

Richard Todd Merz serving Christ meaning maturing each day / this occurs through study and then living!! Scripture, the most accurate book on the planet written over 1,500 years by an approximate (give or take a few per the dictionary) 40 authors [MOD 1 applied January 16, 2022]

## APPLIED FORMAT ZECHARIAH CHAPTER 11

Scripture passage included then commentary underneath each verse King James Version (KJV)

Verse (1): Open thy doors, O Lebanon, that the fire may devour thy cedars.

There is a change that occurs here in Chapter 11, after a sizeable amount of worldly success the bulk of the Jewish Nation rejected the Christ (Henry, 2008). God is preparing them for the ruin (Henry, 2008).

There are two views:

1. Some view this as the temple because the cedars came from Lebanon that built the temple and the Romans burnt it (Henry, 2008).
2. Some view this as Jerusalem or the whole land of Canaan because Lebanon was a Northern entry point enabling the attackers to come into the land (Henry, 2008).

Henry, Matthew. (2008). *Matthew henry's commentary on the whole bible*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers Marketing, LLC.

Notice here, God specifically addresses the self-proclaimed Great to prepare them for the humbling in advance. God sends advanced warnings to the self-proclaimed Great to ready themselves for the humbling that will come. The humbling of the self-proclaimed Great is guaranteed through trials and tribulations.

**In this case, the self-proclaimed Great were too far down the road for God not to release His Holy judgment / the sooner the self-proclaimed Great humble themselves the better. As we learned together, creation itself did not rise above being very good in Genesis 1:31; therefore only God is Great, and He imparts greatness in some instances only.**

**We learned together that those who have passed on to eternity who are in God are Great because in eternity God makes all things Great in Hebrews 12:1-2: The Great Cloud of Witnesses. In God's name there is a stronghold that cannot be denied because that means God would deny Himself and that is simply not going to happen.**

Verse (2): Howl, fir tree; for the cedar is fallen; because the mighty are spoiled: howl, O ye oaks of Bashan; for the forest of the vintage is come down.

God makes it noticeably clear that the consequences of not spending time on humbleness results in the words **"Fallen and the mighty are Spoiled"**.

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There is a ripple effect because God starts with the highest and works downward weeding out Pride throughout the ranks. But God is truly clear, God starts with the highest. Notice here, “Cedar Tree is fallen so Howl Fir Tree”. The Oaks of Bashan are not safe.

Make no mistake about it, the mighty Pride/Spoiled fall first. Once the mighty fall, no rank that has Pride is safe. If God needs to interject, God will be very thorough.

Lebanon, for illustration, had guarded forests and even this would not be safe (Henry, 2008).


Henry, Matthew. (2008). *Matthew henry's commentary on the whole bible*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers Marketing, LLC.

It is noted that the remorse, admission, and reconciliation of just a few can save a Nation, but the consequences are lasting with rebirth still possible for the non-obliterated in Revelation 21:24 (King James Version).

Verse (3): There is a voice of the howling of the shepherds; for their glory is spoiled: a voice of the roaring of young lions; for the pride of Jordan is spoiled.



Verse (3) continues the learning about humbleness. A Shephard is to oversee the flock, but here we see the Shephard's glory is lost. Why? **The Shephard's are spoiled, and they know they are spoiled.**



**When power is allowed to spoil through not curbing oneself, then the spoiling is impossible to stop. The Howling of the spoiled is voiced because they could not stop their pride and they knew the punishment and the humbling were not only on the horizon but were, in fact, upon them.**



**The spoiled know they are spoiled and know they need to curb pride, but cannot.**

Pride brought Satan down from heaven to earth and from the earth to Hell and the Lake of Fire. Satan walks to and from the whole earth seeking whom he may devour as a result. Satan looks for pride and helps anyone cesspool in it.

Reference Isaiah 14:13-15 “The 5 – I Statements” of Satan.

Reference First Peter 5:8 “Satan seeks to destroy”.

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Verse (4): Thus saith the LORD my God; Feed the flock of the slaughter;

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**Notice how the LORD is in fact accentuated and empowers to “Feed the flock”.**

**“MY” is joined with God because in God is the victory. Here is the truth, God makes His eternal spirit one with your spirit eternally secure.**

**Reference: Romans 8:16 – “The spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God” (King James Version).**

**Reference: First Corinthians 6:17 – “But he that is joined unto the LORD is one spirit” (King James Version).**

**The verse is truly clear, “My God”.**

**The Question is what is on the other side of your “MY \_\_\_\_\_”. Fill in the blank.**

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Verse (5): Whose possessors slay them, and hold themselves not guilty: and they that sell them say, Blessed be the LORD; for I am rich: and their own shepherds pity them not.

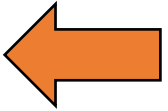
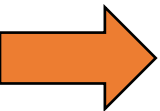
**Notice closely that the offenders will not hold themselves accountable. Therefore, they must be called out and brought into account.**

**Do not wait on the offenders to admit guilt; instead, hold them into account. The reason this is critical is because the offenders are willing to purposefully inflict upon others unjustifiably to self-justify in a self-seeking attempt to lift themselves up.**

**In fact, the terminology in research about this very matter in Scripture uses the word phraseology remarkably like perfect oppression (Henry, 2008).**

Henry, Matthew. (2008). *Matthew henry’s commentary on the whole bible*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers Marketing, LLC.

