

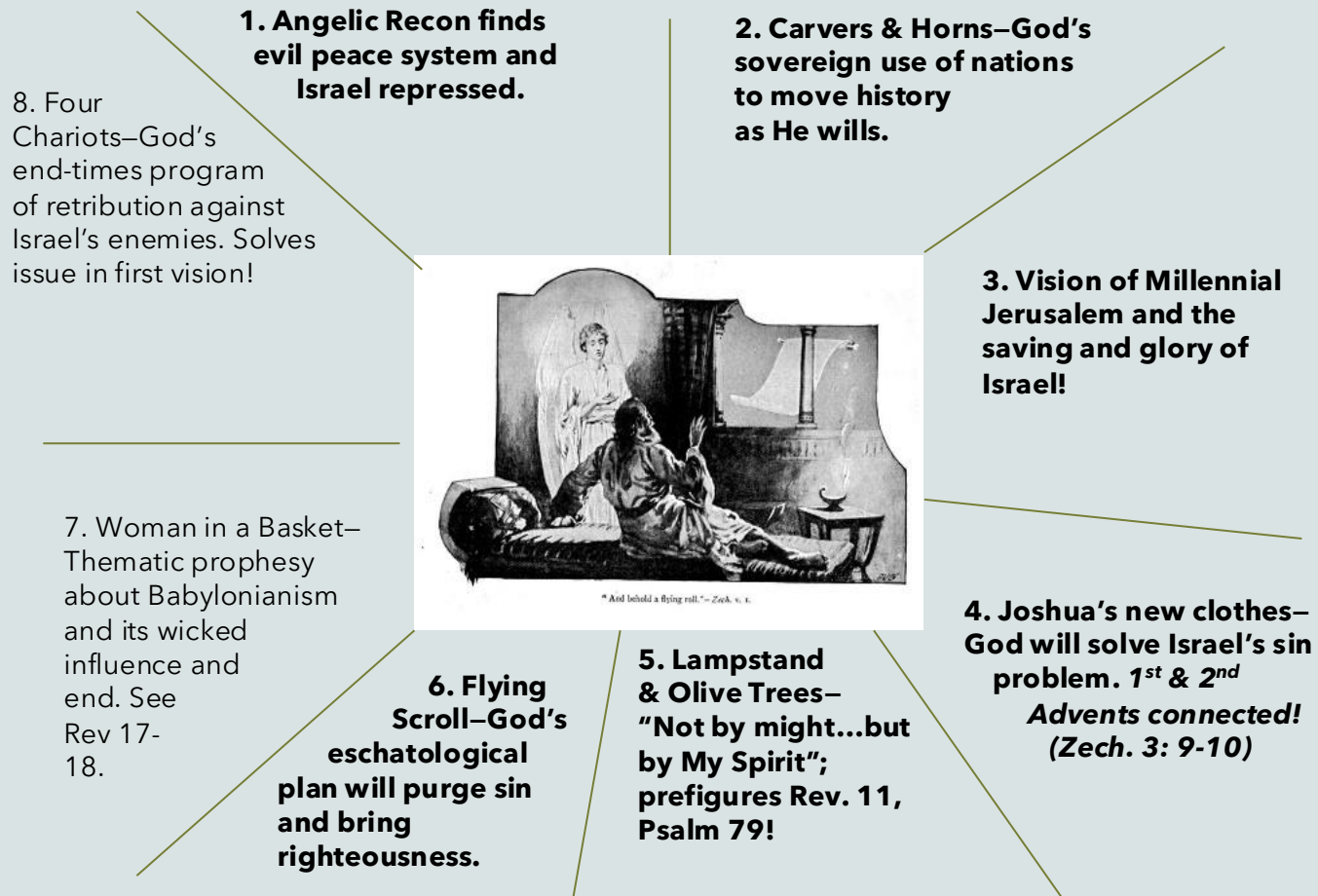
Zechariah 5:5 – 7:7

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The Story So Far in Zechariah

Zechariah's 8 Visions: Chapter 1:7 - 6:8



Zechariah 5: 5-6

- **Then the angel who talked with me came out and said to me, "Lift your eyes now, and see what this is that goes forth." So I asked, "What is it?" And he said, "It is an ephah that is going forth." He also said, "This is their appearance throughout the earth."**

