

# EXILE AND RETURN Lesson 18

## FIRST DAY

### Read Lesson 17 Notes

## SECOND DAY:

### Read Zechariah 1:7-21

#### The Man Among the Myrtle Trees

[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 prophet Zechariah son of Berekiah, the son of Iddo.

[8] During the night I had a vision—and there before me was a man riding a red horse! He was standing among the myrtle trees in a ravine. Behind him were red, brown and white horses.

[9] I asked, “What are these, my lord?”

The angel who was talking with me answered, “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 go throughout the earth.”

[11] And they reported to the angel of the LORD, who was standing among the myrtle trees, “We have gone throughout the earth and found the whole world at rest and in peace.”

[12] Then the angel of the LORD said, “LORD Almighty, how long will you withhold mercy from Jerusalem and from the towns of Judah, which you have been angry with these seventy years?” [13] So the LORD spoke kind and comforting words to the angel who talked with me.

[14] Then the angel who was speaking to me said, “Proclaim this word: This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘I am very jealous for Jerusalem and Zion, [15] but I am very angry with the nations that

feel secure. I was only a little angry, but they added to the calamity.’

[16] “Therefore, this is what the LORD says: ‘I will return to Jerusalem with mercy, and there my house will be rebuilt. And the measuring line will be stretched out over Jerusalem,’ declares the LORD Almighty.

[17] “Proclaim further: This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘My towns will again overflow with prosperity, and the LORD will again comfort Zion and choose Jerusalem.’”

#### Four Horns and Four Craftsmen

[18] Then I looked up—and there before me were four horns! [19] I asked the angel who was speaking to me, “What are these?”

He answered me, “These are the horns that scattered Judah, Israel and Jerusalem.”

[20] Then the LORD showed me four craftsmen.

[21] I asked, “What are these coming to do?”

He answered, “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 who lifted up their horns against the land of Judah to scatter its people.”

### Question 3

**Isaiah 41:18-20;** [18] I will make rivers flow on barren heights, and springs within the valleys. I will turn the desert into pools of water, and the parched ground into springs.

[19] I will put in the desert the cedar and the acacia, the myrtle and the olive. I will set pines in the wasteland, the fir and the cypress together,

[20] so that people may see and know, may consider and understand, that the hand of the LORD has done this, that the Holy One of Israel has created it.

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**Isaiah 55:12-13;** [12] You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

[13] Instead of the thornbush will grow the pine tree, and instead of briars the myrtle will grow. This will be for the LORD's renown, for an everlasting sign, which will not be destroyed."

### Question 4

**Deuteronomy 33:17;** [17] In majesty he is like a firstborn bull; his horns are the horns of a wild ox. With them he will gore the nations, even those at the ends of the earth.

Such are the ten thousands of Ephraim;  
such are the thousands of Manasseh."

**Daniel 8:5,9;** [5] As I was thinking about this, suddenly a goat with a prominent horn between his eyes came from the west, crossing the whole earth without touching the ground. [6] He came toward the two-horned ram I had seen standing beside the canal and charged at him in great rage.

[9] Out of one of them came another horn, which started small but grew in power to the south and to the east and toward the Beautiful Land.

### Question 5B

**Psalms 21;** *For the director of music. A psalm of David.*

[21:1] O LORD, the king rejoices in your strength.

How great is his joy in the victories you give!  
[2] You have granted him the desire of his heart  
and have not withheld the request of his lips.

*Selah*

[3] You welcomed him with rich blessings  
and placed a crown of pure gold on his head.  
[4] He asked you for life, and you gave it to him—  
length of days, for ever and ever.

[5] Through the victories you gave, his glory is great;  
you have bestowed on him splendor and majesty.  
[6] Surely you have granted him eternal blessings  
and made him glad with the joy of your presence.  
[7] For the king trusts in the LORD;  
through the unfailing love of the Most High  
he will not be shaken.  
[8] Your hand will lay hold on all your enemies;  
your right hand will seize your foes.  
[9] At the time of your appearing  
you will make them like a fiery furnace.  
In his wrath the LORD will swallow them up,  
and his fire will consume them.  
[10] You will destroy their descendants from the  
earth,  
their posterity from mankind.  
[11] Though they plot evil against you  
and devise wicked schemes, they cannot succeed;  
[12] for you will make them turn their backs  
when you aim at them with drawn bow.  
[13] Be exalted, O LORD, in your strength;  
we will sing and praise your might.

## THIRD Day:

### Read Zechariah 2

#### A Man With a Measuring Line

[2:1] Then I looked up—and there before me was a man with a measuring line in his hand! [2] I asked, "Where are you going?"

He answered me, "To measure Jerusalem, to find out how wide and how long it is."

[3] Then the angel who was speaking to me left, and another angel came to meet him [4] and said to him: "Run, tell that young man, 'Jerusalem will be a city without walls because of the great number of men and livestock in it. [5] And I myself will be a wall of fire around it,' declares the LORD, 'and I will be its glory within.'

