

Fourth Book Of EZRA





YAHWEH's Congregation
At Jefferson

All praise unto our Father YAHWEH for His bountiful
blessings unto the saints at Victory Community.

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[YAHWEH's Sword](#)

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EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1 1

The Genealogy Of Ezra

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:1 The second book of the prophet Ezra, the son of SaraiYah, the son of AzariYah, the son of HilkiYah, the son of Shallum, the son of Zadok, the son of Ahitub,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:2 The son of AhiYah, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, the son of AmariYah, the son of AzariYah, son of Meraioth, son of Arna, son of Uzzi, son of Borith, son of Abishua, son of Phinehas, son of Eleazar,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:3 The son of Aaron, of the tribe of Levi; which was captive in the land of the Medes, in the reign of Artaxerxes king of the Persians.

Ezra's Prophetic Call

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:4 And the Word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:5 Go and declare to MY people their sinful deeds, and their children their wickedness which they have done against ME; that they may tell their children's children: • Isa 58:1.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:6 Because the sins of their fathers are increased in them: for they have forgotten ME, and have offered to strange gods.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:7 Was it not I who brought them out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage? But they have angered ME and despised MY counsels.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:8 Pull out the hair of your head and hurl all evils upon them, for they have not obeyed MY Torah, they are a rebellious people.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:9 How long shall I forbear them, on whom I have bestowed such great tov benefits?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:10 For their sake I have overthrown many

kings; I struck down Pharaoh with his servants, and all his army. • Ex 14:2.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:11 I have destroyed all nations before them, and scattered in the east the people of two provinces, Tyre and Sidon;" I have slain all their enemies.

Summary Of YAHWEH's Mercies To Yisrael

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:12 But speak to them, saying, Thus declares YAHWEH,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:13 Surely it was I who led you through the sea, and made safe the highways for where you were there was no road; I gave you Mosheh for a leader, and Aaron for a kohen. • Isa 58:1; Ex 14:29

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:14 I gave Light for you from a pillar of fire, and did great wonders among you; yet have you forgotten ME, declares YAHWEH. • Ex 13:21

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:15 Thus says YAHWEH ALMIGHTY, The quails were for a sign to you; I gave you tents for your safeguard: nevertheless in them you murmured complained, • Ex 16:13.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:16 And triumphed not in MY NAME at the destruction of your enemies, but even to this day you still murmur and complain.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:17 Where are the benefits which I bestowed on you? When you were hungry and thirsty in the wilderness, did you not cry to ME, • Neh 14:3

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:18 Saying, Why have YOU led us into this wilderness to kill us? It had been better for us to have served the Egyptians than to die in this wilderness.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:19 Then had I pity upon your mournings, and gave you manna to eat; so you ate the bread of malakim. • Ps 78:25

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:20 When you were thirsty, did I not cleave the rock so that waters flowed in abundance to your fill? Because of heat I covered you with the leaves of the trees. •

WisSol 11:4

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:21 I divided a fruitful land amongst you, I cast out the Canaanites, the Perizzites, and the Philistines, before you: What more can I do for you? says YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:22 Thus says YAHWEH ALMIGHTY, When you were in the wilderness, at the bitter waters, being athirst, and blaspheming MY NAME,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:23 I did not send fire upon you for your blasphemies, but cast a tree into the water, and made the water sweet. • Ex 15:22-25

YAHWEH's Appeal To Yisrael

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:24 What shall I do to you, oh Yacob? and you Yahudah, who would not obey ME: I will turn to other nations, and to them will I give MY NAME, that they may keep MY statutes.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:25 Seeing you have forsaken ME, I will forsake you; when you desire ME to be merciful to you, I shall have no mercy upon you!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:26 When you call upon ME, I will not listen to you: for you have defiled your hands with blood, and your feet are swift to commit murder. • Isa 1:15

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:27 It is not as though I had forsaken you, but you have forsaken ME, says YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:28 Thus says YAHWEH the ALMIGHTY, Have I not entreated you as a father entreats his sons, or as a mother her daughters, or a nurse her young children, • Jer 24:7

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:29 That you would be MY people, and I should be YAHWEH your ALMIGHTY; that you would be MY children, and I should be your ABBA? • Heb 8:10

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:30 I gathered you together, as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings: but now, what shall I do to you? I will cast you out from MY presence.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:31 When you offer oblations to ME, I will

turn MY face from you: for I have rejected your solemn feast days, your new moons, and your circumcisions of the flesh.
EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:32 I sent to you MY servants the prophets, whom you have taken and slain, and torn their bodies in pieces, their blood I shall require of you, says YAHWEH.

A New People

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:33 Thus says YAHWEH the ALMIGHTY, Your house is desolate, I will drive and cast you out as the wind does chaff.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:34 And your children shall not be fruitful; for they have despised MY commandments, and have done deeds that are evil in MY sight.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:35 Your houses, I will give to a people that shall come; which not having heard of ME yet shall believe ME; to whom I have shown no signs, yet shall they do that which I have commanded them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:36 They have seen no prophets, yet they shall recall their former iniquitous sinful state to remembrance, and acknowledge them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:37 I call to witness the gratitude of the free unmerited favor of the people to come, whose little ones rejoice in gladness: and though they have not seen ME with bodily eyes, yet in ruach they believe the thing that I say. • Jn 20:29

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:38 And now, father, behold what splendor; and see the people that come from the east:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:39 To them I will give as leaders, Abraham, Yitschaq, and Yacob and Hoshea and Amos and Micah and Yoel and ObadiYah and Yonah,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 1:40 Nahum and Habakkuk, ZephaniYah, Haggai, ZechariYah and Malachi, who is also called the messenger of YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2 2

YAHWEH's Judgment Upon Yisrael

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:1 Thus says YAHWEH, I brought this people out of bondage, and I gave them MY commandments through MY men-servants the prophets; but they would not listen to them, but despised MY counsels made it void.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:2 The mother who bore them says to them, Go your way, you children; for I am a widow and forsaken. • Isa 54:1

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:3 I brought you up with gladness; but with sorrow and heaviness have I lost you: because you have sinned before YAHWEH the ALMIGHTY and have done that which is evil before HIM.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:4 But what can I do for you? For I am a widow and forsaken: Go your way my children, and ask mercy of YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:5 I call upon you, father, as a witness over the mother of these children, because they would not keep MY covenant,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:6 That you bring confusion upon them, and their mother to ruin, that there may be no offspring from them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:7 Let them be scattered abroad among the nations, let their names be blotted out of the earth: for they have despised MY covenant.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:8 Woe be to you, Assyria, who conceal the unrighteous in your midst! Oh you wicked people, remember what I did to Sodom and Gomorrah; • Gen 19:24

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:9 Whose land lies in clods of pitch and heaps of ashes: even so will I do to them that do not hear ME, says YAHWEH ALMIGHTY.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:10 Thus says YAHWEH to Ezra, Tell MY people that I will give them the kingdom of Yerusalem, which I was going to give to Yisrael.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:11 Moreover, I will take back to MYSELF their splendor, and will give to these others the everlasting tabernacles, which I had prepared for Yisrael. • Lk 16:9

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:12 The Tree of Life shall give them ointment of sweet savor; and they shall neither toil, nor become weary. • Mt 25:34; Rev 2:7; Rev 22:2

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:13 Go and ask and you shall receive: pray that your days may be few, that they may be shortened. The Kingdom is already prepared for you; WATCH!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:14 Call heaven and earth to witness; for I have broken the evil in pieces, and created the tov, because I Live, says YAHWEH.

Exhortation To Good Works

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:15 Mother, embrace your children, and bring them up with gladness, as does the dove, establish their feet as fast as a pillar: because I have chosen you, says YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:16 And those that be dead will I raise up again from their places, and bring them out of the graves: because I recognize MY NAME in them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:17 Fear not, you mother of the children: for I have chosen you, says YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:18 I will send you help, MY servants YeshaYah and YeremiYah, and according to their counsel I have consecrated and prepared for you twelve trees laden with many different fruits,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:19 And twelve fountains flowing with milk and honey, and seven mighty mountains, whereupon grows roses and lilies, by these I will fill your children with joy. • Rev 22:2; Deut 31:20

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:20 Guard and do right to the widow, judge and do justice for the fatherless, give to the poor and needy, defend the orphan, clothe the naked,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:21 Care for the broken and the weak,

laugh not a lame man to scorn, protect and defend the maimed, and let the blind man have a vision of MY splendor.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:22 Protect and keep the old and young within your walls.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:23 Wheresoever you find the dead, take them and bury them, and I will give you the first place in MY resurrection.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:24 Abide and be quiet, Oh MY people, because your rest will come.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:25 Oh you tov nurse, nourish your children, and establish and strengthen their feet.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:26 Not one of the servants whom I have given you will perish, for I will require them from among your number.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:27 Be not weary or anxious: for when the day of tribulation and anguish comes, others shall weep and be sorrowful, but you shall rejoice and have abundance.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:28 The nations shall envy you, but they shall not be able to do anything against you, says YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:29 MY hands shall cover you, so that your children may not see hell.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:30 Rejoice and be joyful, Oh you mother, with your children, because I will deliver you, says YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:31 Remember your children that sleep, because I will bring them out of the hiding places of the earth, and show mercy to them: for I am merciful, says YAHWEH the ALMIGHTY.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:32 Embrace your children until I come, and proclaim and show mercy to them: for MY wells run over, and MY free unmerited favor shall not fail.

Rejected By Yisrael, Ezra Turns To The Gentiles

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:33 I, Ezra, received a command from YAHWEH on Mount Horeb, that I should go to Yisrael; but

when I came to them, they rejected me and refused the commandment of YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:34 And therefore I say to you, Oh you nations, that hear and understand, look and wait for your Shepherd, He shall give you everlasting rest; for He is close at hand, that shall come at the end of the age.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:35 Be ready for the reward of the Kingdom, because the everlasting Light shall shine upon you forevermore. • Rev 21:23, Rev 22:5; Isa 60:20.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:36 Flee the shadow of death of this age, receive the joy of your splendor and honor: I publicly testify of MY Savior openly.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:37 Receive the gift that YAHWEH has entrusted you and be joyful, giving thanks to HIM that has called and led you to the Heavenly Kingdoms.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:38 Rise up and stand, and behold at the feast of YAHWEH the number of those who have been sealed;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:39 Those who have departed from the shadow of death of this age, and have received magnificent garments from YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:40 Take again your full number, Oh Zion, and reach a final determination those of your people who are clothed in white, who have fulfilled the Torah of YAHWEH. • Rev 3:4; Rev 6:11; Rev 7:1

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:41 The number of Your children whom You desired is full; beseech YAHWEH's power that your people, who have been called from the beginning, may be made kodesh.

Ezra's Vision Of A Great Multitude

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:42 I, Ezra, saw on Mount Zion a great multitude, whom I could not number, and they all praising YAHWEH with songs. • Rev 7:9

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:43 And in the midst was a young man of great stature, taller than all the rest, and upon everyone of

their heads He set crowns, but He was more exalted than they; which I marveled at greatly. • 1Enoch 46:1

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:44 So I asked the malak, and said, Sir, who are these, my master?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:45 He answered and said to me, These are they who have put off the mortal clothing, and put on the immortal, and they have confessed the NAME of YAHWEH: now they are being crowned, and receive palms.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:46 Then said I to the malak, Who is that young man who places crowns on them, and puts palms in their hands?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:47 So he answered and said to me, He is the Son of YAHWEH, whom they have confessed in the world. So I began to praise those who had stood valiantly for the NAME of YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 2:48 Then the malak said to me, Go, and tell MY people what manner of things, and how great and many wonders of YAHWEH the ALMIGHTY, which you have seen.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3 3

THE FIRST VISION

The Ezra Apocalypse

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:1 In the thirtieth year after the destruction of our city, I Salathiel, who am also called Ezra, was in Babylon. I was troubled as I lay on my bed, and my thoughts welled up in my heart: • 2Kgs 25:1.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:2 For I saw the desolation of Zion, and the wealth of them that dwelt at Babylon.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:3 And my ruach was sore moved, so that I began to speak words full of fear to the Most High YAHWEH, and said,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:4 Oh Sovereign YAHWEH, who bear rule, YOU spoke at the beginning, when YOU did plant the earth, and that YOURSELF did alone and that without help and commanded the dust,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:5 And gave a body to Adam without soul, which was the workmanship of YOUR hands, and did breathe into him the Breath Of Life, and he was made living soul before YOU.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:6 And YOU led him into garden, which YOUR right hand had planted, before ever the earth came forward.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:7 And YOU layed upon him one commandment to love YOUR way: but he transgressed, and immediately YOU appointed death in him and for his generations, of whom came nations, tribes, people, and kindreds, without number. • WisSoll:13

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:8 And every nation walked after their own will, and did evil deeds before YOU, and despised YOUR commandments, and YOU did not hinder them. • Gen 6:12

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:9 And again in process of time YOU brought the flood upon those that dwelt in the world, and destroyed them. • Gen 6:1.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:10 And the same fate came to pass on everyone of them, that as death came upon Adam, so was the flood upon them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:11 Nevertheless YOU left one of them, namely, Noah with his household, of whom came all the righteous who have descended from him.