Zechariah 5: 7-8

- **“Here is a lead disc lifted up, and this is a woman sitting inside the basket”; then he said, “This is Wickedness!” And he thrust her down into the basket, and threw the lead stone over its mouth.**



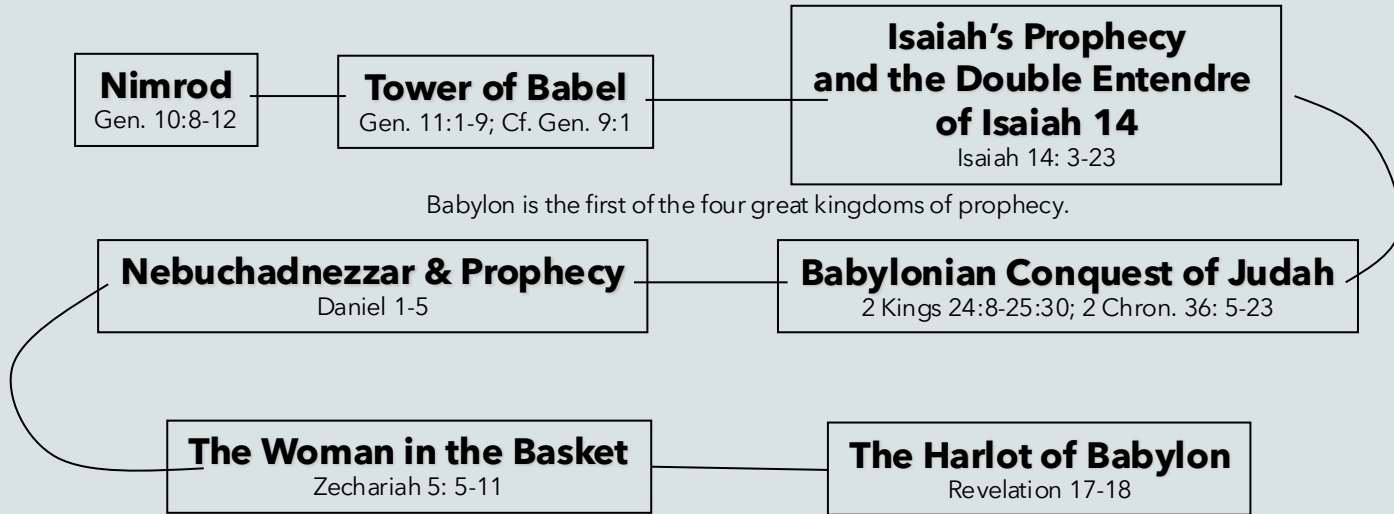
Zechariah 5: 9-11

- **Then I raised my eyes and looked, and there were two women, coming with the wind in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork, and they lifted up the basket between earth and heaven. So I said to the angel who talked with me, "Where are they carrying the basket?" And he said to me, "To build a house for it in the land of Shinar; when it is ready, the basket will be set there on its base."**

Brief Summary of The Seventh Vision

- The vision appears to be an ephah at first—but it's much more than that.
- The ephah appears to be neither good nor evil at first—but it is actually hiding wickedness.
- God has a sovereign plan to deal with this wickedness, but its fulfillment is in the future.
- Eventually, wickedness will have a permanent residence in the "land between two rivers."

The Babylonian Thread



Revelation 17: 3-6—The Woman on the Beast

- So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication. And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.



Revelation 17: 15-18

- Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues. And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."

Revelation 18: 1-3—Sin of BABYLON

- After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury."

Revelation 18: 4-8—Boasting of BABYLON

- And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues. For **her sins have reached to heaven**, and God has remembered her iniquities. Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her. In the measure that **she glorified herself** and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, 'I **sit** as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.' Therefore her plagues will come in one day—death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her."
- Cf. Genesis 11: 4--"Come, let us build ourselves a **city**, and a tower **whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered** abroad over the face of the whole earth."

Revelation 18: 9-10—*Political Response*

- “The kings of the earth who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her will weep and lament for her, when they see the smoke of her burning, standing at a distance for fear of her torment, saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come.’

