

Psalm passage, that *“As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings: So the LORD alone did lead him...”* (Deuteronomy 32:11,12). The section of Scripture also states *“...The Lord’s portion is His people...”* (Deuteronomy 32: 9). Great promises of the Lord’s watch-care over His people are all through this song.

It is this writer’s opinion that the most important section of Scripture describing God’s chosen people with the term “the apple of his eye” is in the book of the prophet Zechariah. In Zechariah 1:16 the Lord proclaims, *“...I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies: my house shall be built in it, ... and a line shall be stretched forth upon Jerusalem.”*



The teaching here is that a survey will be taken one day of the city to determine the possibility of holding masses of people. In Zechariah 2 there is a vision of a measuring line. It is used to measure Jerusalem. Evidently the measurement is to make sure that Jerusalem is large enough to contain the inhabitants who will enter into it. God says that there will be a day when the population into Jerusalem will be so large the walls can not contain them. On that day God will be a wall of fire around the city to protect it. There was a short-term prophetic fulfillment under Ezra and Nehemiah. This section has an event that goes beyond that period. In Israel, recent history reveals ups and downs for its population. The capital city of Jerusalem is about 49 square miles. There are 19,000 residents in Jerusalem per square mile. A basic tenet of the Zionist view is to return or go up to Jerusalem. Although there is growth in this tiny nation the Zechariah passage is reminding us of another day that is in the future. This section is speaking of a different day when the Messiah of Israel shall reign and rule in the city. On that day the exiles will return. *“Deliver thyself, O Zion, that dwellest with the daughter of Babylon.”* (Zechariah 2:7). One day the nations of the world will join with Israel and sing; *“Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the Lord.”* (Zechariah 2: 10). Verse 11 makes it clear that many nations will come. The nations will be drawn to the area because of a king who will rule. They will join this day. Verse 12 is the only place in Scripture that the land is spoken of as the holy land. Jerusalem shall be chosen again as the special spot. Jerusalem is the

greatest city in the world and the Messiah, our Yeshua, will come and reign from this place. In verse seven the prophet declares the seriousness of the teaching. *“After the glory hath He sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that touches you touches the apple of His eye.”* (Zechariah 2:8). Israel is the apple of God’s eye! We are to bless them.

There are three important, up-to-date thoughts, that must be added based on the Zechariah teachings. First, I was very proud of my president when he moved the American embassy to Jerusalem. This was an act of recognizing the holy city of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.



May 14, 2018 – Prime Minister Netanhahu at Dedication of New U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem!

This is in accord with the wishes of our Lord as they are recorded in Zechariah 2. Although the move upset the Arab world, the move to put the consular building now in the Arnona area is consistent with the covenants God made with Israel. Secondly, the land deeded from the covenants of God are to be in the possession of the Jewish people. No one has any right to them as they belong to the Jews. The land is theirs! Third, there is a Messiah who made His way to the earth through the little town of Bethlehem. (Micah 5:2; New Covenant - Matthew 1). The prophet Isaiah is very clear in chapter 53 about the position of this one as king, prophet, priest, and lord of all. He is Jesus the Christ who was raised in Nazareth and ministered in this little section of the world teaching us that He is the Son of God. The growth of His little movement now claims nearly one-third of the world’s population.

The idea of being “the apple of the eye” has multiple meanings. Prior to speaking at the Peace For Israel gathering in Davie, Florida, I was preparing some notes on the subject while staying at my son-in-law’s and daughter’s home when one of my granddaughters came into the room. The twelve year old hopped up next to me and we had a nice talk. As I looked at her I sensed she was the apple of my eye and I began to realize how God must look at His people. We who have trusted Him are the apple of His eye. That is a nice place to be. All who have come to Israel’s God through Yeshua the Savior have been grafted into the family of God and we are seen through the eyes of God as the apple of His eye! This is the decree of the Almighty. What a beautiful position to be in.