The Patriarchs

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:12 And it happened, that when they that dwelt upon the earth began to multiply, and had produced many children and peoples and many nations, and were a great people, they began again to be more wicked and checedless than the first ancestors.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:13 Now when they lived so wickedly before YOU and committing iniquity, YOU did choose for YOURSELF a man from among them, whose name was Abraham. • Gen 12:1

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:14 And him YOU loved, and to him only YOU revealed the end of the times, secretly by night:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:15 And YOU made an everlasting covenant with him, promising him that YOU would never forsake his seed. • Gen 15:5, Gen 12:17

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:16 And to him YOU gave Yitschaq, and to Yitschaq also you gave Yacob and Esau. As for Yacob, YOU did choose and set him apart for YOURSELF, and did reject Esau: and Yacob became a great multitude.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:17 And it came to pass, that when YOU led his seed out of Egypt, YOU brought them to Mount Sinai.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:18 And bowing the heavens, YOU did set fast the earth, moved the whole world, and made the depths to tremble, and troubled the times. • Ex 19:16-18; Ps 68:7.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:19 And YOUR splendor passed through the four gates of fire and of earthquake and of wind and of ice, to give the Torah to the seed of Yacob, and YOUR commandment to the posterity of Yisrael.

The Evil Heart

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:20 And yet YOU did not take away from them their evil heart, so that YOUR Torah might bring forth fruit in them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:21 For the first Adam burdened with an evil heart, transgressed and was overcome, and so are all they that are born of him.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:22 Thus the disease was made permanent; and the Torah also is in the heart of the people with the malignity of the evil root; so that the tov departed away, and the evil remained.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:23 So the times passed away, and the

years were brought to an end: then YOU raised up for YOURSELF a servant, named David:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:24 Whom YOU commanded to build a city for YOUR NAME, and to offer YOU oblations to YOU therein, from what is YOURS.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:25 When this was done many years, then they that inhabited the city transgressed and forsook YOU,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:26 And in all things did even as Adam and all his generations had done: for they also had the evil heart:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:27 And so YOU gave the city over into the hands of YOUR enemies.

Babylon Compared With Zion

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:28 Then I said in my heart, Are the deeds of those who inhabit Babylon any better? Is that why she has gained dominion over Zion?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:29 For when I came here, I saw checedless impieties without number, and my soul has seen many evildoers and sinners during these thirty years! And my heart failed me,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:30 For I have seen how YOU suffer and endure them sinning, and have spared those who do wickedness: and have destroyed YOUR people, and have preserved YOUR enemies, and have not made it known.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:31 And have not shown how YOUR way may be comprehended: Are the deeds of Babylon better than those of Zion?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:32 Or is there any other nation that knows YOU beside Yisrael? or what tribes has so believed YOUR covenants as these tribes of Yacob?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:33 And yet their reward has not appeared and their labor has produced no fruit: for I have gone here and there through the nation and I see that they abound in wealth, and think not upon YOUR commandments.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:34 Weigh YOU therefore our iniquities

now in the balance, and their's also that dwell in the world; and so it will be found which way the turn of the scale will incline. So shall YOUR NAME no where be found but in Yisrael.

• Job 31:6

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:35 Or when have they which dwell upon the earth have not sinned in YOUR sight? Or what nation have kept YOUR commandments so well? • 1En 41:1: 1En 61:8

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 3:36 YOU may indeed find individual men who have kept YOUR commandments, but nations YOU will not find.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4 4

Uriel's Reply: YAHWEH's Ways Are Inscrutable

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:1 And the malak that was sent to me, whose name was Uriel, gave me an answer,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:2 And said, Your understanding has utterly failed regarding this world, and do you think to comprehend the way of the Most High YAHWEH? • 1En 20:2

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:3 Then said I, Yes, Sir. And he answered me, and said, I am sent to show you three ways, and to set forth three similitudes before you:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:4 Whereof if you can solve one for me, I will show you also the way that you desire to see, and I shall teach you why and from where the evil heart comes from.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:5 And I said, Speak on, my master. Then said he to me, Go your way, weigh me the weight of the fire, or measure me the blast of the wind, or call back for me the day that is past.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:6 Then answered I and said, What man is able to do that, that you should ask such things of me?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:7 And he said to me, If I should ask you how many great dwellings are in the middle of the sea, or how

many springs are in the beginning of the deep, or how many springs are above the firmament, or which are the exits of hell, or which are the entrances of paradise?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:8 Peradventure you would say to me, I never went down into the deep, nor as yet into hell, neither did I ever ascend into heaven.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:9 Nevertheless now have I asked you but only of the fire and wind, and of the day, things through which you have passed and without which you cannot exist, and yet can you give me no answer of them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:10 He said moreover to me, You cannot understand and know the things with which you have grown up with;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:11 How should your mind then be able to comprehend the way of YAHWEH the Most High, and the world being now outwardly corrupted to understand the corruption that is evident in my sight?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:12 When I heard this, I fell on my face and said to him, It would be better for us not to be here than to come here and live checedless, and to suffer, and not to know and understand why.

Parable Of Conflict Between Forest And Sea

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:13 He answered me, and said, I went into a forest into a plain, and the trees took counsel, • Isa 55:8.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:14 And said, Come, let us go and make war against the sea that it may recede before us, and that we may make for ourselves more forests.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:15 Likewise the waves of the sea also in like manner took counsel, and said, Come, let us go up and subdue the forests of the plain, that there also we may gain more territory for ourselves.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:16 But the plan of the forest was in vain, for the fire came and consumed it.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:17 Likewise also the plan of the waves of

the sea came to nought, for the sand stood firm and stopped them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:18 If now you were to judge now between these two, whom would you begin to justify? or whom would you condemn?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:19 I answered and said, Each has made a foolish plan that they both have devised, for the ground is given to the wood, and the sea also has his place to carry its waves.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:20 Then answered he me, and said, You have given a right judgment, but why judge you not yourself also?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:21 For like as the ground is given to the wood, and the sea to its waves: even so they that dwell upon the earth may understand nothing but that which is upon the earth: and he that dwells above the heavens may only understand the things that are above the height of the heavens.

Why Yisrael Has Become A Reproach

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:22 Then answered I and said, I beseech YOU YAHWEH ALMIGHTY, Why have I been endowed with the power of understanding?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:23 For it was not my mind to inquire about the ways above, but of such as pass by us daily and experience, namely, wherefore Yisrael is given up as a reproach to the heathen, and for what cause the people whom YOU have loved is given up to checedless nations, and why the Torah of our forefathers is brought to nought, and the written covenants come to none effect,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:24 And we pass away out of the world like grasshoppers, and our life is like a vapor with astonishment and fears, and we are not worthy to obtain mercy.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:25 What will HE then do for HIS NAME, by which we are called? It is about these things have I asked.

The Near Approach Of The End Of The Age

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:26 Then he answered me, and said, The more you search, you will see, the more you will marvel; because the age is hastening swiftly to its end,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:27 And cannot comprehend the things that are promised to the righteous in time to come: for this age is full of sad unrighteousness and infirmities.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:28 But as concerning the things which you ask me, I will tell you; for the evil is sown, but the harvest of it has not yet come.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:29 If therefore that which has been sown is not reaped, and if the place where the evil is sown does not pass away, then the field where the tov has been sown will not come.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:30 For the grain of evil seed was sown in the heart of Adam from the beginning, and how much wickedness has it brought up to this time, and how much shall it yet bring forth until the time of threshing comes!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:31 Ponder now by yourself, how great fruit of wickedness a grain of evil seed has brought forth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:32 And when the ears shall be cut down, which are without number, how great a threshing floor they will fill!

When Will The New Age Come?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:33 Then I answered and said, How long, and when shall these things come to pass? Why are our years few and evil?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:34 And he answered me and said, Do not you hasten faster than the Most High YAHWEH: for your haste is in vain to be above HIM, but YAHWEH the Most High hastens on behalf of many.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:35 Did not the souls also of the righteous in their chambers ask question of these matters, saying, How long shall I hope on this fashion? And when will comes the fruit

of the floor of our reward?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:36 And to these things Uriel the malak gave them answer, and said, When the number of those seeds like yourselves is filled: for HE has weighed the age in the balance,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:37 And HE measure the times by measure; and numbered the times by number; and HE will not move nor stir them, until the said measure be fulfilled.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:38 Then answered I and said, Oh Sovereign YAHWEH that bear rule, but all of us also are full of checedlessness impiety.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:39 And for our sakes peradventure it is that the floors of the righteous are not filled, because of the sins of them that dwell upon the earth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:40 So he answered me, and said, Go your way to a woman with child, and ask of her when she has fulfilled her nine months, if her womb can keep the child any longer within her.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:41 Then said I, No, my master, that she cannot. And he said to me, In the grave the chambers of souls are like the womb of a woman:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:42 For just as a woman that travails makes haste to escape the necessity of the travail: even so do these places haste to deliver those things that are committed to them from the beginning.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:43 Then the things that you desire to see, it shall be shown to you.

How Much Time Remains?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:44 Then answered I and said, If I have found favor in your sight, and if it be possible, and if I be worthy,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:45 Show me this also: whether there be more time is to come than has past, or whether for us the greater part has gone by.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:46 For I know what has gone by, but what is to come I do not know.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:47 And he said to me, Stand up at my right side, and I shall expound the interpretation of a parable to you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:48 So I stood and looked, and behold, a flaming burning furnace passed by before me: and it happened that when the flame was gone by I looked, and, behold, the smoke remained still.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:49 And after this a watery cloud passed by before me, and sent down much rain with a storm; and when the rainstorm had passed, the drops remained still.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:50 Then he said to me, Consider within yourself; as the rain is more than the drops, and as the fire is greater than the smoke; but the drops and the smoke remain behind: so the quantity that passed was far greater; but drops and smoke remained.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:51 Then I prayed, and said, Do you think that I shall live until those days? Or what shall happen in those days?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 4:52 He answered me, and said, Concerning the signs about which you ask me, I can tell you of them in part: but as touching your life, I am not sent to show you; for I do not know it.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5 5

Signs Of The Approaching End Of The Age

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:1 Nevertheless as concerning the signs, behold, the days shall come, that they which dwell upon earth shall be taken in a great number and shall be seized with great terror, and the way of truth shall be hidden, and the land shall be barren of true faith.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:2 And unrighteousness and iniquity shall be increased beyond that which you yourself now see, and

beyond which you have heard of formerly. • Mt 24:1

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:3 And the land which you now see ruling shall be waste and untrodden, and men shall see it wasted suddenly.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:4 But if the Most High YAHWEH grants that you live, you shall see it thrown into confusion after the third shofar that the sun shall suddenly shine again in the night, and the moon during in the day:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:5 And blood shall drip from wood, and the stone shall utter its voice, and the people shall be troubled, and the stars shall fall. • Hab 2:11; Lk 19:40.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:6 And even he shall rule, whom they look not for that dwell upon the earth, and the fowls shall take their flight away together:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:7 And the Sodomitish sea shall cast up fish, and one whom the many do not know shall make his voice heard by night, and all shall hear his voice.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:8 There shall be a confusion also in many places, and fire shall be often break out, and the wild beasts shall go beyond their haunts, and menstruous women shall bring forth monsters:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:9 And salt waters shall be found in the sweet, and all friends shall destroy one another; then shall reason hide itself, and understanding withdraw itself into its secret chamber,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:10 And shall be sought by many, and yet not be found: then shall unrighteousness and unrestraint be multiplied upon earth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:11 And one country shall ask another, and say, Has righteousness, or a man that does upright passed through you? And it shall answer, No. • Isa 59:14.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:12 And at that same time men shall hope, but nothing obtain: they shall labor, but their ways shall not prosper.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:13 These are the signs which I am permitted to tell you; and if you will pray again, and weep as

you do now, and fast seven days, you shall hear yet greater things than these.