Revelation 18: 11-19—*Economic Response*

- “And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, for no one buys their merchandise anymore: merchandise of gold and silver, precious stones and pearls, fine linen and purple, silk and scarlet, every kind of citron wood, every kind of object of ivory, every kind of object of most precious wood, bronze, iron, and marble; and cinnamon and incense, fragrant oil and frankincense, wine and oil, fine flour and wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and bodies and souls of men. The fruit that your soul longed for has gone from you, and all the things which are rich and splendid have gone from you, and you shall find them no more at all. The merchants of these things, who became rich by her, will stand at a distance for fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, and saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city that was clothed in fine linen, purple, and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls! For in one hour such great riches came to nothing.’ Every shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea, stood at a distance and cried out when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, ‘What is like this great city?’ They threw dust on their heads and cried out, weeping and wailing, and saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city, in which all who had ships on the sea became rich by her wealth! For in one hour she is made desolate.’

Revelation 18: 20-19: 4—*Divine Response*

- **“Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her!”** Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, **“Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore.** The sound of harpists, musicians, flutists, and trumpeters shall not be heard in you anymore. No craftsman of any craft shall be found in you anymore, and the sound of a millstone shall not be heard in you anymore. The light of a lamp shall not shine in you anymore, and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you anymore. *For your merchants were the great men of the earth,* for by your sorcery all the nations were deceived. And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth.”
- After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, **“Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God! For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her.”** Again they said, “Alleluia! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!” And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sat on the throne, saying, “Amen! Alleluia!”

Humanism

- Humanism is a philosophical and ethical stance that **emphasizes the value and agency of human beings**, individually and collectively, and generally prefers critical thinking and evidence (rationalism and empiricism) over acceptance of dogma or superstition.
- In modern times, humanist movements are typically non-religious movements aligned with secularism, and today humanism typically refers to a nontheistic life stance centered on human agency and **looking to science rather than revelation from a supernatural source to understand the world**.

Historical effects of humanism

- People began to move out of the social classes and the feudal system began to break down.
- People began to move to the cities and start businesses and support themselves.
- The middle class emerged, there are now wealthy merchants who can afford and purchase expensive goods.
- Writing and reading became useful in daily life.
- More consumer goods were being made due to independent businesses.
- Painters were now being supported through patrons, who were wealthy merchants who bought the paintings and sold them.
- People found out that they could change their lives, where they work and live.
- People developed individual and independent lives.
- Humanism became the foundational philosophy that led to democratic liberalism, civil and human rights, and capitalism.

Where in the world is the Harlot?

- Several Theories
 - *Where Ancient Babylon is*
 - *Rome/Europe itself*
 - *USA*

