

# Reflecting on Scriptures

## *The Poetic Language of Matthew 21:1-17*

The Son of David & the Hopes of God's People

Thomas Robinson, Palm Sunday, April 13, 2014

### Zechariah 9:1-2, 6-10

*God is Lord of All Nations including Israel*

- <sup>1</sup> The oracle of the word of the Lord  
is against the land of Hadrach  
and Damascus is its resting place.  
For the Lord has an eye on mankind  
and on all the tribes of Israel,  
<sup>2</sup> and on Hamath also, which borders on it,  
Tyre and Sidon, though they are very wise. ...  
<sup>6</sup> ... I will cut off the pride of Philistia.  
<sup>7</sup> I will take away its blood from its mouth,  
and its abominations from between its teeth;  
it too shall be a remnant for our God;  
it shall be like a clan in Judah,  
and Ekron shall be like the Jebusites.  
<sup>8</sup> Then I will encamp at my house as a guard,  
so that none shall march to and fro;  
no oppressor shall again march over them,  
for now I see with my own eyes.

*Expecting Zion's King – Humble, Bringing Salvation and Peace*

- <sup>9</sup> Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!  
Behold, your king is coming to you;  
righteous and having salvation is he,  
humble and mounted on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
<sup>10</sup> I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the war horse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle bow shall be cut off,  
and he shall speak peace to the nations;  
his rule shall be from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

## Isaiah 62:1-2, 6-7, 10-12

### *Looking for Zion's Renewal and Salvation*

<sup>1</sup> For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,  
until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,  
and her salvation as a burning torch.

<sup>2</sup> The nations shall see your righteousness,  
and all the kings your glory,  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD (*Yahweh*) will give. ...

### *Watching for God to Renew Jerusalem*

<sup>6</sup> On your walls, O Jerusalem,  
I have set watchmen;  
all the day and all the night  
they shall never be silent.

You who put the LORD (*Yahweh*) in remembrance,  
take no rest,

<sup>7</sup> and give him no rest  
until he establishes Jerusalem  
and makes it a praise in the earth.

### *Announcing that the Lord in Person is Bringing Salvation to Zion*

<sup>10</sup> Go through, go through the gates;  
prepare the way for the people;  
build up, build up the highway;  
clear it of stones;  
lift up a signal over the peoples.

<sup>11</sup> Behold, the LORD (*Yahweh*) has proclaimed  
to the end of the earth:

Say to the daughter of Zion,  
“Behold, your salvation comes;  
behold, his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.”

<sup>12</sup> And they shall be called The Holy People,  
The Redeemed of the LORD (*Yahweh*);  
and you shall be called Sought Out,  
A City Not Forsaken.

## Genesis 22:1-4

<sup>1</sup> After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>2</sup> He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” <sup>3</sup> So Abraham rose early in the

morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup> On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar.

## 2 Chronicles 3:1

<sup>1</sup> Then Solomon began to build the house of the LORD (*Yahweh*) in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah....

## Isaiah 1:1-20

<sup>1</sup> The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

*Israel does not Know/Understand its Lord – as well as a Donkey*

<sup>2</sup> Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth;  
for the LORD (*Yahweh*) has spoken:

“Children have I reared and brought up,  
but they have rebelled against me.

<sup>3</sup> The ox knows its owner,  
and the donkey its lord’s crib,  
but Israel does not know,  
my people do not understand.”

*Israel’s Sin has Left it Estranged from God, Sick and Alone*

<sup>4</sup> Ah, sinful nation,  
a people laden with iniquity,  
offspring of evildoers,  
children who deal corruptly!  
They have forsaken the LORD (*Yahweh*),  
they have despised the Holy One of Israel,  
they are utterly estranged.

<sup>5</sup> Why will you still be struck down?  
Why will you continue to rebel?  
The whole head is sick,  
and the whole heart faint.

<sup>6</sup> From the sole of the foot even to the head,  
there is no soundness in it ....

<sup>8</sup> And the daughter of Zion is left  
like a booth in a vineyard,  
like a lodge in a cucumber field,  
like a besieged city.

<sup>9</sup> If the LORD (*Yahweh*) of hosts  
had not left us a few survivors,  
we should have been like Sodom,  
and become like Gomorrah.

*Israel's Temple Worship has become an Offense to God*

<sup>10</sup> Hear the word of the LORD (*Yahweh*),  
you rulers of Sodom!