Conclusion Of The Vision

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:14 Then I awakened, and my body shuddered violently, and my soul was troubled, so that it fainted.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:15 So the malak that was come to talk with me held me, comforted and strengthened me, and set me up upon my feet.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:16 And in the second night it came to pass, that Phaltiel the captain of the people came to me, saying, Where have you been? and why is your countenance so heavy?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:17 Know you not that Yisrael is committed to you in the land of their captivity?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:18 Rise up then, and eat bread, and forsake us not, as the shepherd that leaves his flock in the hands of cruel wolves.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:19 Then I said to him, Depart from me, and come not nigh me for seven days, and then you may come to me. And he heard what I said, and went from me.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:20 And so I fasted seven days, mourning and weeping, just as Uriel the malak commanded me.

THE SECOND VISION

Ezra Reiterates His Complaints Of YAHWEH's Inequity

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:21 And after seven days so it was, that the thoughts of my heart were very grievous to me again,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:22 And my soul recovered the ruach of understanding, and I began to speak words in the presence of the Most High YAHWEH again,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:23 And I said, Oh Sovereign YAHWEH that bears rule, of every wood of the earth, and of all the trees thereof, YOU have chosen for YOURSELF only one vine:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:24 And of all lands of the whole world YOU have chosen for YOURSELF one region: and of all the flowers of the world YOU have chosen for YOURSELF one lily:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:25 And from all the depths of the sea YOU have filled for YOURSELF one river: and of all built cities YOU have set it apart and made kodesh Zion to YOURSELF: • (Song 2:2 - Hos 14:5)

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:26 And from all the fowls that are created YOU have named for YOURSELF one dove: and from all the cattle that YOU made, YOU have provided for YOURSELF one sheep:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:27 And from all the multitudes of people YOU have gotten for YOURSELF one people: and to this people, whom YOU loved, YOU gave a Torah that is approved by all.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:28 And now, Oh YAHWEH, why have YOU given this one people over to the many? And upon the one root have YOU prepared others, and why have YOU scattered YOUR only one people among many?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:29 And they which did gainsay YOUR promises, and believed not YOUR covenants, have trodden down on those who believed YOUR covenants.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:30 If YOU hate YOUR people so much, should YOU punish them with YOUR own hands.

Response To Ezra's Complaints

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:31 Now when I had spoken these words, the malak who had come to me the previous time was sent to me,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:32 And he said to me, Hear me, and I will instruct you; hearken to the words that I say, and I shall tell you more.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:33 And I said, Speak on, my master. Then said he to me, Why are you sore troubled in mind for Yisrael's sake? Do you love that people more than HE that made them?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:34 And I said, No, my master, but because of my grief I have spoken, for every hour I suffer agonies of heart, while I labor to understand and comprehend the way of the Most High YAHWEH, and to search out part of HIS just judgment.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:35 And he said to me, You cannot. And I said, Why not, my master? Why then was I born? Or why was not my mother's womb then my grave, that I might not see the travail of Yacob, and the wearisome toil of the people of Yisrael? • Job 3:11

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:36 And HE said to me, Count up for me the things that are not yet come, and gather to me the scattered raindrops, and make the flowers bloom again for me that are withered,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:37 Open for me the places that are closed, and bring for me the winds that are in them that are shut up in them, show me the image of a voice: and then I will declare to you the travail that you labor to know and understand.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:38 And I said, Oh Sovereign YAHWEH that bears rule, who may know these things, but he that has not his dwelling with men?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:39 As for me, I am unwise: how may I then speak of these things whereof YOU ask me?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:40 Then said HE to me, Like as you cannot do one of these things that I have spoken of, even so you cannot discover MY just judgment, or the end of MY love that I have promised to MY people.

Why Successive Generations Have Been Created

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:41 And I said, Behold, Oh YAHWEH, yet

are YOU nigh to them that be reserved till the end: and what shall they do that have been before us, or we that be now, or they that shall come after us?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:42 And HE said to me, I will liken MY judgment to a circle: just as there is no slackness on those who are last, even so there is no haste of the first.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:43 Then I answered and said, Could YOU not created at one time those who have been and those who are and those who will be; that YOU might show YOUR just judgment the sooner?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:44 Then answered HE me, and said, The creature cannot make more haste than the Creator; neither may the world hold them all at one time those who have been created in it.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:45 And I said, As YOU have said to YOUR servant that YOU will certainly give life at one time to YOUR creation? If therefore all creatures will live at one time? And the creation will sustain them, it might even now be able to support all of them present at one time.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:46 And HE said to me, Ask the womb of a woman, and say to it, If you bring forth ten children, why one after another? Request it therefore to bring forth ten children at one time.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:47 And I said, It cannot: but must do it by distance of time.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:48 Then said HE to me, Even so have I given the womb of the earth to those who are to be sown in it in their times.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:49 For like as a young child does not bring forth the things that belong to the aged, and a woman who has become old does not bring forth any longer, even so have I organized the world which I created.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:50 And I asked, and said, Seeing YOU have now given me the way, I will proceed to speak before YOU: Is our mother, of whom YOU have told me, still young? Or is she now approaching old age?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:51 HE answered me, and said, Ask a woman who bears children, and she shall tell you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:52 Say to her, Why are to they whom you have now brought forth not like those that were before, but smaller of stature?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:53 And she herself shall answer you, They that be born in the the strength of youth are of one fashion, and they that are born in the time of age, when the womb fails, are different.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:54 Consider you therefore also, how that you and your contemporaries are smaller in stature than those that were before you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:55 And those who come after you will be smaller than you, as the creatures which now begin to be old, and have passed over the strength of youth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 5:56 Then said I, Oh YAHWEH, I beseech YOU, if I have found favor in YOUR sight, show YOUR servant through whom YOU are going to visit YOUR creation.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6 6

The End Of The Age

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:1 And HE said to me, "At the beginning of the circle of the earth, at first by the Son of Man, and afterwards I MYSELF. For the earth and the lands were created, and before the portals of the world were in place, and before the assembled winds blew,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:2 And before the rumblings of thunder sounded, and before the flashes of lightning shone, and before the foundations of Paradise were laid,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:3 And before the beautiful flowers were seen, and before the powers of movement were established, and before the innumerable hosts of malakim were gathered together,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:4 And before the heights of the air were

lifted up, and before the measures of the firmaments were named, and before the footstool of Zion was established, or ever the chimneys in Zion were hot,
EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:5 And before the present years were reckoned, and or ever the inventions of them that now sin were turned, before they were sealed that have gathered faith for a treasure:
EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:6 Then did I planned these things, and they were all made through ME alone, and not through another: just as the end shall come through ME and not through another.

The Division Of The Times

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:7 Then I answered and said, What shall be the dividing of the times? Or when shall be the end of the first age, and the beginning of the age that follows?
EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:8 And HE said to me, From Abraham to Yitschaq, when Yacob and Esau were born of him, for Yacob's hand held first the heel of Esau.
EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:9 For Esau is the end of this age, and Yacob is the beginning of the age that follows.
EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:10 For the beginning of a man is his hand, and the end of a man is his heel, between the heel and the hand seek for nothing else, Ezra!
EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:11 I answered then and said, Oh YAHWEH that bear rule, if I have found favor in YOUR sight,
EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:12 I beseech YOU, show YOUR servant the end of YOUR signs, which YOU had shown me part on a previous night. • 2Ezra 4:51-5:13
EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:13 So HE answered and said to me, Stand up upon your feet, and hear a mighty sounding voice.
EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:14 And it shall be as it were a great motion while the voice is speaking; but the place where you stand shall not be moved.
EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:15 And therefore when it speaks be not

afraid: for the Word concerns the End, and the foundation of the earth will understand that the Words concerns them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:16 And why? because the Words of these things trembles and is moved: for they know that the end of these things must be changed.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:17 And it happened, that when I had heard this, I stood up upon my feet, and hearkened, and, behold, there was a voice that spoke, and the sound of it was like the sound of many waters.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:18 And it said, Behold, the days are coming, and it shall be that when I draw near to visit the inhabitants of the earth,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:19 And when I begin to make inquisition of the doers of iniquity, the penalty of what they have hurt unjustly with their unrighteousness, and when the humiliation of Zion shall be fulfilled;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:20 And when the seal is placed upon the age which is about to pass away, then I will show these signs: The books shall be opened before the firmament, and all shall see it together. • Dan 7:10; Dan 12:1

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:21 And the children of a year old shall speak with their voices, and women with child shall bring forth premature children of three or four months old, and they shall live, and be raised up.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:22 And the sown places shall suddenly appear unsown, and the full storehouses shall suddenly be found empty:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:23 And the shofar shall sound aloud, and when every man hears, they shall be suddenly be terrified. • 1Cor 15:52; 1Thes 4:16.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:24 At that time friends fight one against another like enemies, and the earth and those who inhabit it shall stand in fear with those that dwell therein, the springs of the fountains shall stand still, so that for three hours they shall not run.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:25 It shall be that whosoever remains

from all these that I have foretold you shall escape, and see MY yeshua, and the end of your world. • Gen 5:24

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:26 And the men that are received shall see it, who have not tasted death from their birth: and the heart of the inhabitants shall be changed and converted to a different spirit. • 2Kgs 2:11.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:27 For evil shall be blotted out, and deceit shall be quenched.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:28 As for faith, faithfulness shall flourish, corruption shall be overcome, and the Truth, which has been so long without fruit, shall be revealed and declared.

Signs Of The End Of The Age; Conclusion Of The Vision

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:29 While he spoke to me, behold, little by little the place where I was standing, began to rock to and fro.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:30 And he said to me; I am come to show you the time of the night to come.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:31 If you will pray yet more, and fast seven days again, I shall declare you greater things by day than I have heard.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:32 Because your voice is surely heard before the Most High YAHWEH: for the ALMIGHTY has seen your righteous dealing, HE has seen also your chastity, which you have maintained from your youth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:33 And therefore HE has sent me to show you all these things, and to say to you, Believe and be of comfort and fear not

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:34 And do not be quick to think vain thoughts concerning the former things, lest you be hasty concerning the latter times.

THE THIRD VISION

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:35 And it came to pass after this, that I

wept again, and fasted seven days in like manner, in order to complete the week which he told me.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:36 And on the eighth night my heart was troubled within me again, and I began to speak before the Most High YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:37 For my ruach was greatly aroused, and my soul was in distress.

YAHWEH's Work In Creation

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:38 And I said, Oh YAHWEH, YOU spoke at the beginning of the creation, and said on the first day; Let heaven and earth be made; and YOUR Word accomplished the work. • Gen 1:1-4

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:39 And then the Ruach was hovering, and darkness and silence embraced everything; the sound of man's voice was not yet formed.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:40 Then YOU commanded that a ray of light to come forth from YOUR treasures, so that YOUR work might appear.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:41 Upon the second day YOU made the ruach of the firmament, and commanded Him to divide and to make a division between the waters, that the one part might go up, and the other part remain beneath.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:42 Upon the third day YOU commanded the waters to be gathered together in the seventh part of the earth: one parts have YOU dried up, and kept them, to the intent that of these some being planted of YAHWEH and tilled might serve YOU.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:43 For as soon as YOUR Word went forth the work was made.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:44 For immediately there was a great abundance of fruit, and a great varity for the taste, and flowers of inimitable color, and odors of wonderful inexpressible fragrances: and this was done the third day.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:45 Upon the fourth day YOU commanded

the brightness of the sun to shine, and the moon give her light, and the stars should come to be, and all in order:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:46 And YOU gave them a charge to do service to man, who was about to be made. • Ps 8:6-8

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:47 Upon the fifth day YOU commanded the seven parts, where the waters were gathered together, to bring forth living creatures, fowls and fishes: and so it came to pass.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:48 For the dumb water and without life brought forth living things at the commandment of YOU, YAHWEH, that all people might declare and praise YOUR wondrous works.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:49 Then did YOU ordain two living creatures, the name of one YOU called Behemoth, and the name of the other Leviathan;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:50 And YOU did separate one from the other, for the seven parts, namely, where the water was gathered together, could not hold them both. • Job 7:12; Ps 74:12-15; Isa 30:7; 51:9f.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:51 And to Behemoth YOU gave one part, which was dried up on the third day, to dwell in the same part, where there are one thousand mountains:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:52 But to Leviathan YOU gave the seven parts, namely, the moist; and have kept him to be devoured by whom YOU wish, and when YOU wish.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:53 Upon the sixth day YOU commanded the earth to bring forth before YOU cattle, beasts, and creeping things;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:54 And after these, Adam also, whom YOU made, and over these YOU placed Adam as ruler over all the works which YOU had made; and from him we have all come, the people from whom YOU have chosen.

