



Zechariah 11



Cedar



Bashan



Oak

Gilead



Why did God remove His favor?

- The people hated and rejected the Good Shepherd (11:8).
- They had no appreciation of His true worth (11:13).

Similarities between Zechariah & Jesus

- The majority of the people rejected them (Zech. 11:8; John 1:11), but the afflicted accepted (11:11).
- They were “worth” 30 pieces of silver—the price of a gored (pierced) dead slave or a crucified (pierced) criminal (Ex. 21:32; Mt. 26:14-15).
- The silver was thrown to the potter at the Temple / thrown to the religious leaders at the Temple; the latter bought a potter’s field with it for burying foreigners (Zech. 11:13; Mt. 27:3-10).

The Siege of Jerusalem

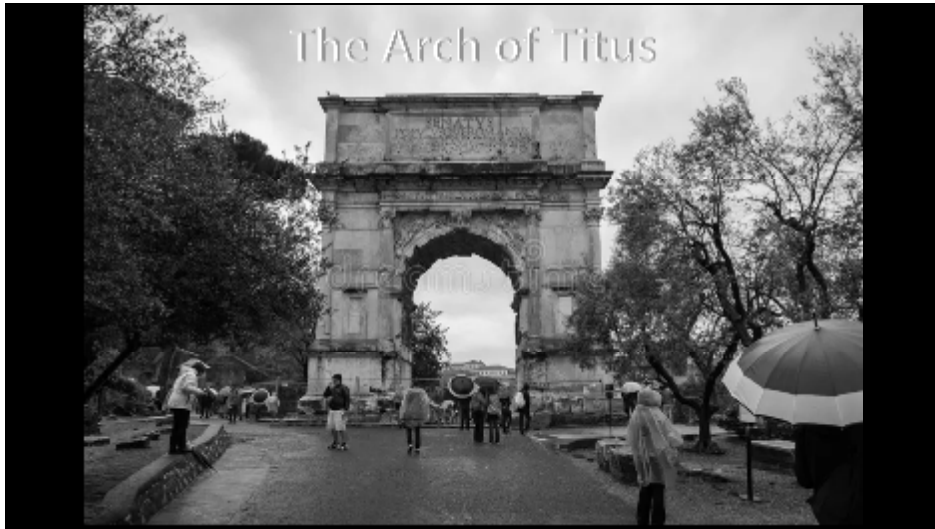
- AD 66—Roman Procurator Florus plundered the Temple, & the Jews rebelled against Rome.
- AD 70—April 14, Titus & his army approached Jerusalem 3 days before Passover—city very crowded (600,000 to 1 million people).
- Titus besieged the city while within the city two factions led by Simon & John fought each other.

The Siege of Jerusalem

- After months of siege, the people were starving, but the two warlords inside the city were also abusing them—murder, plunder, torture, and even cannibalism.
- After 5 months of siege, the Temple was plundered & burned in September of AD 70, with soldiers even prying apart the stones to get the molten gold. Hundreds of thousands of Jews died.

Jesus Predicts the Temple’s Destruction

Then, as some spoke of the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and donations, He said, “These things which you see—the days will come in which not one stone shall be left upon another that shall not be thrown down” (Luke 21:5-6).



The False Shepherd (11:15-17)

- He doesn't care for the Jewish people and doesn't care that they are dying.
- He will not try to find the lost ones or heal the broken ones or sustain the healthy.
- Instead, he will eat the sheep & destroy them down to their hooves.
- He is a selfish person who cares only about himself & no one else.

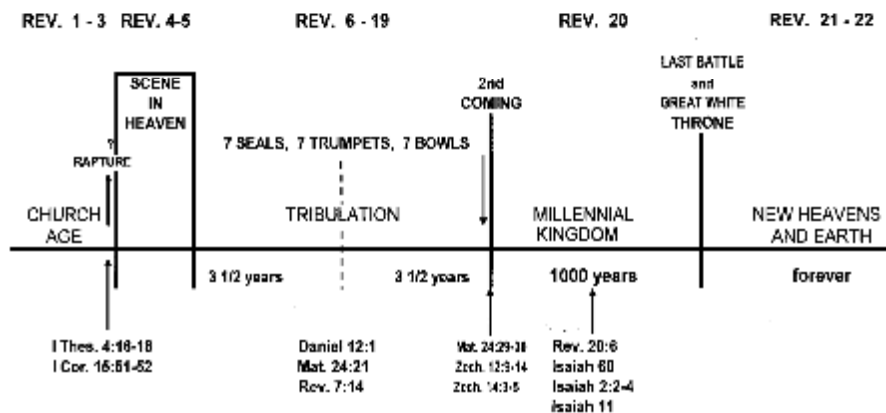
The False Shepherd—The Antichrist

- Revelation 13 describes the Antichrist & his false prophet.
- The people worship these two.
- The Antichrist speaks arrogant & blasphemous words, persecutes God's followers, & succeeds in harming them.
- He has authority over the whole earth and is worshipped by those who don't follow God.
- He will have this authority for 3.5 years before God destroys him.

Why Does God Raise Up the False Shepherd?

- Judgment of the wicked—people chose to delight in wickedness and to reject God's truth.
- Holy Spirit no longer restraining evil
- Satan running rampant
- People being deceived
- UNTIL GOD PUTS A STOP TO ALL OF IT—AND ALL IT WILL TAKE IS HIS WORD (Rev. 19:21).

CHRONOLOGY CHART FOR REVELATION



Lessons:

- Jesus is the Good Shepherd. Have you accepted Him? Are you following Him?
- Rejecting Jesus has dire consequences that are eternal.
- God knows what will happen in the future. His prophecies are accurate.
- God will ultimately defeat all evil.