Summary of the HUMANISM of the Babylonian Thread

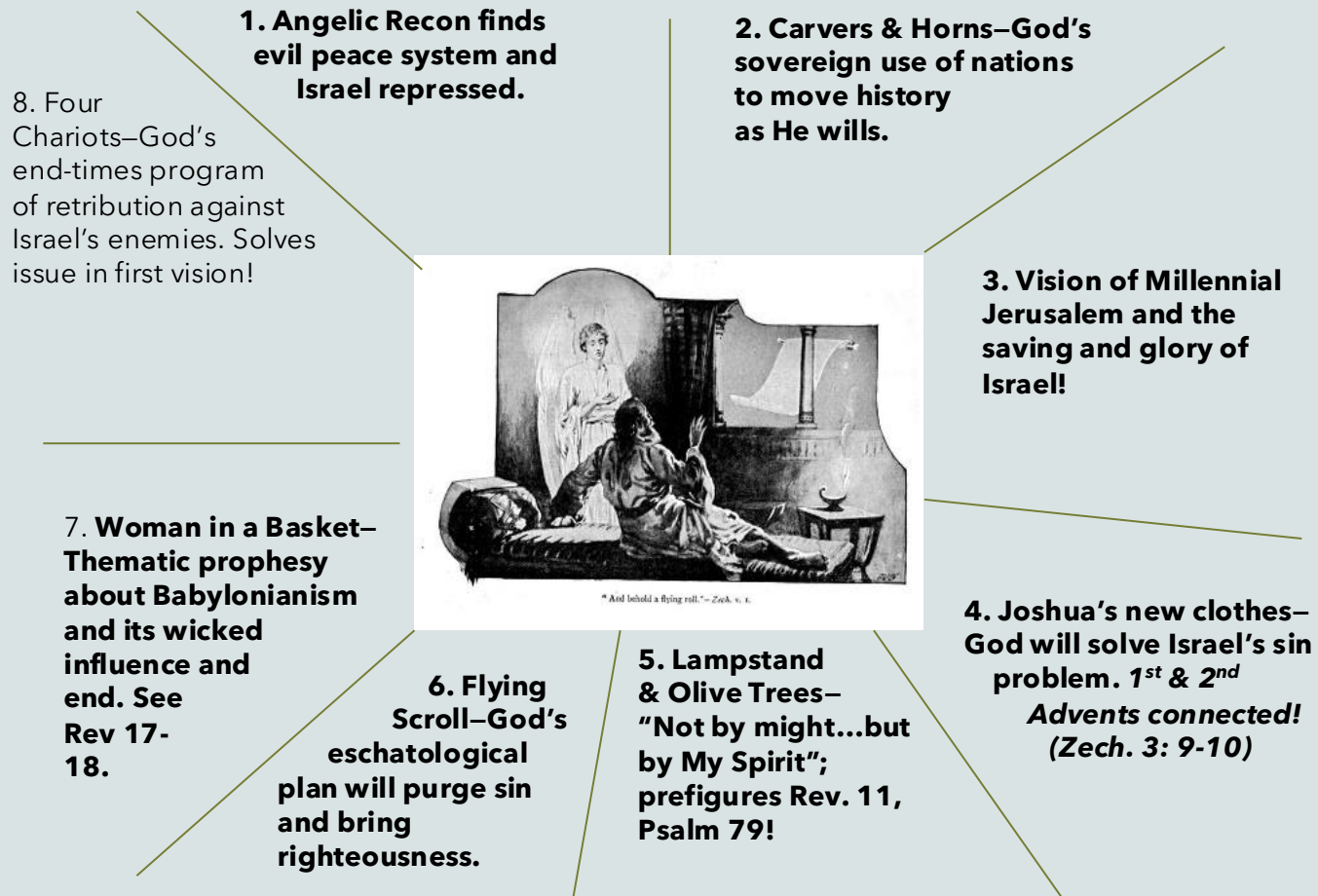
- The Babylonian Thread in scripture is easily connected with humanistic enterprise—Nimrod, Tower of Babel, boasting of the Harlot.
- Thus, “Babylonianism” is a form of idolatry that worships mankind.
- In modern history, this evolved from ancient Roman *humanitas* into the humanism of the Renaissance. (Links ancient Rome to modern history to eschaton.)
- On the surface, it appears virtuous. It’s about education, self-improvement, rationalism, science, compassion for others, the greatness of human achievement, democracy, and capitalism.
- The Renaissance church allied with humanism, but at its root, humanism is godless and atheistic.

Summary of Possible Location of Babylon in the Eschaton

- When the Ten Horns surrender sovereignty to the Beast and comply with his state-driven economics, European humanism, democracy, liberalism, and capitalism are dead. (The philosophical death of the Harlot.)
- Geographically, the one remaining bastion of humanism will likely be the post-Rapture United States of America (one theory)—likely one of the Beast’s two remaining economic competitors. (The other is possibly China.)
- Rejecting the tyranny and economic plan of the Beast, the US (or other theory proposed)—the political and geographical expression of “Babylon” in the eschaton—is destroyed by Europe, perhaps in a preemptive nuclear strike. (The political and physical death of the Harlot.)
- With humanism destroyed, both physically and philosophically, what remains is the standoff between the Satan-possessed Beast and Jesus Christ: the Angel-Man vs. the God-Man.