Why Does Yisrael Not Possess Her Inheritance?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:55 All this have I spoken before YOU, Oh YAHWEH, because YOU have said that it was for us that YOU created this first-born world.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:56 As for the other nations, which also come of Adam, YOU have said that they are nothing, and they are as spittle: and have compared the abundance of them to as a drop that falls from a vessel.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:57 And now, Oh YAHWEH, behold, these nations, which are been reputed as nothing, have begun to be lords over us, and to devour us.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:58 But we YOUR people, whom YOU have called YOUR firstborn, YOUR only begotten, and YOUR fervent lover, have been given into their hands.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 6:59 If the world has indeed been created for us, why do we not possess our world as an inheritance? How long shall this endure so?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7 7

Response To Ezra's Questions

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:1 And when I had made an end of speaking these words, there was sent to me the malak which had been sent to me the former nights:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:2 And he said to me, Rise up, Ezra, and hear the Words that I am come to tell you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:3 And I said, Speak on, Oh YAHWEH. Then said HE to me, There is a sea set in a wide expanse so that it is broad and vast,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:4 But it has an entrance set in a narrow place so that it is like a river.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:5 If anyone, then, wishes to reach the sea, to look at it, to navigate it, and to rule it, how can he

come to the broad part unless he passes through the narrow part?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:6 There is also another thing; A city is built, and set upon a broad plain, and is full of all tov things:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:7 The entrance thereof is narrow, and is set in a dangerous and precipitous place, so that there is fire on the right hand and deep water on the left:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:8 And there is only one path between them both, that is, between the fire and the water, so small that there can only be one man walk thereon at a time.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:9 If this city now were given to a man for an inheritance, how shall he receive this inheritance, unless he shall pass through the danger set before him?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:10 And I said, He cannot, Oh YAHWEH. Then said HE to me, so also is Yisrael's portion.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:11 Because for their sakes I made the world: and when Adam transgressed MY statutes, then was decreed that now is done.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:12 And so the entrances of this world were made narrow, full of sorrow, toilsome and travail: they are but few and evil, full of dangers and involved in great hardships and very painful.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:13 But the entrances of the future world are broad and safe, and really yield the fruit of immortality.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:14 Therefore unless the living labor not to enter this strait and narrow way to pass through the difficult and vain experiences, they can never receive those things that have been laid up for them. • 1Cor 2:9

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:15 Now therefore why disquiet you yourself, seeing you are but a corruptible man? And why are you moved, seeing that you are mortal?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:16 Why have you not considered in your mind what thing is to come, rather than that which is now present?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:17 Then answered I and said, Oh YAHWEH that bears rule, behold, YOU have ordained in YOUR

Torah, that the righteous should inherit these things, but that the checedless wicked shall perish.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:18 Nevertheless the righteous shall endure difficult circumstances while hoping for easier ones; but they that have done wickedly have suffered the strait things, and yet shall not see the easier ones.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:19 And HE said to me. There is no judge above YAHWEH, and none that is wiser and has understanding above the Most High!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:20 For there be many that perish in this life, because they despise the Torah of YAHWEH that is set before them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:21 For YAHWEH has given strict commandment to those who came into the world, what they should do to live, and what they should observe to avoid punishment.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:22 Nevertheless they were not obedient to HIM; but spoke against HIM, and imagined vain thoughts;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:23 And deceived themselves by their wicked fraudulent deeds; they even declared that the Most High YAHWEH does not exist; and they ignored HIS ways!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:24 But HIS Torah they have scorned and despised, and denied HIS Covenants, and in HIS statutes they have been unfaithful, and have not performed HIS works.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:25 Therefore, Ezra, empty things are for the empty, and full things for the full.

The Temporary Messianic Kingdom And The End Of The World

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:26 For behold, the time shall come, when the signs which I have foretold to you will come to pass, that the bride shall appear, even the city which now is not seen shall be seen, and the earth which now is hidden shall be disclosed.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:27 And whosoever is delivered from the

foresaid evils that I have foretold shall see MY wonders.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:28 For MY Son the MessiYah shall be revealed with those that be with Him, and they that remain shall rejoice within four hundred years.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:29 After these years shall MY son MessiYah die, and all men that have life.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:30 And the world shall be turned back to primeval silence the seventh day, as it was at the first beginnings: so that no one shall remain.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:31 And after seventh day the world, that is not awake, shall be raised up, and that which is corruptible shall perish and die.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:32 And the earth shall restore those that are asleep in her, and the chambers shall give up the souls which have been committed to them. • Dan 12:2

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:33 And the Most High shall be revealed upon the seat of judgment, and then comes the end, and misery shall pass away, and the long suffering shall have an end:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:34 But judgment only shall remain, Truth shall stand, and faith shall grow strong:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:35 And the work shall follow, and the reward shall be manifested, and the righteous deeds shall be of force, and unrighteous wicked deeds shall bear no rule.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:36 Then the pit of torment shall appear, and opposite it shall be the place of rest; and the furnace of Hell shall be disclosed, and opposite it the Paradise of delight. • Rev 9:2; Luke 16:23f.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:37 Then the Most High YAHWEH will say to the nations that have been raised from the dead, Look now, and understand whom you have denied, whom you have not served, whose commandments you have despised!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:38 Look on this side and on that; here are delight and rest, and there are fire and torments!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:39 Thus HE will speak to them on the day of judgment, a day that has no sun or moon or stars,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:40 Or cloud or thunder or lightning or wind or water or air, or darkness or evening or morning,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:41 Or summer or spring or heat or winter or storm or frost or cold or hail or rain or dew,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:42 Or noon or midnight, or dawn or shining or brightness or light, but only the splendor of the splendor of the Most High YAHWEH, by which all shall see what has been determined for them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:43 For it will last for about a week of years.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:44 This is MY judgment and its prescribed order; and to you alone have I shown these things.

The Small Number Of The Delivered

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:45 I answered and said, "Oh Sovereign YAHWEH, I said then and I say now: Blessed are those who are alive and keep YOUR commandments!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:46 But what of those for whom I prayed? For who among the living is there that has not sinned, or who among men that has not transgressed YOUR covenant?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:47 And now I see that the world to come, will bring delight to few, but torments to many.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:48 For an evil heart has grown up in us, which has alienated us from YOU YAHWEH, and has brought us into corruption and the ways of death, and has shown us the paths of perdition and removed us far from life, and that not just a few of us but almost all who have been created!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:49 HE answered me and said, Listen to me, Ezra, and I will instruct you, and will admonish you yet again.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:50 For this reason the Most High YAHWEH has made not one world but two.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:51 For whereas you have said that the righteous are not many but a few, while the checedless wicked abound, hear the explanation for this.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:52 If you have just a few precious stones, will you add to them lead and clay?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:53 Then said I, Oh YAHWEH, how could that be?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:54 And HE said to me, "Not only that, but ask the earth and she will tell you; defer to her, and she will declare it to you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:55 Say to her, You produce gold and silver and copper, and also iron and lead and clay;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:56 But silver is more abundant than gold, and copper than silver, and iron than copper, and lead than iron, and clay than lead.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:57 Judge therefore which things are precious and desirable, those that are abundant or those that are rare?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:58 I said, Oh Sovereign YAHWEH, what is plentiful is of less worth, for what is more rare, is more precious.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:59 HE answered me and said, Weigh within yourself what you have thought, for he who has what is hard to get rejoices more than he who has what is plentiful.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:60 So also will be the judgment which I have promised; for I will rejoice over the few who shall be delivered, because it is they who have made MY splendor to prevail now, and through them MY NAME has now been honored.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:61 And I will not grieve over the multitude of those who perish; for it is they who are now like a mist, and are similar to a flame and smoke, they are set on fire and burn hotly, and are extinguished.

Lamentation Of Ezra, With Response

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:62 I replied and said, "Oh earth, what have you brought forth, if the mind is made out of the dust like the other created things!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:63 For it would have been better if the dust itself had not been born, so that the mind might not have been made from it,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:64 But now the mind grows with us, and therefore we are tormented, because we perish and know it.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:65 Let the human race lament, but let the beasts of the field be glad; let all who have been born lament, but let the four-footed beasts and the flocks rejoice!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:66 For it is much better with them than with us; for they do not look for a judgment, nor do they know of any torment nor deliverance promised to them after death.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:67 For what does it profit us that we shall be preserved alive but cruelly tormented?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:68 For all who have been born are involved in iniquities, and are full of sins and burdened with transgressions.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:69 And if we were not to come into judgment after death, perhaps it would have been better for us.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:70 He answered me and said, "When the Most High YAHWEH made the world and Adam and all who have come from him, HE first prepared The Judgment and the things that pertain to The Judgment.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:71 And now understand from your own words, for you have said that the mind grows with us.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:72 For this reason, therefore, those who dwell on earth shall be tormented, because though they had understanding, they committed iniquity, and though they received the commandments, they did not keep them, and though they obtained the Torah, they dealt unfaithfully with what they received.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:73 What then, will they have to say in The Judgment, or how will they answer in the last times?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:74 For how long the time is that the Most High YAHWEH has been patient with those who inhabit the world, and not for their sake, but because of the times which

HE has fore-ordained!"

The State Of The Departed Before The Judgment Day

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:75 I answered and said, "If I have found favor in your sight, my master, show this also to your servant: whether after death, as soon as every one of us yields up his soul, we shall be kept in rest until those times come when you will renew the creation, or whether we shall be tormented at once?"

Seven Ways Of Those That Scorned The Ways Of YAHWEH

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:76 He answered me and said, "I will show you that also, but do not be associated with those who have shown scorn, nor number yourself among those who are tormented.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:77 For you have a treasure of works laid up with the Most High YAHWEH; but it will not be shown to you until the last time.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:78 Now, concerning death, the teaching is: When the decisive decree has gone forth from the Most High YAHWEH that a man shall die, as the ruach leaves the body to return again to HIM who gave it, first of all it adores the splendor of the Most High YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:79 And if it is one of those who have shown scorn and have not kept the way of the Most High YAHWEH, and who have despised HIS Torah, and who have hated those who fear YAHWEH,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:80 Such ruachim shall not enter into habitations, but shall immediately wander about in torments, ever grieving and sad, in seven ways.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:81 The first way, because they have scorned the Torah of the Most High.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:82 The second way, because they cannot now make a tov repentance that they may live.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:83 The third way, they shall see the reward laid up for those who have trusted the Covenants of the Most High YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:84 The fourth way, they shall consider the torment laid up for themselves in the last day.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:85 The fifth way, they shall see how the habitations of the others are guarded by malakim in profound quiet.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:86 The sixth way, they shall see how some of them will pass over into torments.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:87 The seventh way, which is worse than all the ways that have been mentioned, because they shall utterly waste away in confusion and be consumed with shame, and shall wither with fear at seeing the splendor of the Most High YAHWEH before whom they sinned while they were alive, and before whom they are to be judged in the last time.

The Seven Orders Of Those That Kept The Ways Of YAHWEH

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:88 Now this is the order of those who have kept the ways of the Most High YAHWEH, when they shall be separated from their corruptible body.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:89 During the time that they decayed in it, they laboriously served the Most High, and withstood danger every hour, that they might keep the Torah of the Torah-giver perfectly.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:90 Therefore this is the teaching concerning them:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:91 First of all, they shall see with great joy the splendor of HIM who receives them, for they shall have rest in seven orders.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:92 The first order, because they have striven with great effort to overcome evil which was formed

with them, that it might not lead them astray from life into death.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:93 The second order, because they see the perplexity in which the souls of the checedless wander, and the punishment that waits them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:94 The third order, they see the witness which HE who formed them bears concerning them, that while they were alive they kept the Torah which was given them in trust.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:95 The fourth order, they understand the rest which they now enjoy, being gathered into their chambers and guarded by malakim in profound quiet, and the splendor which awaits them in the last day.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:96 The fifth order, they rejoice that they have now escaped what is mortal, and shall inherit what is to come; and besides they see the straits and the fullness of toil from which they have been delivered, and the spacious liberty which they are to receive and enjoy in immortality.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:97 The sixth order, when it is shown to them how their face is to shine like the sun, and how they are to be made like the light of the stars, being incorruptible from then on.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:98 The seventh order, which is greater than all that have been mentioned, because they shall rejoice with boldness, and shall be confident without confusion, and shall be glad without fear, for they hasten to behold the face of HIM whom they served in life and from whom they are to receive their reward when magnified.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:99 This is the order of the souls of the righteous, as henceforth is announced, and the aforesaid are the ways of torment which those who would not give heed shall suffer hereafter."

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:100 I answered and said, Will time therefore be given to the souls after they have been separated from the bodies, to see what you have described to me?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:101 He said to me, They shall have

freedom for seven days, so that during these seven days they may see the things of which you have been told, and afterward they shall be gathered in their habitations. • Dan 12:3; Mt 13:43; Mt 5:8; Rev 22:4; 1Cor 3:14; Rev 22:12.

