

The Coming King

Zechariah 9

Psalm 72

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As predicted by the prophet Ezekiel two hundred fifty years earlier, the powerful and wealthy Phoenician city of Tyre was finally overthrown. Tyre was on an island and was heavily fortified. She had withstood attack from many enemies until now. Damascus, the capital of Aram, also fell, as did all the major Philistine cities. The remnant of the Philistine population was absorbed into Judah. Many converted to Judaism and began to observe the Law of Moses. But throughout all this conquest, the city of Jerusalem and the Temple of God remained unscathed.

A prophet spoke to the people of Israel:

Rejoice! Shout for joy! Your Messiah is coming to you! He is triumphant and victorious, yet he is humble and riding on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

He will bring justice and righteousness. He will defend the innocent. He will comfort the distressed. He will care for the poor and needy.

His domain will be sprawling – from sea to sea, to the ends of the earth. His lordship will never end. All the nations of the earth will be blessed through him, and he will be honored everywhere.

Your long-time enemies will be powerless in the face of his gentle loving-kindness. They will find his peacefulness insurmountable.

By his blood he will free you from whatever prison you find yourself in. Then you may return to a life of hope and be more prosperous than you had ever thought possible.

On that day the Lord your God will save you as a shepherd saves his flock. In the Lord's eyes you will be beautiful, like the jewels sparkling in a crown.