

BOOK OF ZECHARIAH
THE LAST WORD ON JERUSALEM-PT 1
ZECHARIAH 2:1-13

Introduction

A most important of all *political questions* today is this: **To whom does the city of JERUSALEM belong? The JEWS? The ARABS? Or both?**

I say it is a *“political question”* because *theologically* there is no question!

EAST JERUSALEM was under **JORDANIAN** rule prior to 1967. **JORDAN** had simply annexed that part of the city. Then **EAST JERUSALEM** was conquered by the **ISRAELIS** during what we know as the **SIX-DAY WAR** in 1967.

Then 15 years later in 1982, **JERUSALEM** was declared as the indivisible capital of **ISRAEL** by the **ISRAELI PARLIAMENT**. But no one recognizes **JERUSALEM** as the capital of **ISRAEL** (including our own country—except during part of **TRUMP’S** presidency). **TEL AVIV** is the recognized capital.

There have been **MANY political discussions** that have taken place among the rulers of this world about **JERUSALEM!** Also, there is a continuing battle of the so-called **PALESTINIANS** that is clearly aimed at dividing **JERUSALEM** into two capitals. The **UNITED NATIONS** has also been in favor of a division. But **THE MUSLIMS WANT ISRAEL OUT!** They claim that all of **JERUSALEM** should belong to the **ARAB** world! And they don’t just want them out of **JERUSALEM**, but they would have them to be **exterminated** or **annihilated!**

So, Who will have THE LAST WORD concerning JERUSALEM?

Well, the answer is clear from the **BIBLE** here in **2:12-13**. **GOD’S WORDS** are vitally significant concerning a solution to the **MIDDLE EAST** question! It is absolutely clear that **THE LORD WILL HAVE THE LAST WORD ON JERUSALEM AND THE NATIONS WILL BE SILENCED!** It matters not how many nations join in the discussion against **ISRAEL** and it matters not how loud or how long they may rant and rave about **ISRAEL’S ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF JERUSALEM!**

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The fact remains: JERUSALEM IS GOD’S CONCERN! The **LORD’S WORDS** in this chapter put an end to all speculation concerning the **FINAL DISPOSITION** of **ISRAEL** and **JERUSALEM!**

I. LET’S NOTICE THE MAN WITH THE MEASURING LINE. (2:1)

The first thing the **LORD** showed **ZECHARIAH** was a man with a **MEASURING LINE** with which to **MEASURE JERUSALEM**. This **LINE** being stretched forth was previously mentioned in **1:16**.

So, **Who is this man with the MEASURING LINE and what does this PROPHETIC ACT say to us?** Some scholars seem to think that this might be the pre-incarnate **MESSIAH** portrayed here. **EZEKIEL** mentions a similar person in *Ezekiel 40:2-4* with a **MEASURING REED**. Are these the same man? We don’t know and the **SCRIPTURE** here calls him *“a man”* in *verse 1*.

What we do know and can say is that just as **JESUS CHRIST** is the **ONE WHO** is the **FULL MEASURE** of **OUR REDEMPTION** and **WHO** has **CLOTHED US WITH HIS SALVATION**, so also, **HE IS** the **SALVATION** of **JERUSALEM, JUDAH, and all of ISRAEL!**

It was part of **GOD’S** plan that the **LORD JESUS** grew up as the *son of a carpenter*; we can safely assume that **HE** worked in the trade with his earthly Father. *Matthew 13:55*—*“Is not this the carpenter’s son?”*

The Greek word translated *“carpenter”* means *“builder who works with wood and stone.”* Part of the work of such a craftsman includes **measuring an object** to make calculations before construction. The old carpenter adage: *“Measure twice, cut once!”* *Isaiah 44:13*—*“The carpenter stretcheth out his rule; he marketh it out with a line; he fitteth it with planes, and he marketh it out with a compass.”*

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The **LORD JESUS CHRIST** already had experience in such things before **HIS BIRTH!** Remember, the **LORD's** questioning of **JOB** in: *Job 38:4-6*—“Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. **5 Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? 6 Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof;”**