May The Righteous Intercede For The Checedless?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:102 I answered and said, If I have found favor in your sight, show further to me, YOUR servant, whether on The Day Of Judgment the righteous will be able to intercede for the checedless or to entreat the Most High YAHWEH for them,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:103 Fathers for sons or sons for parents, brothers for brothers, relatives for their kinsmen, or friends for those who are most dear.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:104 He answered me and said, Since you have found favor in MY sight, I will show you this also. The Day of Judgment is decisive and displays to all The Seal Of Truth. Just as now a father does not send his son, or a son his father, or a master his servant, or a friend his dearest friend, to be ill or sleep or eat or be healed in his stead,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:105 So no one shall be able to pray for another on that day, neither shall anyone lay a burden on another; for then everyone shall bear his own righteousness or unrighteousness.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:106 I answered and said, How then do we find that first Abraham prayed for the people of Sodom, and Moses for our fathers who sinned in the desert, • Gen 18:23

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:107 And Yahshua Ben Nun after him for Yisrael in the days of Achan, • Ex 32:11

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:108 And Samuel in the days of Saul, and David for the plague: and Solomon for those in the sanctuary,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:109 And Eliyah for those who received the rain, and for the one who was dead, that he might live

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:110 And Hezekiah for the people in the

days of Sennacherib, and many others prayed for many? •
2Kgs 19:15-19

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:111 Therefore the righteous have prayed for the checedless now, when corruption has increased and unrighteousness has multiplied, why will it not be so then as well?"

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:112 He answered me and said, "This present world is not the end; the full splendor does not abide in it; therefore those who were strong prayed for the weak.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:113 But The Day Of Judgment will be the end of this age and the beginning of the immortal age to come, in which corruption has passed away,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:114 Sinful indulgence has come to an end, unbelief has been cut off, and righteousness has increased and Truth has appeared.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:115 Therefore no one will then be able to have mercy on him who has been condemned in The Day Of Judgment, or to overwhelm him to harm him who is victorious."

Lamentation Over The Fate Of The Mass Of Humanity

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:116 I answered and said, "This is my first and last word: It would have been better if the earth had not produced Adam, or else, when it had produced him, had restrained him from sinning.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:117 For what tov is it to all that they live in sorrow now and expect punishment after death?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:118 Oh Adam, what have you done? For though it was you who sinned, the fall was not yours alone, but ours also who are your descendants.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:119 For what tov is it to us, if an eternal age has been promised to us, but we have done deeds that bring death?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:120 And what tov is it that an everlasting

hope has been promised us, but we have miserably failed?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:121 Or that safe and healthful habitations have been reserved for us, but we have lived wickedly?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:122 Or that the splendor of the Most High YAHWEH will defend those who have led a pure life, but we have walked in the most wicked ways?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:123 Or that a paradise shall be revealed, whose fruit remains unspoiled and in which are abundance and healing, but we shall not enter into it,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:124 because we have lived in unseemly places?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:125 Or that the faces of those who practiced self-control shall shine more than the stars but our faces shall be blacker than darkness? • Dan 12:3

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:126 For while we lived and committed iniquity we did not consider what we should suffer after death.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:127 He answered and said, This is the meaning of the contest which every man who is born on earth shall wage,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:128 That if he is defeated he shall suffer what you have said, but if he is victorious he shall receive what I have said."

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:129 For this is the way of which Mosheh, while he was alive, spoke to the people, saying, Choose for yourself life, that you may live!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:130 But they did not believe him, nor the prophets after him, or even myself who have spoken to them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:131 Therefore there shall not be grief at their damnation, and so much joy over those to whom Deliverance is assured.

Enumeration Of Seven Divine Attributes: An Implicit Appeal To YAHWEH's Mercy

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:132 I answered and said, I know, my master, that the Most High YAHWEH is now called merciful,

because HE has mercy on those who have not yet come into the world;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:133 And free unmerited favor, because HE is full of free unmerited favor to those who turn in repentance to HIS Torah;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:134 And patient, because HE shows patience toward those who have sinned, since they are HIS own works;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:135 And bountiful, because HE would rather give than take away;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:136 And abundant in compassion, because HE makes HIS compassions abound more and more to those now living and to those who are gone and to those yet to come,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:137 For if HE did not make them abound, the world with those who inhabit it, would not have life;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:138 And HE is called Giver, because if HE did not give out of HIS tov so that those who have committed iniquities might be relieved of them, not one ten-thousandth of mankind could have life;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:139 And judge, because if HE did not pardon those who were created by HIS Word and blot out the multitude of their sins,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 7:140 There would probably be left only very few of the innumerable multitude.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8 8

Ezra Implores YAHWEH To Show Mercy To His Creation

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:1 And HE answered me, saying, The Most High YAHWEH has made this world for many, but the world to come for few.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:2 I will tell you a parable, Ezra; Just as, when you ask the earth, it shall say to you, that it gives much clay whereof earthen vessels are made, but only a little dust that gold comes of: even so is the course of this present world.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:3 There be many created, but few shall be delivered.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:4 So answered I and said, Swallow then down, Oh my soul, understanding, and devour wisdom.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:5 For you have agreed to give ear, and are willing to prophesy: for you have no longer space than only to live.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:6 Oh YAHWEH, if YOU suffer not YOUR servant, that we may pray before YOU, and YOU give us seed to our heart, and culture to our understanding, that there may come fruit of it, by which every mortal man who bears the likeness of a human being may be able to live.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:7 For YOU alone exist, and we all one workmanship of YOUR hands, like as YOU have said. • Isa 44:6; Isa 45:11; Isa 60:21

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:8 For when the body is fashioned now in the mother's womb, and YOU give it members, YOUR creature is preserved in fire and water, and nine months does YOUR workmanship endure YOUR creature which is created in her.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:9 But that which keeps and that which is kept shall both be preserved by YOUR keeping! And when the time comes, the womb gives up again what has been created in it.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:10 For YOU have commanded out of the parts of the body, that is to say, out of the breasts, milk to be given, which is the fruit of the breasts,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:11 So that the thing which is fashioned may be nourished for a time, and afterward YOU will guide him in YOUR mercy.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:12 YOU brought it up in YOUR righteousness, and instructed and nurtured him in YOUR Torah, and reprov'd him with YOUR wise judgment.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:13 YOU will take away his life, for he is YOUR creation; and YOU will make him live, for he is YOUR work

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:14 If therefore YOU shall destroy him, which with so great labor was fashioned, it is an easy thing to be ordained by YOUR commandment, that the thing which was made might be preserved, to what purpose was he made?. •

Ps 139:14f

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:15 Now therefore, YAHWEH, I will speak; touching man in general, YOU know best; but touching YOUR people, for whose sake I lament; • Ps 28:9

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:16 And for YOUR inheritance, for whose cause I mourn; and for Yisrael, for whom I am heavy; and about the seed of Yacob, for whose sake I am troubled;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:17 Therefore will I begin to pray before YOU for myself and for them: for I see the failings of us that dwell in the land.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:18 But I have heard the swiftness of the judgment which is to come.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:19 Therefore hear my voice, and understand my words, and I shall speak before YOU. This is the beginning of the words of Ezra, before he was taken up: and I said,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:20 Oh YAHWEH, YOU that dwell in eternity, whose eyes are exalted and whose upper chambers are in the air, which beholds from above the things in the heaven and in the air;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:21 Whose throne is beyond measure and whose splendor is beyond comprehension; before whom the hosts of malakim stand with trembling,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:22 And at whose command they are changed to wind and fire, whose Word is sure and whose utterances are certain, whose commandment is strong and whose ordinance is fearful, • Ps 104:4 Heb 1:7

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:23 Whose look dries up the depths, and indignation makes the mountains to melt away; and whose

Truth is established forever:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:24 Hear, Oh YAHWEH, the prayer of YOUR servant, and give ear to the petition of YOUR creature; attend to my words.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:25 For while I live I will speak, and so long as I have understanding I will answer. • Sir 16:18.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:26 Oh look not upon the sins of YOUR people; but on them which serve YOU in Truth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:27 Regard not the endeavors of those who act wickedly, but the endeavors of those who have kept YOUR Covenants amid afflictions.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:28 Think not upon those that have walked feignedly before YOU: but remember them, which according to YOUR will have known YOUR fear.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:29 Let it not be YOUR will to destroy them which have lived like beasts; but to look upon them that have clearly taught YOUR Torah.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:30 Take YOU no indignation at them which are deemed worse than beasts; but love them that always put their trust in YOUR righteousness and splendor.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:31 For we and our fathers do languish of such diseases: but because of us sinners, YOU shall be called merciful.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:32 For if YOU have a desire to have mercy upon us, YOU shall be called merciful, to us namely, that have no works of righteousness.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:33 For the righteous, which have many works laid up with YOU, shall receive their reward in consequence of their own deeds.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:34 For what is man, that YOU should take displeasure at him? Or what is a corruptible generation, that YOU are so bitter toward it?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:35 For in truth there is no one among them who has been born who has not dealt wickedly; and among the faithful there is none which has not transgressed.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:36 For in this, Oh YAHWEH, YOUR

righteousness and YOUR tov shall be declared, when YOU are merciful to them which have not in store the confidence of tov works.

Response To Ezra's Prayer

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:37 Then answered HE me, and said, Some things have you spoken aright, and it shall come to pass according to your words.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:38 For indeed I will not think on the disposition of them which have sinned, or about their death, their judgment, or their damnation:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:39 But I will rejoice over the disposition of the righteous, and I will remember and rejoice also over their pilgrimage, and their deliverance, and their receiving their reward.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:40 As I have spoken now, so shall it come to pass.

Humankind Is Compared With Seeds And Plants

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:41 For as the husbandman sows many seed upon the ground, and plants many trees, and yet not all that have been sown will come up in due season, and not all that were planted will take root: even so is it of them that are sown in the world; they shall not all be delivered.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:42 I answered and said, If I have found free unmerited favor, let me speak.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:43 Like as the husbandman's seed perishes, if it come not up, and receive not YOUR rain in due season; or if there come too much rain, and corrupt it:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:44 Even so perishes man also, which is formed with YOUR hands, and is called YOUR own image, because he is made like YOU, and for whose sake YOU have made all things, have YOU also made him like the farmer's

seed?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:45 Be not wroth with us YAHWEH, but cover YOUR people with an atonement, and have mercy upon YOUR own inheritance: for YOU are merciful to YOUR own creation. • Job 12:17

The Final Answer From YAHWEH

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:46 Then answered HE me, and said, Things present are for those who live now, and things that are future are for those who will live hereafter.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:47 For you come far short of being able to love MY creation more than I love it. But I have ofttimes drawn nigh to you, and to it, but never to the unrighteous.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:48 But even in this respect you will be praiseworthy before the Most High,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:49 Because you have humbled yourself, as it is becoming of you, and have not judged yourself to be among the righteous so that you will receive great honor among the righteous.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:50 For many great miseries shall affect them that dwell in the world in the last times, because they have walked in great pride.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:51 But think and understand your own case, and seek and inquire concerning the splendor of those who are like yourself.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:52 For to you is paradise opened, The Tree of Life is planted, the age to come is prepared, plenteousness is made ready, a city is built, and rest is allowed, yes, tov is established and wisdom perfected beforehand. • Rev 2:7; Rev 22:2.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:53 The root of evil is sealed up from you, illness is banished from you, and death is hidden from you, hell has fled and corruption has been forgotten:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:54 Sorrows have passed away, and in the end the treasure of immortality is made manifest.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:55 Therefore do not ask any more questions about the multitude of those who perish.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:56 For when they also received freedom, they despised the Most High YAHWEH, thought scorn and were contemptuous of HIS Torah, and forsook HIS ways.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:57 Moreover they have even trampled upon HIS righteous ones,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:58 And said in their hearts, that there is no YAHWEH ALMIGHTY; yes, though knowing full well that they must die. • Pss 14:1; Pss 53:1

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:59 For as the things which I have aforesaid shall receive you, so thirst and torment are prepared for them: For the Most High YAHWEH did not intend that men should be destroyed;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:60 But they themselves who were created have defiled the NAME of YAHWEH who made them, and have been ungrateful to HIM who prepared Life for them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:61 And therefore MY judgment is now drawing near.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:62 These things have I not shown to all men, but only to you, and a few like you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 8:63 Then answered I and said, Behold, Oh YAHWEH, now have you shown me the multitude of the signs and wonders which YOU will begin to do in the last times: but YOU have not shown me when YOU will do them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9 9

The End, And The Signs Preceding It

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:1 HE answered me then, and said, Measure you carefully the time in your mind: and when you see part of the predicted signs are past, which I have told you before,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:2 Then shall you know and understand what is the very time when the Most High YAHWEH is about to

visit the world which HE has made.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:3 Therefore when there shall appear in the world earthquakes, tumult of peoples, intrigues of nations, wavering of leaders, confusion of princes,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:4 Then you shall know and understand well, that YAHWEH the Most High spoke of those things from the days that were of old, that were even before you, from the beginning.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:5 For just as with everything that is made in the world, has a beginning and is evident, and the end is manifest:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:6 Even so also are the times of the Most High YAHWEH; the plain beginnings manifest in wonders and mighty powerful works, and endings in requital, effects and signs.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:7 And it shall be that everyone who shall be delivered and shall be able to escape on account of his works, or on account of the faith whereby he has believed,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:8 Shall be preserved from the said imminent perils that have been predicted, and shall see MY Deliverance in MY land, and within MY borders: which I have made kodesh for ME from the beginning.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:9 Then those who have now abused MY Ways shall be in a pitiful state, and they that have rejected and cast them away despitefully with contempt shall dwell in torments.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:10 For many such as this did not acknowledge ME in their lifetime, although they received MY benefits,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:11 And as many that scorned and loathed MY Torah, while they still had freedom, and did not understand but despised ME while an opportunity of repentance was still open to them,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:12 The same must in torment acknowledge ME after death.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:13 And therefore, do not continue to be

curious as to how the checedless wicked shall be punished, but inquire how the righteous shall be delivered, those to whom the age belongs and for whose sake the age was created and when.

