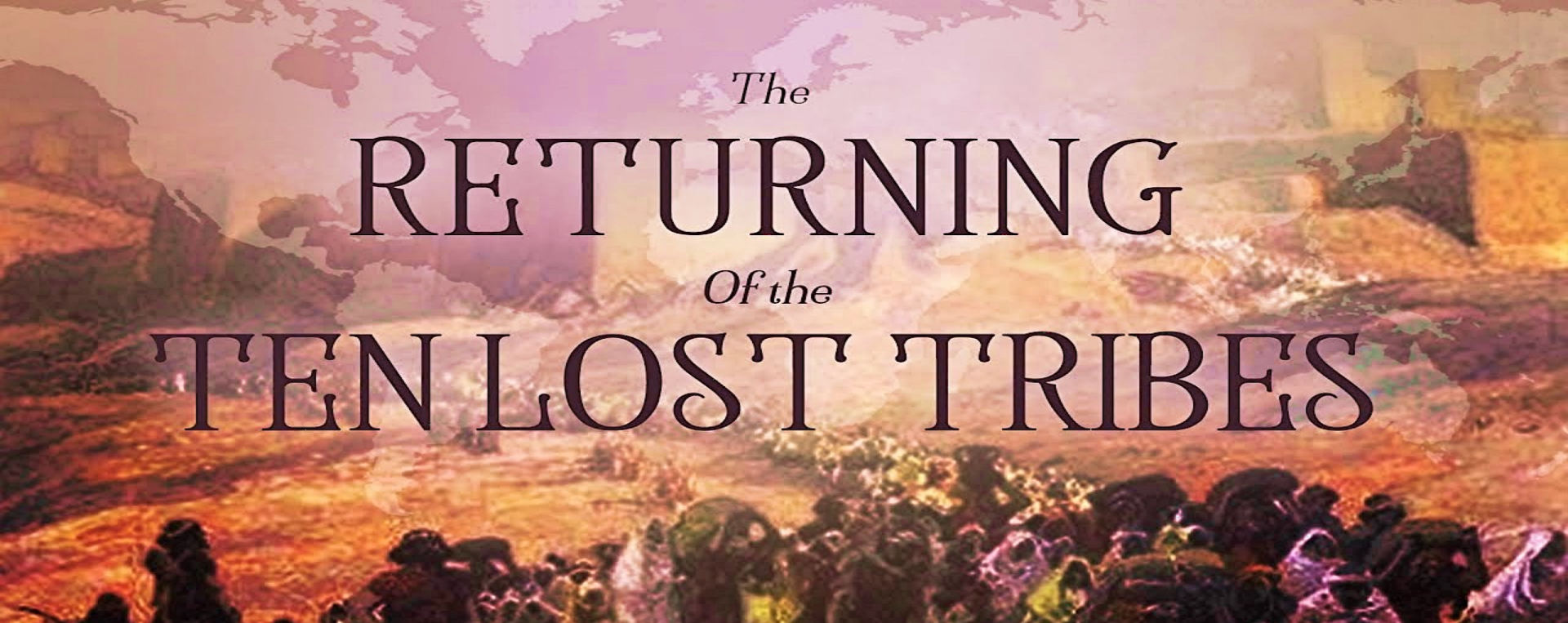


# ZECHARIAH

## Chapter 11

- Everything in the Bible is there because God wants us to know it
- The mood of Chapter 11 is chilling and dark
- When Messiah first returns, His battle against evil will mean wars, and the aftermath will leave a scarred planet upon which living will not be easy
- The joyous “Come, Lord come!” should be tempered with a large dose of sobriety



*The*  
**RETURNING**  
*Of the*  
**TEN LOST TRIBES**

- 10 Lost Tribes = all the tribes of the Northern Kingdom of Ephraim
- Israel will be too small, so parts of Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan will be annexed for more living space
- Vs. 4 changes from poetic oracle to an explanation for God's judgment
- Prophecy is primarily an End Times return of Yeshua



# Prophets of Israel and Judah

- *Yehoveh Elohim* = a functional title of God, Chief of the Divine Council of lesser *elohim*
- Prophets of God were authoritative messengers, bringing truth to Kings and to the common people
- The doomed flock was going to be decimated as a judgment, mostly the cause of their bad leadership
- A remnant will survive and be used to bring home the 10 tribes

# METAPHORS AS SYMBOLS



- Bible metaphors are never explained; they are chosen as a matter of common knowledge
- It is what the metaphor is being compared to that is the point
- Knowing what a metaphor means helps to define the range of possibilities when used as symbolic



# BIBLICAL PATTERNS

- Much irony is used by the Prophet, and here it provides shock value of a role reversal
- Chapters 9 & 10 were positive and uplifting
- God needed to make it clear to the Judeans why these exiles happened, and there would be a restoration
- Zechariah identifies with the Prophets of old
- Israel's own God gave power to nations to harm them

# THE BAD SHEPHERDS

- Zech. 11:5
- The bad shepherds are the civil and religious leaders of Israel
- Jeremiah 5:26 – 31
- Buyers and sellers meant to create a mental image of financial transactions
- Prosperity and abundance mean sufficiency, not luxury
- Prosperity is to come with Torah obedience



# TWISTING GOD'S WORD



- Leaders can twist and turn God's Word for their own benefit and gain
- These are NOT good shepherds; find a new one!
- ***“Bless YHWH, for I have become wealthy”***
- Vs. 6 *Od* is missing; ***“I will not again show pity...”***
- ***Hinneh*** = behold, indeed Guaranteed to happen
- Adam = all the Israelite people (not just a male)

# MERCHANT A NASTY EPITHET



- ***Matsa*** = causing something to happen
- God will use a neighboring nation to harm Israel (Judah)
- Vs. 7 shifts from YHWH to Zechariah that is talking
- Zechariah was to feed the flock, but also this was future
- ***“Truly the most miserable”***
- More likely: ***“for those buyers and sellers of the sheep”***



# ZECHARIAH'S 2 STAFFS

- Staff is a shepherd's crook
- Ezekiel's 2 sticks joined to create 1, a reunification
- Ezekiel 37:15 – 19
- Zechariah's 2 staffs, an irony
- Later one of the crooks is snapped in half to form 2
- Ezekiel = unification, while Zechariah = the end of unity
- **No'am** = delight, beauty
- **Chobellim** = bonds, or more likely mutual obligation pact



# SEARCH FOR THE 3 SHEPHERDS



- Zechariah 11:8
- H.G. Mitchell found 40 explanations for this verse!
- Allegory = represents a larger point by telling a fictional story
- Numbers  
3 and 10 both equal completeness, wholeness, totality
- Here, 3 means ALL the bad leaders of Israel gone in a month

# GOOD-BYE TO BAD SHEPHERDS

- Most likely this happens only in the End Times
- Yeshua comes back as the good shepherd
- “One month” in the Scriptures usually means a short time
- The NAS version says it best
- The good shepherd and the bad shepherds had a great deal of tension between them
- Messiah got rid of them!