[6] "Come! Come! Flee from the land of the north," declares the LORD, "for I have scattered you to the four winds of heaven," declares the LORD.

[7] "Come, O Zion! Escape, you who live in the Daughter of Babylon!" [8] For this is what the LORD Almighty says: "After he has honored me and has

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sent me against the nations that have plundered you—for whoever touches you touches the apple of his eye— [9] I will surely raise my hand against them so that their slaves will plunder them. Then you will know that the LORD Almighty has sent me.

[10] “Shout and be glad, O Daughter of Zion. For I am coming, and I will live among you,” declares the LORD. [11] “Many nations will be joined with the LORD in that day and will become my people. I will live among you and you will know that the LORD Almighty has sent me to you. [12] The LORD will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land and will again choose Jerusalem. [13] Be still before the LORD, all mankind, because he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.”

### Question 8

**Psalm 15:1;** *A psalm of David.*

[15:1] LORD, who may dwell in your sanctuary? Who may live on your holy hill?

**Psalm 46:10;** [10] “Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”

**Habakkuk 2:20;** [20] But the LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him.”

## **FOURTH DAY:**

### **Read Zechariah 3**

#### **Clean Garments for the High Priest**

[3:1] Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right side to accuse him. [2] The LORD said to Satan, “The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this man a burning stick snatched from the fire?”

[3] Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel. [4] The angel said to those who were standing before him, “Take off his filthy clothes.”

Then he said to Joshua, “See, I have taken away your sin, and I will put rich garments on you.”

[5] Then I said, “Put a clean turban on his head.” So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him, while the angel of the LORD stood by.

[6] The angel of the LORD gave this charge to Joshua: [7] “This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘If you will walk in my ways and keep my requirements, then you will govern my house and have charge of my courts, and I will give you a place among these standing here.

[8] “Listen, O high priest Joshua and your associates seated before you, who are men symbolic of things to come: I am going to bring my servant, the Branch. [9] See, the stone I have set in front of Joshua! There are seven eyes on that one stone, and I will engrave an inscription on it,’ says the LORD Almighty, ‘and I will remove the sin of this land in a single day.

[10] “‘In that day each of you will invite his neighbor to sit under his vine and fig tree,’ declares the LORD Almighty.”

### Question 10a

**Matthew 22:11- 12;** [11] “**But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes.** [12] ‘Friend,’ he asked, ‘how did you get in here without wedding clothes?’ The man was speechless.

**2 Corinthians 5:21;** [21] God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**Ephesians 4:24;** [24] and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

**Revelation 19:7-9;** [7] Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.

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[8] Fine linen, bright and clean,  
was given her to wear.”

(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.)

[9] Then the angel said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!’” And he added, “These are the true words of God.”

### Question 11a

**Psalm 118:22;** [22] The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;

### **Isaiah 11:1-4;** The Branch From Jesse

[11:1] A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;  
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

[2] The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—  
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and of power,  
the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD—

[3] and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,  
or decide by what he hears with his ears;

[4] but with righteousness he will judge the needy,  
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.

He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;  
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

**Isaiah 28:16;** [16] So this is what the Sovereign LORD says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed.

**Jeremiah 23:5-6;** [5] “The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land.

[6] In his days Judah will be saved  
and Israel will live in safety.  
This is the name by which he will be called:  
The LORD Our Righteousness.

**Zechariah 6:12-13;** [12] Tell him this is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘Here is the man whose name is the Branch, and he will branch out from his place and build the temple of the LORD.

[13] It is he who will build the temple of the LORD, and he will be clothed with majesty and will sit and rule on his throne. And he will be a priest on his throne. And there will be harmony between the two.’

## **FIFTH DAY**

### **Read Zechariah 4**

#### **The Gold Lampstand and the Two Olive Trees**

[4:1] Then the angel who talked with me returned and wakened me, as a man is wakened from his sleep. [2] He asked me, “What do you see?”

I answered, “I see a solid gold lampstand with a bowl at the top and seven lights on it, with seven channels to the lights. [3] Also there are two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left.”

[4] I asked the angel who talked with me, “What are these, my lord?”

[5] He answered, “Do you not know what these are?”

“No, my lord,” I replied.

[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 Almighty.

[7] “What are you, O mighty mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become level ground. Then he will bring out the capstone to shouts of ‘God bless it! God bless it!’”

[8] Then the word of the LORD came to me: [9] “The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this

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temple; his hands will also complete it. Then you will know that the LORD Almighty has sent me to you.

[10] “Who despises the day of small things? Men will rejoice when they see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel.

“(These seven are the eyes of the LORD, which range throughout the earth.)”

[11] Then I asked the angel, “What are these two olive trees on the right and the left of the lampstand?”

[12] Again I asked him, “What are these two olive branches beside the two gold pipes that pour out golden oil?”

[13] He replied, “Do you not know what these are?”

“No, my lord,” I said.

[14] So he said, “These are the two who are anointed to serve the Lord of all the earth.”

### Question 14

**Zechariah 4:6b;** [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 Almighty.**

## SIXTH DAY:

### Review Zechariah 1:7-4:14

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