The Fate Of The Wicked

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:14 Then I answered and said,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:15 I have said before, and now do speak, and will speak it again, that there be many more of them which perish, than of them which shall be delivered:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:16 Like as a wave is greater than a drop of water.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:17 And HE answered me, saying, as is the field, so is also the seed; and as are the flowers so are the colors; and as is the workman, so is the product; and as is the husbandman, so is the threshing floor.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:18 For there was a time in this age when I was preparing for those who now exist, before the world was made for them to dwell in, and no one opposed ME then, for no one existed.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:19 For then everyone obeyed: but now the manners of them which are created in this world that is made are corrupted by a perpetual seed, have become corrupt in their ways, and by a Torah which is unsearchable rid themselves.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:20 So I considered MY world, and behold, it was lost, and MY earth, and behold, it was in peril because of the devices of those who had come into it.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:21 And I saw and spared some with great difficulty, and delivered for MYSELF one grape out of a cluster, and one plant out of a great forest.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:22 So let the multitude perish which has been born in vain; but let MY grape be kept, and MY plant be delivered; for with much labor I have made them perfect.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:23 Nevertheless, if you will let yet seven

days more pass, but you shall not fast in them,
EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:24 But go into a field of flowers where no
house has been built, and eat only the flowers of the field;
taste no flesh, drink no wine, but eat only flowers;
EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:25 And pray to the Most High YAHWEH
continually, then will I come and talk with you.

THE FOURTH VISION

The Abiding Splendor Of The Mosaic Torah

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:26 So I went my way into the field which
is called Ardath, like as he commanded me; and there I sat
among the flowers, and did eat of the herbs of the field, and
the food of the same satisfied me.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:27 After seven days, as I sat upon the
grass, and my heart was troubled within me, like as before:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:28 And I opened my mouth, and began to
talk before the Most High YAHWEH, and said,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:29 Oh YAHWEH, YOU that show
YOURSELF to us, YOU were shown to our fathers in the
wilderness, in a place where no man treads, in a barren place,
when they came out of Egypt.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:30 And YOU said, Hear ME, Oh Yisrael;
and give heed to MY Words, you seed of Yacob.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:31 For, behold, I sow MY Torah in you,
and it shall bring fruit in you, and you shall be magnified
through it forever.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:32 But though our fathers received the
Torah, they did not keep it, and did not observe YOUR
ordinances: yet the fruit of YOUR Torah did not perish, neither
could it, because it was YOURS;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:33 Yet they that received it perished,
because they kept not the thing that was sown in them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:34 And, lo, it is a custom, when the
ground has received seed, or the sea a ship, or any vessel

meat or drink, that, that being perished wherein it was sown or cast into,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:35 That thing also which was sown, or cast therein, or received, does perish, and remains not with us: but with us it has not happened so.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:36 For we that have received the Torah perish by sin, and also our heart also which received it;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:37 However the Torah does not perishes but remains in its force. • Ex 19:9; Ex 24:10; Deut 4:12

The Vision Of A Dependent Woman

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:38 And when I had spoke these things in my heart, I lifted up my eyes and saw a woman on my right, and behold, she was mourning and weeping with a loud voice, and was deeply grieved in her heart, and her clothes were rent, and she had ashes upon her head.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:39 Then I dismissed the thoughts with which I had been engaged, and turned to her,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:40 And said to her, Why are you weeping, and why are you grieved in your heart?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:41 And she said to me, Sir, let me alone, that I may bewail for myself, and continue to mourn and add to my sorrow, for I am greatly embittered in ruach and brought very low.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:42 And I said to her, What has happened to you? Tell me.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:43 She said to me, I your servant have been barren and had no child, though I lived with my husband thirty years,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:44 And those thirty years I did nothing else day and night, and every hour, but make my prayer to the Most High.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:45 After thirty years YAHWEH heard your handmaid, and looked upon my misery, considered my distress, and gave me a son: and I was very glad of him, so

was my husband also, and all my neighbors: and we gave great honor and splendor to YAHWEH the ALMIGHTY.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:46 And I nourished him with great care.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 9:47 So when he grew up, and came to the time that he should have a wife, I set a day for the marriage and made a feast.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10 10

The Son Entered His Wedding Chamber

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:1 And it so came to pass, that when my son entered his wedding chamber, he fell down, and died.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:2 Then we all put out the lights, and all my neighbors and friends attempted to comfort me: so I remained quiet until evening of the second day.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:3 And it came to pass, when they had all left off comforting me, so that I might be quiet; then rose I up by night and fled, and came here into this field, as you see.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:4 And I do now purpose not to return into the city, but here to stay, and neither to eat nor drink, but continually to mourn and to fast until I die.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:5 Then left I the meditations wherein I was, and spoke to her in anger, saying,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:6 You most foolish of woman, do you not see our mourning, and what has happens to us?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:7 For Zion, the mother of us all, is full of heaviness and is in deep grief, and great humiliation, and is mourning very sore. • Gal 4:26

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:8 It is most appropriate to mourn now, because we are all mourning, and to be sorrowful, because we are all sorrowing; you are sorrowing for one son, but we, the whole world, for our mother.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:9 For ask the earth, and she shall tell you, that it is she which ought to mourn for the fall of so many that grow upon her.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:10 And from the beginning all have been born of her, and others will come; and behold, almost all go into perdition, and a multitude of them are destined for utter destruction.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:11 Who then should make more mourning than she who has lost so great a multitude, or you who are sorry for but for one?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:12 But if you say to me, My lamentation is not like the earth's, because I have lost the fruit of my womb, which I brought forth with pains, and bare with sorrows;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:13 But the earth not so: for the multitude present in it according to the way of the earth, the multitude that is now in it goes as it came:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:14 Then say I to you, Like as you have brought forth with labor; even so the earth also has from the beginning given her fruit, namely, man, to HIM that made her.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:15 Now, therefore, keep your sorrow to yourself, and bear with a strong courage that which has befallen you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:16 For if you shall acknowledge the determination of YAHWEH to be just, you shall both receive your son in time, and shall be commended among women.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:17 Therefore go into the city to your husband.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:18 And she said to me, That will I not do so: I will not go into the city, but I will die here.

Further Remonstrance Of Ezra

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:19 So I proceeded to speak further to her, and said,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:20 Do not say that, but be counseled by me: for how many are the adversities of Zion? be comforted because of the sorrow of Yerusalem.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:21 For you see that our Kodesh Place

has been laid waste, our altar broken down, and our Great Tabernacle destroyed;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:22 Our psaltery has been laid on the ground, our song has been silenced, our rejoicing has been ended, the light of our menorah has been put out, the ark of our covenant has been spoiled, our kodesh things has been defiled, and the NAME of YAHWEH that is called upon us is almost profaned: our children are put to shame, our kohanim are burnt to death, our Levites have gone into captivity, our virgins have been defiled, and our wives have been ravished; our righteous men have been carried away, our little ones have been destroyed, our young men have been brought into bondage, and our strong men made powerless;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:23 And, which is the greatest of all, the seal of Zion, for she has now lost the seal of her splendor and great honor; for she is delivered into the hands of them that hate us.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:24 And therefore shake off your great heaviness, and put away the multitude of sorrows, so that YAHWEH the ALMIGHTY may be merciful to you again, and YAHWEH the Most High may give you rest and ease from your troubles.

A Vision Of The Heavenly Yerusalem

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:25 And it came to pass while I was talking with her, behold, her face upon a sudden shined exceedingly, and her countenance glistered, so that I was afraid of her, and mused what it might be.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:26 And, behold, suddenly she made a great cry very fearful: so that the earth shook at the sound of the woman.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:27 And I looked, and, behold, the woman appeared to me no more, but there was a city built, and a large place shown itself from the foundations: then was I afraid, and cried with a loud voice, and said, • Heb 11:10; Rev

21:9-21; Rev 1:17

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:28 Where is Uriel the malak, who came to me at the first? for he has brought me into this overpowering bewilderment, and my end has turned into corruption, and my prayer to reproach.

Interpretation Of The Vision

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:29 And as I was speaking these words, behold, the malak who had come to me at first, came to me, and looked upon me.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:30 And behold, I lay there like a corpse and I was deprived of my understanding. Then he grasped my right hand and strengthened me and set me on my feet, and said to me,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:31 What is the matter with you? And why are you so troubled? and why are your understanding and thoughts of your heart so troubled?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:32 And I said, Because you have forsaken me, and yet I did according to your words, and I went into the field, and behold, I have seen, and still see, what I am not able to express.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:33 And he said to me, Stand up like a man, and I will instruct you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:34 Then I said, Speak on, my master; only do not forsake me, lest I die before my time frustrate of my hope.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:35 For I have seen that which I did not know, and heard that which I do not understand.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:36 Or is my sense deceived, or my soul in a dream?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:37 Now therefore I entreat you to give your servant an explanation of this bewildering vision.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:38 Then he answered me and said, Hear me, and I shall inform you, and tell you about the things which you are afraid of, for YAHWEH the Most High will reveal many

secret things to you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:39 HE has seen that your way is right: for that you sorrow continually for your people, and make great lamentation for Zion.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:40 This therefore is the meaning of the vision which you have seen:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:41 The woman who appeared to you a little while ago, whom you saw mourning and began to comfort her:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:42 But now see you the form of the woman no more, but there appeared to you an established city.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:43 And whereas she told you of the death of her son, this is the interpretation:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:44 This woman whom you saw, whom you now behold as an established city, is Zion.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:45 Whereas for her telling you that she was barren for thirty years, it is because there were three thousand years in the world before any offering was made in her.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:46 And after three thousand Solomon built the city and offered offerings: and then it was that the barren woman bore a son.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:47 And as for her telling you that she brought him up with much care and labor: that was the period of dwelling in Yerusalem.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:48 And whereas she saying to you, When my son entered his wedding chamber, he failed and died: that was the destruction which befell Yerusalem.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:49 And, behold, you saw her likeness, and how she mourned for her son, you began to console her for what had happened: and of these happenings which have affected mans well-being, these are to be opened to you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:50 For now YAHWEH the Most High sees that you are grieved unfeignedly, and suffer from your whole heart for her, so has HE shown you the brightness of her

splendor, and the comeliness of her beauty:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:51 Therefore I bade you to remain in the field where no house had been built:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:52 For I knew that the Most High YAHWEH would reveal these happenings to you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:53 Therefore I commanded you to go into the field, where there was no foundation of any building.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:54 For in the place wherein the Most High YAHWEH reveals HIS city, there can be no building of men hands that have stood there.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:55 And therefore do not be afraid, and do not let your heart be affrighted, but go in and see the splendor and beauty and the vast greatness of the building, as far as it is possible for your eyes be able to see:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:56 And then afterward you shall hear as much as your ears can comprehend.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:57 For you are more blessed above many other, and you have been called before the Most High YAHWEH, as but few have been.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:58 But tomorrow at night you shall remain here;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 10:59 And so shall the Most High YAHWEH show you visions of what the Most High will do to those who dwell on earth in the last days. So I slept that night and following one, as he commanded me.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11 11

THE FIFTH VISION

The Eagle Vision

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:1 On the second night I had a dream, and, behold, there came up from the sea an eagle, which had twelve feathered wings, and three heads. • Dan 7:3

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:2 And I saw, and, behold, she spread her wings over all the earth, and all the winds of the heaven blew on her, and the clouds were gathered together about her.