I want you to understand that **JESUS CHRIST**, the **HEAVENLY CARPENTER**, is the **ONLY ONE** capable of recognizing and portraying the exact contours of **GOD'S COUNSEL** concerning **ISRAEL** and the **CHURCH** although **HE** can give that ability to a man if he wishes! So, if this man is **NOT** the **LORD HIMSELF**, we can be sure **HE** is instructed of the **LORD!**

II. LET'S NOTICE THE MEASURING LINE ITSELF. (2:1)

The **MEASURING LINE** is a symbol of **REBUILDING!**

In *Ezekiel 40:2-4* that we read and the verses after those, the **MEASURING REED** was shown to be used for the preparation of rebuilding **JERUSALEM** and the **TEMPLE**, for the age of the **KINGDOM!** This appears to be what *ZECHARIAH 2* here is speaking of also!

It's not about **DESTRUCTION**, but rather about **REBUILDING!**
It is not about **DIVISION**, but rather about **UNITING!**
By MEASURING it, the LORD stakes HIS CLAIM TO JERUSALEM! In fact, **HE** is making it visible to all of **ISRAEL'S** enemies!

- A. The MEASURING LINE Is A Symbol Of Indivisibility!**
- 1. The MEASURING LINE Is A Picture Of The JEWS Eternal Claim To The Land Of ISRAEL!**

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Isaiah 34:17—“And he hath cast the lot for them, and his hand hath divided it unto them by line: they shall possess it for ever, from generation to generation shall they dwell therein”

The **JEWS** will ultimately control **ALL** the land that **GOD** gave to **ABRAHAM!** (*Genesis 15:18*)

- 2. The MEASURING LINE Is According To HIS PROMISES!**

Isaiah 28:17—“Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet”

The **LORD** does not base **HIS** actions on the opinion of politicians, the media, or the masses!

The **LORD** is not swayed by the teachings of a religion, or of the writings in the *Koran*. The **LORD'S MEASURING LINE** is **HIS WORD!** (i.e. **HIS PROMISES** to **ABRAHAM, ISAAC, JACOB** and **DAVID!**)

The **LORD** will not forget nor renege on **HIS PROMISES!**

- 3. The MEASURING LINE Is True, Fast, And Will Not Change!**

The **LORD** has **MEASURED JERUSALEM** and **MEASURED** the walls around her and they are continually before **HIM**.

Isaiah 49:16—“Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me”

The Measuring Line Is A Symbol Of Indivisibility!

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- B. The MEASURING LINE Is A Symbol Of Protection!**
What is clear from *Zechariah 2:4-5* is that it is dealing with the **LORD'S** protection of **JERUSALEM** ! The **LORD** protects the city both inside and out!

MESSIAH JESUS is coming again one day in POWER and great glory and HE will set up HIS KINGDOM and make JERUSALEM its center!

Today, the battle is over **JERUSALEM**. The **GENTILE NATIONS** want the city is to be divided with the **ARABS** or to be taken from the **JEWS** entirely and given to the **ARABS**.

However, **GOD'S** answer is the exact opposite: The city is **MEASURED** in order to be rebuilt. She exists because of the **SON OF GOD, JESUS CHRIST, WHO**, at **HIS INCARNATION**, came from the house of a **CARPENTER!** As far as the **LORD** is concerned, **JERUSALEM** is indivisible!

Understand that our lives as **BELIEVERS** are also "**MEASURED**" and we are **PROTECTED by the LORD!** It matters not however much the enemy rages and tries to stake his claim to our lives! *Romans 8:31*—“...*If God be for us, who can be against us?*”

We as **BELIEVERS** are included in **GOD'S BUILDING!** The enemy has no claim to us if we have received **CHRIST** into our lives! *Ephesians 2:18-22*
Our lives are embedded in the whole measure of His love and are protected in this. This measure is described in *Ephesians 3:14-21*.