 –

- Vs. 8 –

- Vs. 9 –

- Vs. 10 –

- Vs. 11 –

- Vs. 12-15 –

- Vs. 16 –

- Vs. 17-21 –

Matthew Henry - Psalm 2. We have here a very great struggle about the kingdom of Christ, hell and heaven contesting it; the seat of the war is this earth, where Satan has long had a usurped kingdom and exercised dominion to such a degree that he has been called *the prince of the power of the very air* we breathe in and *the god of the world* we live in. He knows very well that, as the Messiah's

kingdom rises and gets ground, his falls and loses ground; and therefore, though it will be set up certainly, it shall not be set up tamely.

- Does Henry get the literal interpretation correctly? _____
- By this writing what is Henry describing? _____

Vs. 6 - *I have set him*; his commandment, his commission, he received from the Father. (4.) Being called to this honour, he was confirmed in it; high places (we say) are slippery places, but Christ, being raised, is fixed: "*I have set him, I have settled him.*" (5.) He is set upon *Zion*, the hill of God's holiness, a type of the gospel church, for on that the temple was built, for the sake of which the whole mount was called *holy*. Christ's throne is set up in his church, that is, in the hearts of all believers and in the societies they form. The evangelical law of Christ is said to *go forth from Zion* ([Isa 2:3](#), [Mic 4:2](#)), and therefore that is spoken of as the head-quarters of this general, the royal seat of this prince, in whom the children of men shall be joyful.

- What does Scripture refer to when describing Zion? _____
- Where does Henry say Christ's government will reside? _____
- Where will Christ's government actually reside? _____

Vs. 8 - That his government shall be universal: he shall have *the heathen* for his inheritance, not the Jews only, to whose nation the church had been long confined, but the Gentiles also. Those in *the uttermost parts of the earth* (as this nation of ours) shall be his *possession*, and he shall have multitudes of willing loyal subjects among them. Baptized Christians are the possession of the Lord Jesus; they are to him for a name and a praise. God the Father gives them to him when by his Spirit and grace he works upon them to submit their necks to the yoke of the Lord Jesus. This is in part fulfilled; a great part of the Gentile world received the gospel when it was first preached, and Christ's throne was set up there where Satan's seat had long been. But it is to be yet further accomplished when *the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of the Lord and of his Christ*.

- What does Henry describe as the "nations for Christ's inheritance." _____

- What does he expect to take place? _____

Isaiah 2:1ff - The setting up of the Christian church, and the planting of the Christian religion, in the world. Christianity shall then be the mountain of the Lord's house; where that is professed God will grant his presence, receive his people's homage, and grant instruction and blessing, as he did of old in the temple of Mount Zion. The gospel church, incorporated by Christ's charter, shall then be the rendezvous of all the spiritual seed of Abraham. Now it is here promised, I. That Christianity shall be openly preached and professed; it shall be *prepared* (so the margin reads it) in the top of the mountains, in the view and hearing of all. Hence Christ's disciples are compared to a city on a hill, which *cannot be hid*.

- What does Henry believe is the setting for this prophecy? _____
- What is the "house of the God of Jacob" according to Henry? _____
- What is the city on the hill described as? _____

Vs. 4b - The great peace which should be the effect of the success of the gospel in the world ([Isa 2:4](#)): *They shall beat their swords into ploughshares*; their instruments of war shall be converted into implements of husbandry; as, on the contrary, when war is proclaimed, *ploughshares are beaten into swords*, [Joe 3:10](#). *Nations shall then not lift up sword against nation*, as they now do, *neither shall they learn war any more*, for they shall have no more occasion for it...The design and tendency of the gospel are to make peace and to slay all enmities. It has in it the most powerful obligations and inducements to peace; so that one might reasonably have expected it should have this effect...The gospel of Christ, as far as it prevails, disposes men to be peaceable, softens men's spirits, and sweetens them; and the love of Christ, shed abroad in the heart, constrains men to love one another.

- What is the cause of the great peace? _____
- What is the true cause behind this great peace? _____