• Rev 13:1

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:3 And I beheld, and out of her wings there grew other contrary wings; and they became little pudgy wings.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:4 But her heads were at rest: the head in the middle was greater than the other, yet rested it with the rest with them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:5 Moreover I looked, and, behold, the eagle flew with her wings, and reigned upon earth, and over them that dwelt in it.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:6 And I saw that all things under heaven were subject to her, and no man spoke against her, no, not even one creature that is on earth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:7 And I looked, and, behold, the eagle rose upon her talons, and uttered a cry to her wings, saying,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:8 Do not all watch at the same time; let each sleep in her own place, and watch by the course of her turn:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:9 But let the heads be preserved for the last.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:10 And I looked, and behold, the voice did not come out from her heads, but from the middle of her body.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:11 And I numbered her opposing wings, and, behold, there were eight of them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:12 And I looked, and, behold, on the right side there arose one feather, and reigned over all the earth;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:13 And so it was, that when it reigned, the end of it came, and the place thereof appeared no more: so the next wing following stood up, and reigned, and had a long reign.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:14 And it happened, that when it

reigned, the end of it came also, like as the first, so that it appeared no more.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:15 Then came there a voice to it, and said,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:16 Hear you that have borne rule over the earth so long: this I say to you, before you begin to appear no more,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:17 There shall none after you attain to your time, neither to the half thereof.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:18 Then arose the third wing, and reigned as the other before, and appeared no more also.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:19 So went it with all the wing one after another, as that everyone reigned with power, and then appeared no more.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:20 Then I looked, and behold, in due process of time the wings that followed stood up upon the right side, that they might rule also;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:21 And some of them ruled, but within a while they disappeared suddenly: and some of them rose up, but did not rule.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:22 After this I looked, and behold, the twelve wings appeared no more, nor the two little wings:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:23 And there was no more upon the eagle's body, but three heads that rested, and six little wings.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:24 Then saw I also that two little wings divided themselves from the six, and remained under the head that was upon the right side; but the four continued in their place.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:25 And I looked, and behold, these two little wings planned to set themselves up and hold the rule.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:26 And I looked, and behold, there was one set up, but suddenly disappeared.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:27 And the second also, and this disappeared more quickly than the first.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:28 And I looked, and behold, the two that remained were planning between themselves to reign

together:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:29 And when they were planning, behold, there awakened one of the heads that were at rest, namely, the one that was in the middle; for that was greater than the other two heads.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:30 And I saw how it allied the two heads with itself,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:31 And, behold, the head turned with two that were with it, and did eat up the two little wing which were planning to reign.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:32 Moreover this middle head gained control of the whole earth, and with much oppression dominated its inhabitants; and it had greater power over the world than all the wings that had gone before.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:33 And after this I looked, and behold, the middle head suddenly disappeared and was no more, just as the wings had done.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:34 But there remained the two heads, which also ruled over the earth and its inhabitants.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:35 And I looked, and behold, the head upon the right side devoured the one that was upon the left side.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:36 Then I heard a voice, which said to me, Look before you, and consider what you see.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:37 And I looked, and behold, a creature like a lion was aroused out of the forest, roaring; and I heard how he uttered with a man's voice to the eagle, and spoke, saying,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:38 Hear you, I will speak with you what the Most High YAHWEH shall say to you,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:39 Are you not the one that remain of the four beasts, whom I made to reign in MY world, that the end of MY times might come through them?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:40 And you the fourth that has come, and has conquered all the beasts that have gone before, and had power over the world with great fearful terror, and over all

the earth with much grievous oppression; and for so long as you have dwelt upon the earth with deceit.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:41 And you have judged the earth, but not with truth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:42 For you have afflicted the meek, you have injured the peaceable, you have hated those who tell the truth, you have loved liars, and you have destroyed the dwellings of them that brought forth fruit, and have cast down the walls of them as did you no harm.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:43 Therefore is your insolent wrongful dealings has come up before the Most High YAHWEH, and your pride before the ALMIGHTY.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:44 And the Most High YAHWEH has also looked upon HIS times, and, behold, they are ended, and his ages are completed, and his abominations are fulfilled!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:45 Therefore you will surely disappear, you eagle, and your terrifying wings, and your most evil little wings, and your malicious heads, and your most evil talons, and your whole worthless body,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 11:46 So that the whole earth be freed from your violence, and may be refreshed and return, being delivered from your violence, and that she may hope for the judgment and mercy of HIM that made her.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12 12

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:1 And it came to pass, whiles the lion spoke these words to the eagle, I looked,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:2 And, behold, the remaining head disappeared. And the two wings that had gone over to it arose and set themselves up to reign, and their reign was brief and full of tumult.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:3 And I looked, and behold, they also disappeared, and the whole body of the eagle was burnt so that the earth was exceedingly terrified.

Ezra Asks For An Interpretation Of The Vision

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:4 Then I awoke in great perplexity of mind and great fear, and I said to my spirit, "Behold, you have brought this upon me, because you search out the ways of the Most High YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:5 Behold, I am still weary in mind and very weak in my spirit, and not even a little strength is left in me, because of the great fear with which I have been terrified this night.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:6 Therefore will I now beseech the Most High YAHWEH that HE will comfort and strengthen me to the end.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:7 And so I said, Oh YAHWEH that bear rule, if I have found free unmerited favor before YOUR sight, and if I have been accounted righteous before YOU beyond many others, and if my prayer has indeed come up before YOUR face,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:8 Comfort and strengthen me and show me, YOUR servant, the interpretation and meaning of this terrifying vision, that YOU may fully comfort my soul.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:9 For YOU have judged me worthy to be shown the end of the times and the last events of the time.

The Interpretation Of The Vision

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:10 And HE said to me, This is the interpretation of the vision which you have seen:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:11 The eagle, whom you saw come up from the sea, is the kingdom which was seen in the vision of your brother Daniel.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:12 But it was not expounded to him, therefore now I declare it to you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:13 Behold, the days shall come, that there shall rise up a kingdom upon earth, and it shall be more terrifying than all the kingdoms that have been before it.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:14 And twelve kings shall reign in it, one

after another:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:15 But the second that is to reign shall have more time than any of the twelve.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:16 This is the interpretation of the twelve wings signify, which you saw.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:17 As for your hearing a voice that spoke, coming not from the eagle's heads but from the midst of his body, this is the interpretation:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:18 That after the time of that kingdom there shall arise great strivings, and it shall stand in peril of failing: nevertheless it shall not fall then, but shall regain again its former power.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:19 And whereas you saw the eight little wings (under wings) clinging to her wings, this is the interpretation:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:20 That in him there shall arise eight kings, whose times shall be short, and their years swift.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:21 And two of them shall perish when the middle of their time approaches: and four shall be kept for the time when its end begin to approach: but two shall be kept until the end.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:22 And whereas you saw three heads resting, this is the interpretation:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:23 In his last days shall the most High raise up three kingdoms, and they shall renew many things in it, and they shall have the dominion of the earth,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:24 And its inhabitants more oppressively than all who were before them: therefore are they called the heads of the eagle.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:25 For these are they who shall accomplish his final wickedness, and perform his last actions.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:26 And whereas you saw that the great head appeared no more, it signifies that one of them shall die upon his bed, and yet with pain.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:27 For the two that remain shall be slain with the sword.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:28 For the sword of the one shall devour the other who was with him: but at the end he shall fall by the sword in the last days.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:29 As for you seeing two little wings from under the wings passing over the head that is on the right side;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:30 This is the interpretation: It signifies that these are they, whom the Most High YAHWEH has kept for the eagle's end: this was the reign which was brief and full of trouble, as you saw.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:31 And the lion, whom you saw rising up out of the wood, and roaring, and speaking to the eagle, and rebuking her for her unrighteousness with all the words which you have heard;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:32 This is the anointed, which the Most High YAHWEH has kept until the end of days, who will arise from the posterity of David, and will come and speak to them; He will denounce them for their checedlessness and for their wickedness, and will cast up before them their contemptuous dealings. • Dan 7:13-14; 1En 48:6; 1En 62:7

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:33 For first HE shall set them living before HIS judgment seat, and shall rebuke them, then He will destroy them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:34 For the rest of MY people shall HE deliver with mercy, those that have been pressed upon throughout MY borders, and HE shall make them joyful until the end comes, the day of judgment, whereof I have spoken to you from the beginning.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:35 This is the dream that you saw, and this is the interpretation.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:36 And you alone were worthy to learn this secret of the Most High YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:37 Therefore write all these things that you have seen in a book, and put it in a hidden place:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:38 And teach them to the wise among your people, whose hearts you know are able to comprehend

and keep these secrets.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:39 But wait you here yourself yet seven days more, so that you may be shown whatever it pleases the Most High YAHWEH to show you. And with that he went his way.

Grief Over Ezra's Absence

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:40 And it came to pass, when all the people saw that the seven days were past, and that I did not come again into the city, they gathered themselves all together, from the least to the greatest, and came to me, and said,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:41 How have we offended you? And what evil have we done you, that you have forsaken us and sit in this place?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:42 For of all the prophets, you alone are left to us, as a cluster of grapes from the vintage, and as a lamp in a dark place, and as a haven for a ship preserved from the tempest.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:43 Are not the evils which have befallen us sufficient?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:44 Therefore if you forsake us, how much better had it been for us, if we also had been consumed in the burning of Zion?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:45 For we are no better than they that died there. And they wept with a loud voice. • 2Pet 1:19

Ezra Comforts His People

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:46 Then answered I them, and said, Take hold of strong courage, Oh Yisrael; and be not heavy and sorrowful, Oh you house of Yacob:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:47 For the Most High YAHWEH has you in remembrance, and the ALMIGHTY has not forgotten you in your struggle,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:48 As for me, I have neither forsaken

you nor departed from you: but I have come to this place to pray on account of the desolation of Zion, and that I might seek mercy for the low estate of our sanctuary.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:49 And now go your way home every man, and after these days will I come to you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:50 So the people went their way into the city, as I commanded them to do:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 12:51 But I remained still in the field seven days, as the malak commanded me; and did eat only of the flowers of the field, and had my food of the herbs during those days.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13 13

THE SIXTH VISION

The Man From The Sea

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:1 And it came to pass after seven days, I dreamed a dream in the night, and behold, a wind arose from the sea and stirred up all its waves.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:2 And I looked, and behold, this wind made something like the figure of a Man come up out of the heart of the sea.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:3 And I looked, and behold, that Man waxed strong and flew with the clouds of heaven: and wherever He turned His face to look, all things trembled under His gaze.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:4 And whensoever His voice went out of His mouth, all they melted that heard His voice, like wax melts when it feels the fire. • Jdt 16:15 Micah 1:4

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:5 And after this I looked, and behold, there was gathered together a multitude of men, without number, from the four winds of the heaven, to war against the Man that came out of the sea,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:6 But I looked, and behold, He craved out for Himself a great mountain, and flew up upon it.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:7 But I tried to see the region or place from which the great mountain was carved out, but I could not.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:8 And after this I looked, and behold, all they which were gathered together to wage war and subdue Him were sore afraid, and yet dared to fight.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:9 And behold, as He saw the violent approach of the multitude, He neither lifted up His hand, nor held sword, nor any weapon of war:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:10 But only I saw that He sent out of His mouth as it were a blast of fire, and out of His lips a flaming breath, and from His tongue He shot forth sparks and tempests.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:11 And they were all mixed together; the blast of fire, the flaming breath, and the great tempest; and fell on the onrushing multitude which was prepared to fight, and burned them all up, so that suddenly nothing was seen of the innumerable multitude but only ash dust and smell of smoke: when I saw this I was afraid.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:12 Afterward saw I the same Man come down from the mountain, and call to Him another multitude which is peaceable.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:13 And there came many people to Him, whereof some joyful, some sorry, and some of them bound, and some were bringing others as offerings.

Request For Interpretation Of The Vision

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:14 Then I was sick through great fear, and I awoke; and I besought the Most High YAHWEH, and said,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:15 From the beginning YOU have shown YOUR servant these wonders, and have counted me worthy that YOU should receive my prayer, now show me also the

interpretation of this dream.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:16 For as I consider it in my understanding, woe to them that shall be left in those days! And still much more woe to those who do not survive!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:17 For those who do not survive will be sorrowful,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:18 Because they understand what things that are laid up in the latter days, but not attaining it, but shall happen to them, and to those that are left behind.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:19 But woe also to those who do survive, for this reason, because they shall see great perilous dangers and much distress for necessities, as these dreams declare.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:20 Yet it is better for them to come into these things though incurring perilous dangers, than to pass away from the world like a cloud, and not to see the things that shall happen in the last days.