The Story So Far in Zechariah

Zechariah's 8 Visions: Chapter 1:7 – 6:8



Zechariah 6: 1-3

- **Then I turned and raised my eyes and looked, and behold, four chariots were coming from between two mountains, and the mountains were mountains of bronze. With the first chariot were red horses, with the second chariot black horses, with the third chariot white horses, and with the fourth chariot dappled horses—strong steeds.**

Zechariah 6: 4-5

- **Then I answered and said to the angel who talked with me,
“What are these, my lord?” And the angel answered and said to me,
“These are four spirits of heaven, who go out from their station before the
Lord of all the earth.”**

Zechariah 6: 6

- **“The one with the black horses is going to the north country, the white are going after them, and the dappled are going toward the south country.”**

Zechariah 6: 7-8

- **Then the strong steeds went out, eager to go, that they might walk to and fro throughout the earth. And He said, "Go, walk to and fro throughout the earth." So they walked to and fro throughout the earth. And He called to me, and spoke to me, saying, "See, those who go toward the north country have given rest to My Spirit in the north country."**

Zechariah 6: 9-11

- **Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying: "Receive the gift from the captives—from Heldai, Tobijah, and Jedaiah, who have come from Babylon—and go the same day and enter the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah. Take the silver and gold, make (an) elaborate crown(s), and set it on the head of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest."**

The Danger of a Crown

- Scan Ezra 4—this is the context of the crowning of Joshua! The enemies of Israel are searching for some way to break the relationship between the Persian King and the Jews. Here is their opportunity.
- Rebuilding the Temple can be perceived as the first act of rebellion, because it re-establishes the worship of a non-Persian deity.
- Rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem would be next, because they would give Israel impunity.
- Crowning a Jewish ruler would be the final act of rebellion.

Crown Whom?!?



King
David



Solomon
Rehoboam
Abijah
Asa
Jehoshaphat
Jehoram
Ahaziah
(Athaliah)
Joash
Amaziah
Uzziah
Jotham

Ahaz
Hezekiah
Manasseh
Amon
Josiah
Jehoahaz
Jehoiakim
**Jehoiachin (cursed
by God in
Jeremiah)**
Zedekiah...
Zerubbabel
(grandson of
Jehoiachin, aka
Coniah
And Jeconiah)

Zerubbabel
Or
Joshua?



High Priest Aaron



Eleazar
Phinehas (son of Eleazar - famous for his zeal for the
house of the Lord - Num 25)
Abishua
Bukki
Uzzi
Zerahiah
Meraioth
Amariah
Ahitub
Zadok - Faithful HP; loyal to David & Solomon; They are
blessed for this and will minister in the Millennial temple
(Ez 40-44)
Ahimaaz
Azariah
Johanan
Azariah
Amariah
Ahitub
Zadok
Shallum
Hilkiah
Azariah
Seraiah
Jehozadak (aka Jozadak)

Joshua - ((descendant of Zadok))

Zechariah 6: 12-13

- **"Then speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying:
'Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH! From His place He shall branch out, And He shall build the temple of the LORD;
Yes, He shall build the temple of the LORD.
He shall bear the glory,
And shall sit and rule on His throne;
So He shall be a priest on His throne,
And the counsel of peace shall be between them both.'"**