**The leaders responsible for the flock became oppressors of the flock arrogantly so and reaching for the heights in the process. So, not just oppressing but also reaching for the heights without any expectancy of accountability upon them.**



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Verse (6): For I will no more pity the inhabitants of the land, saith the LORD: but, lo, I will deliver the men every one into his neighbour's hand, and into the hand of his king: and they shall smite the land, and out of their hand I will not deliver them.

**The verse (6) offering will bring this section on humbleness to a close and the wrath of God. What is discovered in this verse is that God has no pity on His own because they are deemed to be worse than those who flat out reject God with the judgment being relentless.**

**God will not deliver in such cases. In fact, the unfaithful will be entrenched in their own iniquities with problem upon problem upon problem.**

Verse (7): And I will feed the flock of slaughter, even you, O poor of the flock. And I took unto me two staves; the one I called Beauty, and the other I called Bands; and I fed the flock.

**There are two primary points:**

**1. Beauty who is Jesus Christ was betrayed for a mere 30 pieces of silver or graciousness torn (Scofield, 1996).**

Scofield, C. I. (1996). *The scofield study bible*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

**2. Bands is union or unity broken for a period of the purpose to reunite Judah and Israel (Scofield, 1996).**

Scofield, C. I. (1996). *The scofield study bible*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Verse (8): Three shepherds also I cut off in one month; and my soul lothed them, and their soul also abhorred me.

**Building off Verse (7), there is one of two roads in life. There are no further roads.**

**1. Either with God or**

**2. Against God.**

**In this context, God cuts off the wayward shepherds. The dictionary describes disgust or hate using the words either “lothed” in the verse or “loathed” in the dictionary or “abhorred”. God and the wayward shepherds mutually were disgusted, and the shepherds hated as the only road because there are only two roads.**

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**Notice who has the upper hand, God cut off the shepherds in 1 month. God will always have the upper hand. The reason is because God owns all the souls reference Ezekiel 18:4.**

**Ezekiel 18:4: “Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die” (King James Version).**

Verse (9): Then said I, I will not feed you: that that dieth, let it die; and that that is to be cut off, let it be cut off; and let the rest eat every one the flesh of another.

**To build further, God did cut off the shepherds. God alone has the authority to decide when the soul will be cut off.**

**God can do this because God alone owns all the souls. Notice that there is always a fallout when God must cut the wayward soul off. The flock took the brunt of the wayward shepherds.**

Verse (10): And I took my staff, even Beauty, and cut it asunder, that I might break my covenant which I had made with all the people.

**The breaking of the staff was to break the covenant God made with the people with the Jewish Church having its glory removed that the Kingdom of God would be given to another and broke the staff of Beauty (Henry, 2008).**

Matthew. (2008). *Matthew henry’s commentary on the whole bible*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers Marketing, LLC.

**Beauty is Jesus Christ (Scofield, 1996).**

Scofield, C. I. (1996). *The scofield study bible*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

**Today, we have the Universal Church.**

Verse (11): And it was broken in that day: and so the poor of the flock that waited upon me knew that it was the word of the LORD.

**The poor of the flock was the remnant of faithful who remained faithful because they believed The Christ at His first coming - they just believed standing true in modern times (Scofield, 1996).**

Scofield, C. I. (1996). *The scofield study bible*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

**Again, This Ministry Website Owner cannot emphasize more the critical nature of the “Rebuilt Joint Israel.”**

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Verse (12): And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver.

**The value placed upon eternal life was just 30 pieces of silver – clearly the thoughts were not good.**

**Just 30 pieces of silver to sell eternal life was the cost of an ordinary slave (Henry, 2008).**

**Notice this, Judas did not keep the money and the Chief Priests did not want to take the money back (Henry, 2008). So, they laid it in the Potter's Field as an instantaneous Chief Priests act of the foreknowledge of God (Henry, 2008).**

Matthew. (2008). *Matthew henry's commentary on the whole bible*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers Marketing, LLC.

Verse (13): And the LORD said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was prised at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the LORD.

**Refer to Verse (12).**

Verse (14): Then I cut asunder mine other staff, even Bands, that I might break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.

**Refer to Verses (7 through 13).**

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Verse (15): And the LORD said unto me, Take unto thee yet the instruments of a foolish shepherd.

**God directed to act as a foolish Shepherd because that is what God was going to place over them for their foolishness – instead of a true Shepherd they got a foolish Shepherd (Henry, 2008).**

Matthew. (2008). *Matthew henry's commentary on the whole bible*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers Marketing, LLC.

Verse (16): For, lo, I will raise up a shepherd in the land, which shall not visit those that be cut off, neither shall seek the young one, nor heal that that is broken, nor feed that that standeth still: but he shall eat the flesh of the fat, and tear their claws in pieces.

**This verse explains what a false Shepherd is, they help no one. For those that are well to do in life, yes, the false shepherd will also take away from them. They help no one.**

Verse (17): Woe to the idol shepherd that leaveth the flock! The sword shall be upon his arm, and upon his right eye: his arm shall be clean dried up, and his right eye shall be utterly darkened.

**This verse is discussing that the right eye will be on the wrong side of life not seeking the matters of being a Shepherd who tends unto the flock, but instead will let the flock flounder without any care.**

**The Shepherds the right eye is essential in Scripture, is it the one that cares for the eternal soul or the one that will be on darkness. Here in this verse, the idol Shepherds right eye was on darkness.**

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