Give ear to the teaching of our God,  
you people of Gomorrah!

<sup>11</sup> “What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices?  
says the LORD (*Yahweh*);

I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams  
and the fat of well-fed beasts;

I do not delight in the blood of bulls,  
or of lambs, or of goats.

<sup>12</sup> When you come to appear before me,  
who has required of you  
this trampling of my courts?

<sup>13</sup> Bring no more vain offerings;  
incense is an abomination to me.

New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations –  
I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly.

<sup>14</sup> Your new moons and your appointed feasts  
my soul hates;

they have become a burden to me;  
I am weary of bearing them.

<sup>15</sup> When you spread out your hands,  
I will hide my eyes from you;

even though you make many prayers,  
I will not listen;

your hands are full of blood.

*People and Temple must be Purified with Justice and Mercy*

<sup>16</sup> Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;  
remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes;

cease to do evil, <sup>17</sup> learn to do good;

seek justice, correct oppression;

bring justice to the fatherless,

plead the widow's cause.

*God will Purify and Restore the People if they Change*

<sup>18</sup> “Come now, let us reason together,”  
says the LORD (*Yahweh*),

“though your sins are like scarlet,  
they shall be as white as snow;

though they are red like crimson,  
they shall become like wool.

<sup>19</sup> If you are willing and obedient,  
you shall eat the good of the land;

<sup>20</sup> but if you refuse and rebel,  
you shall be eaten by the sword;  
for the mouth of the LORD (*Yahweh*) has spoken.”

## 2 Kings 9:6, 13

*Garments laid beneath the new King's feet*

<sup>6</sup> [The young prophet sent by Elisha] poured the oil on [Jehu's] head, saying to him, “Thus says the LORD (*Yahweh*), the God of Israel, I anoint you king over the people of the LORD (*Yahweh*), over Israel. ... <sup>13</sup> Then in haste all of his officers took their garments and put them under him on the bare steps, and they blew the trumpet and proclaimed, “Jehu is king.”

## 2 Maccabees 10:5-7

*Branches, Palms & Hymns as the Temple is Purified*

<sup>5</sup> It happened that on the same day on which the temple had been profaned by the foreigners, the purification of the temple took place, that is, on the twenty-fifth day of the same month, which was Chislev. <sup>6</sup> They celebrated it for eight days with rejoicing, in the manner of the festival of booths, remembering how not long before, during the festival of booths, they had been wandering in the mountains and caves like wild animals. <sup>7</sup> Therefore, carrying ivy-wreathed wands and beautiful branches and also fronds of palm, they offered hymns of thanksgiving to him who had given success to the purifying of his own holy place.

## Psalms 118:14-29 Song for a Festival Procession to Zion

*We Sing of the Lord's Strength Saving Us from forces of Death*

<sup>14</sup> The LORD (*Yahweh*) is my strength and my song;  
he has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup> Glad songs of salvation  
are in the tents of the righteous:

“The right hand of the LORD (*Yahweh*) does valiantly,  
<sup>16</sup> the right hand of the LORD (*Yahweh*) exalts,  
the right hand of the LORD (*Yahweh*) does valiantly!”

<sup>17</sup> I shall not die, but I shall live,  
and recount the deeds of the LORD (*Yahweh*).

<sup>18</sup> The LORD (*Yahweh*) has disciplined me severely,  
but he has not given me over to death.

*The Gates of the Temple bring Expectation of God's Salvation*

<sup>19</sup> Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them  
and give thanks to the LORD (*Yahweh*).

<sup>20</sup> This is the gate of the LORD (*Yahweh*);  
the righteous shall enter through it.

<sup>21</sup> I thank you that you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.

*God builds on a Cornerstone He Chooses, Others Reject.*

<sup>22</sup> The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup> This is the LORD'S (Yahweh's) doing;  
it is marvelous in our eyes. [Mt 21:42]

<sup>24</sup> This is the day that the LORD (Yahweh) has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*We Pray for Salvation from the One who Comes in God's Name.*

<sup>25</sup> Save us, we pray (Hosanna), O LORD (Yahweh)!  
O LORD (Yahweh), we pray, give us success!

<sup>26</sup> Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD (Yahweh)!  
We bless you from the house of the LORD (Yahweh).