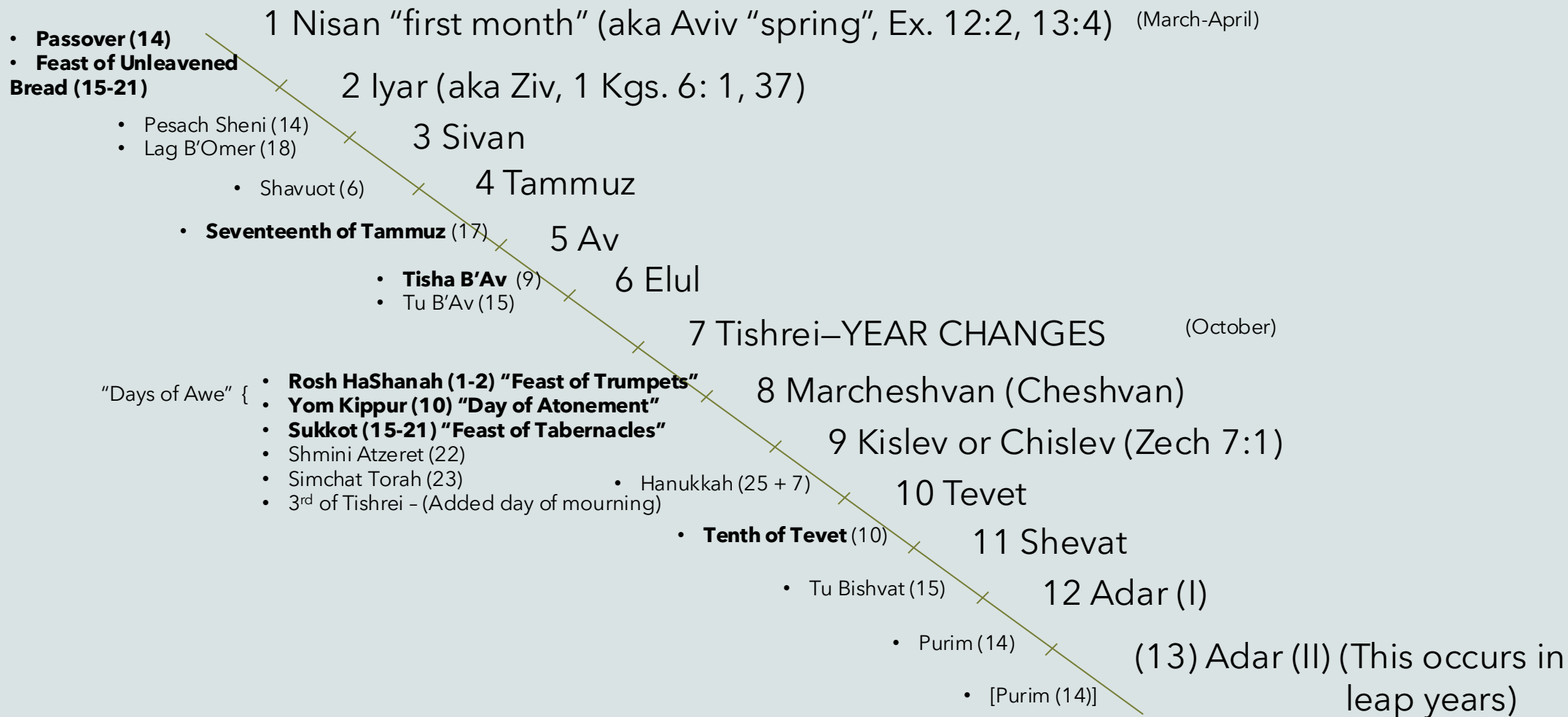
Zechariah 6: 14-15

- **“Now the elaborate crown shall be for a memorial in the temple of the LORD for Helem, Tobijah, Jedaiah, and Hen the son of Zephaniah. Even those from afar shall come and build the temple of the LORD. Then you shall know that the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you. And this shall come to pass if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God.”**

Zechariah 7: 1

- **Now in the fourth year of King Darius it came to pass that the word of the LORD came to Zechariah, on the fourth day of the ninth month, Chislev...**

Jewish Calendar and Holidays



Zechariah 7: 2-3

- **...when the people sent Sherezer, with Regem-Melech and his men, to the house of God, to pray before the LORD, and to ask the priests who were in the house of the LORD of hosts, and the prophets, saying, "Should I weep in the fifth month and fast as I have done for so many years?"**

The Four Fasts

- **10th Month**: The tenth day of the Hebrew month of Tevet, is in mourning of the siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylonia—an event that began on that date and ultimately culminated in the destruction of Solomon's Temple (the First Temple), downfall of the Kingdom of Judah, and the Babylonian exile of the Jewish people.
- **4th Month**: The Seventeenth of Tammuz is a Jewish fast day commemorating the breach of the walls of Jerusalem before the destruction of the Second Temple.
- **5th Month**: The Ninth of Tisha B'Av is an annual fast day in Judaism, on which a number of disasters in Jewish history occurred, primarily the destruction of both Solomon's Temple by the Neo-Babylonian Empire and the Second Temple by the Roman Empire in Jerusalem.
- **7th Month**:

The 3rd of Tishrei - Commemorates the assassination of Gedaliah

The Day of Atonement was the only fast commanded in the Law of Moses (Lev. 16:29; Lev. 23: 27-32).

Zechariah 7: 4-7

- **Then the word of the LORD of hosts came to me, saying, "Say to all the people of the land, and to the priests: 'When you fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh months during those seventy years, did you really fast for Me—for Me? When you eat and when you drink, do you not eat and drink for yourselves? Should you not have obeyed the words which the LORD proclaimed through the former prophets when Jerusalem and the cities around it were inhabited and prosperous, and the Negev and the Lowland were inhabited?' "**