<sup>27</sup> The LORD (Yahweh) is God,  
and he has made his light to shine upon us.

Bind the festal sacrifice with cords,  
up to the horns of the altar!

<sup>28</sup> You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;  
you are my God; I will extol you.

<sup>29</sup> Oh give thanks to the LORD (Yahweh), for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures forever!

**2 Samuel 7:11-16** *Son of David/Messiah/Son of God*

<sup>11</sup> "... Moreover, the LORD (Yahweh) declares to you [David] that the LORD (Yahweh) will make you a house. <sup>12</sup> When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your seed after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. <sup>13</sup> He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. <sup>14</sup> I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, <sup>15</sup> but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. <sup>16</sup> And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever."

**Zechariah 14:20-21** *No Traders in the Lord's house*

<sup>20</sup> And on that day there shall be inscribed on the bells of the horses, "Holy to the LORD (Yahweh)." And the pots in the house of the LORD (Yahweh) shall be as the bowls before the altar. <sup>21</sup> And every pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be holy to the LORD (Yahweh) of hosts, so that all who sacrifice may come and take of them and boil the meat of the sacrifice in them. And there shall no longer be a trader in the house of the LORD (Yahweh) of hosts on that day.

# Isaiah 56:1-8

*Justice and Righteousness Anticipate God's coming Salvation.*

<sup>1</sup> Thus says the LORD (*Yahweh*):

“Keep justice, and do righteousness,  
for soon my salvation will come,  
and my righteousness be revealed.

<sup>2</sup> Blessed is the man who does this,  
and the son of man who holds it fast,  
who keeps the Sabbath, not profaning it,  
and keeps his hand from doing any evil.”

*Even Foreigners and Eunuchs Will be Part of God's People.*

<sup>3</sup> Let not the foreigner who has joined himself to the LORD say,  
“The LORD (*Yahweh*) will surely separate me from his people”;  
and let not the eunuch say,

“Behold, I am a dry tree.”

<sup>4</sup> For thus says the LORD (*Yahweh*):

“To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths,  
who choose the things that please me  
and hold fast my covenant,

<sup>5</sup> I will give in my house and within my walls  
a monument and a name (*yad ve-shem*)  
better than sons and daughters;

I will give them an everlasting name  
that shall not be cut off.

*God will Bring Them to his Mountain, His House of Prayer.*

<sup>6</sup> “And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD (*Yahweh*),  
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD (*Yahweh*),  
and to be his servants,

everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it,  
and holds fast my covenant –

<sup>7</sup> these I will bring to my holy mountain,  
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;

their burnt offerings and their sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar;

for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.”

<sup>8</sup> The Lord GOD (*Yahweh*),

who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares,

“I will gather yet others to him  
besides those already gathered.”

## Jeremiah 7:9-11

*Injustice, Immorality, Idolatry make the Temple a Robber's Den.*

<sup>9</sup> Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, make offerings to Baal, and go after other gods that you have not known, <sup>10</sup> and then come and stand before me in this house [the Temple], which is called by my name, and say, 'We are delivered!' – only to go on doing all these abominations? <sup>11</sup> Has this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, I myself have seen it, declares the LORD (*Yahweh*).

## 2 Samuel 5:6-8

*A Proverb of the Blind and Lame being Excluded from the Temple.*

<sup>6</sup> And the king and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, who said to David, "You will not come in here, but the blind and the lame will ward you off" – thinking, "David cannot come in here."

<sup>7</sup> Nevertheless, David took the stronghold of Zion, that is, the city of David.

<sup>8</sup> And David said on that day, "Whoever would strike the Jebusites, let him get up the water shaft to attack 'the lame and the blind,' who are hated by David's soul." Therefore it is said, "The blind and the lame shall not come into the house."

## Psalms 8:1-6

*The Lord's Majesty brings Praise from Even the Least and Weakest.*

<sup>1</sup> O LORD (*Yahweh*), our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

<sup>2</sup> Out of the mouth of babies and infants,

you have established praise/strength because of your foes,  
to still the enemy and the avenger.

*The Lord Cares for the Human and Gives them Honor and Rule*

<sup>3</sup> When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

<sup>4</sup> what is man that you are mindful of him,

and the son of man that you care for him?

<sup>5</sup> Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings  
and crowned him with glory and honor.

<sup>6</sup> You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under his feet....