The Interpretation Of The Vision

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:21 And HE answered to me, and said, I will tell you the interpretation of the vision, and I will explain to you the thing which you have inquired.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:22 Whereas you have spoken of them that are left behind, this is the interpretation:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:23 HE who brings the peril at that time will HIMSELF protect those who fall into peril, who have works and have faith in the ALMIGHTY.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:24 Know this therefore, that they which be left behind are more blessed than those who have died.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:25 This is the interpretation of the vision: As for you seeing a Man coming up from the middle of the sea:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:26 The same is He whom the Most High YAHWEH has kept a great season, which by Himself shall deliver HIS creature: and He shall order and direct them that

are left behind.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:27 And as for you seeing a blast of wind and fire and a storm coming out of His mouth,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:28 And as for His not holding sword or weapon of war, yet destroying the onrushing multitude which came to conquer and subdue Him, this is the interpretation:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:29 Behold, the days are coming, when the Most High YAHWEH will deliver them that are upon the earth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:30 And bewilderment of mind shall come over those who dwell on the earth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:31 And they shall plan to make war against one another, one city against another city, one place against another place, people against people, and kingdom against kingdom.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:32 And the time shall be when these things shall come to pass, and the signs shall happen which I showed you before, and then shall MY Son be revealed, whom you saw as a Man ascending.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:33 And when all the people hear His voice, every man shall in their own land leave the warfare they have against one another.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:34 And an innumerable multitude shall be gathered together, as you saw, desiring to come and conquer Him by fighting.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:35 But He shall stand on top of the mount Zion.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:36 And Zion shall come, and shall be shown to all men, being prepared and built, like as you saw the mountain carved without hands.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:37 And He, MY Son shall rebuke the wicked inventions of those nations, which for their wicked checedlessness life which have fallen into the tempest; (this was symbolized by the storm)

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:38 And shall lay before them their evil thoughts, and the torments wherewith they shall begin to be

tormented, which are like to a flame: and He shall destroy them without effort by the Torah which is like to ME. (which was symbolized by the fire)

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:39 And whereas you saw that He gathered to Himself another peaceable multitude;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:40 Those are the ten tribes, which were carried away prisoners out of their own land in the time of Hoshea the king, whom Salmanasar the king of Assyria led away captive, and he carried them over the waters, and so that they came into another land.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:41 But they took this counsel among themselves, that they would leave the multitude of the heathen, and go forth into a further country, where mankind had never dwelt, • Isa 19:2 Mt 24:7 Rev 16:16; 19:19 Dan 2:34.45 2Kgs 17:1•6

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:42 That they might there keep their statutes, which they never kept in their own land.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:43 And they went in by the narrow passages of the Euphrates River.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:44 For YAHWEH the Most High then shown signs for them, and held still the flood, until they had passed over. • Josh 3:14.16

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:45 For through that country there was a great way to go, namely, of a year and a half: and that country is called Arzareth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:46 Then dwelt they there until the latter time; and now when they shall begin to come,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:47 The Most High YAHWEH shall stay the springs of the stream again, that they may go through: therefore saw you the multitude gathered together in shalom. • Isa 11:15.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:48 But those that be left behind of your people are they that are found within MY borders, shall be delivered.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:49 Now when He destroys the multitude of the nations that are gathered together, He shall defend His

people that remain.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:50 And then shall HE show them very many great wonders.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:51 Then I said, Oh Sovereign YAHWEH that bear rule, explain this to me: Why did I see the Man coming up from the middle of the sea?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:52 And HE said to me, Like as you can neither seek out nor know the things that are in the deep of the sea: even so can no man upon earth see MY Son, or those that are with Him, except in the time of His day.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:53 This is the interpretation of the dream which you saw.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:54 And you alone have been enlightened about this, because you have forsaken your own ways, and applied yourself with diligence to MINE, and have searched out MY Torah.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:55 For you have devoted and ordered your life in wisdom, and have called understanding your mother.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:56 Therefore I have shown you treasures, for there is a reward laid up with the Most High YAHWEH. And after another three days I will tell you other things, and declare to you weighty and wondrous matters.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:57 Then I arose and walked in the field, giving praise and thanks and great splendor to YAHWEH the Most High because of HIS wonders which HE did in time;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 13:58 And because HE governs the times and whatever things come to pass in their seasons. And there I sat three days.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14 14

THE SEVENTH VISION

YAHWEH Commissions Ezra

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:1 And it came to pass upon the third day, I sat under an oak, and behold, there came a voice out of a bush opposite me, and said, Ezra, Ezra.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:2 And I said, Here am I, YAHWEH And I stood up upon my feet. • Ex 3:4

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:3 Then said HE to me, In the bush I did manifestly reveal MYSELF to Mosheh, and talked with him, when MY people were in bondage in Egypt:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:4 And I sent him and led MY people out of Egypt, and led him up upon Mount Sinai of where I kept him by ME many days,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:5 And told him many wondrous things, and shown him the secrets of the times, and declared to him the end of the times. Then I commanded him, saying,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:6 These words shall you declare, and these shall you hide.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:7 And now I say to you,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:8 That you lay up in your heart the signs that I have shown, and the dreams that you have seen, and the interpretations which you have heard:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:9 For you shall be taken away from all, and from henceforth you shall remain with MY Son, and with those such as be like you, until the times are ended.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:10 For the world has lost its youthfulness, and the times begin to wax old.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:11 For the age of the world is divided into twelve parts, and nine parts of it have already passed, and half of the tenth part:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:12 So that two of its parts remain, that

which is after the half part of the tenth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:13 Now therefore set your house in order, and reprove your people, comfort the lowly among them, and instruct those that are wise.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:14 And now renounce corruption, and put away from you mortal thoughts, cast away the burdens of man, put off now the weak nature,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:15 And lay aside the thoughts that are most heavy and grievous to you, and hasten to flee from these times. • 2Cor 5:4

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:16 For yet greater evils than those which you have seen happen shall be done hereafter.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:17 For the weaker the world becomes through old age, the more shall evils be multiplied among its inhabitants.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:18 For truth shall go farther away, and falsehood shall come near. For the eagle which you saw in the vision is hastening to come.

Ezra's Prayer For Inspiration To Restore The Scriptures

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:19 Then I answered and said, Let me speak in your presence, YAHWEH,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:20 Behold, YAHWEH, I will go, as YOU have commanded me, and reprove the people which are present: but they that shall be born afterward, who shall admonish them? Thus the world is set in darkness, and they that dwell therein are without light.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:21 For YOUR Torah is burnt, therefore no man knows the things that are done of YOU, or the work that shall begin.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:22 But if I have found free unmerited favor before YOU, send the Ruach HaKodesh into me, and I shall write all that has been done in the world since the beginning, which were written in YOUR Torah, that men may

find YOUR path, and that they which will live in the latter days may live.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:23 And HE answered me, saying, Go your way, gather the people together, and say to them, that they seek you not for forty days.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:24 But look and prepare you many writing tablets, and take with you Sarea, Dabria, Selemia, Ethanus, and Asiel, these five, because they are ready to write swiftly; • Ex 24:18; Ex 34:28

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:25 And come hither, and I shall light a menorah of understanding in your heart, which shall not be put out until the writings and purpose be performed.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:26 And when you have done, some writings shall you publish, and some writings you shall deliver in secret to the wise: tomorrow at this hour shall you begin to write.

Ezra's Address To The People

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:27 Then I went forth as HE commanded me, and gathered all the people together, and said,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:28 Hear these words, Oh Yisrael.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:29 Our fathers in the beginning were strangers in Egypt, from there they were delivered:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:30 And received the Torah of Life, which they did not keep, which you also have transgressed after them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:31 Then was the land, even the land of Zion, parted among you by lot for a possession: but you and your fathers committed iniquity and unrighteousness, and have not kept the ways which the Most High YAHWEH commanded you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:32 And because HE is a righteous judge, in due time HE took from you what HE had given you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:33 And now are you here, and your brethren are farther in the interior.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:34 If you, then will rule over your minds and subdue your own understanding, and discipline your hearts, you shall be kept alive and after death you shall obtain mercy.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:35 For after death shall the judgment come, when we shall live again: and then the names of the righteous shall become manifest, and the deeds of the wicked shall be declared.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:36 Let no man therefore come to me now, nor seek me for forty days.

Ezra's Experience In The Field

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:37 So I took the five men, as HE commanded me, and we went into the field, and remained there.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:38 And the next day, behold, a voice called me, saying, Ezra, open your mouth, and drink that I give you to drink.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:39 Then opened I my mouth, and, behold, HE reached me a full cup, which was full as it were with water, but the color of it was like fire.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:40 And I took it and drank; and when I had drunk it, my heart poured forth understanding, and wisdom increased in my breast, for my ruach strengthened and retained my memory:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:41 And my mouth was opened, and shut no more.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:42 And the Most High YAHWEH gave understanding to the five men, and by turns they wrote the wonderful visions of the night that were dictated, which they knew not: and they sat forty days, and they wrote in the day, and at night they ate bread.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:43 As for me. I spoke in the day, and I held not my tongue by night.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:44 In forty days they wrote ninety-four

books.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:45 And it came to pass, when the forty days were completed, that the Most High YAHWEH spoke to me, saying, The first twenty-four books that you have written publish openly, that the worthy and unworthy may read them:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:46 But keep the seventy last, that you may deliver them only to such as be wise among the people:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:47 For in them is the wellspring of understanding, the fountain of wisdom, and the river of knowledge.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 14:48 And I did so.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15 15

The Last Days

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:1 Behold, speak you in the ears of MY people the Words of prophecy, which I will put in your mouth, says YAHWEH:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:2 And cause them to be written on paper: for they are trustworthy and true. • Is.51:16 Jer 1:9

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:3 Fear not the imaginations against you, let not the unbelief of them trouble you, that speak against you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:4 For all the unbeliever shall die in their unbelief.

YAHWEH's Vengeance Upon The Wicked

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:5 Behold, says YAHWEH, I will bring evil plagues upon the world; the sword, famine, death, and destruction.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:6 For injustice has exceedingly polluted the whole earth, and their harmful deeds are fulfilled.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:7 Therefore says YAHWEH, I will hold MY tongue no more concerning their wicked checedless deeds,

which they profanely commit, neither will I tolerate their wicked practices, in which they wickedly exercise themselves: EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:8 Behold, the innocent and righteous blood cries out to ME, and the souls of the righteous cry out continually.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:9 And therefore, says YAHWEH, I will surely avenge them, and receive to MYSELF all the innocent blood from among them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:10 Behold, MY people is led as a flock to the slaughter: I will not suffer them to dwell any longer in the land of Egypt: • Ps 44:22 Is. 53:7

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:11 But I will bring them with a mighty hand and a stretched out arm, and will smite Egypt with plagues, as before, and will destroy all its lands.

Denunciation Against Oppression Of Yisrael

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:12 Egypt shall mourn, and the foundation of it shall be smitten with the plague and punishment that I YAHWEH shall bring upon it.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:13 They that till the ground shall mourn: for their seeds shall fail, and their trees shall be ruined by blight and hail, and by a terrible tempest.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:14 Woe to the world and them that dwell therein!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:15 For the sword and misery draws near them, and nation shall stand up and fight against nation, with swords in their hands. • Mt 24:7. Mk 13:8

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:16 For there shall be sedition and unrest among men, and invading one another; they shall not regard their kings nor princes, and the course of their actions shall stand in their power.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:17 A man shall desire to go into a city, and shall not be able.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:18 For because of their pride the cities shall be troubled and be in confusion, the houses shall be

destroyed, and people shall be afraid. • Lk 21:26

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:19 A man shall have no pity upon his neighbor, but shall destroy their houses with the sword, and spoil their property, because of the lack of bread, and because of great tribulation.

Denunciation Against Sinners

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:20 Behold, says YAHWEH, I call together all the kings of the earth to reverence and fear ME, from the rising of the sun and from the south, from the east, and the west; to turn to each another and repay the things that they have done to them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:21 Just as they have done this day to MY chosen people, so will I do also, and will repay into their bosom. Thus says YAHWEH ALMIGHTY;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:22 MY right hand shall not spare the sinners, and MY sword shall not cease from them that shed innocent blood upon the earth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:23 The fire will go forth from MY wrath, and will consume the foundations of the earth, and the sinners, like straw that is kindled.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:24 Woe to those who sin and do not observe MY commandments! says YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:25 I will not spare them: depart, you faithless children! and defile not MY Kodesh Place.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:26 For I YAHWEH knows all them that sin against ME, and therefore delivers them to death and destruction.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:27 For now are the calamities come upon the whole earth, and you shall remain in them: for I YAHWEH shall not deliver you, because you have sinned against ME.

A Vision Of Terrifying Warfare

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:28 Behold, a terrifying sight, and the

appearance thereof from the east:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:29 Where the nations of the dragons of Arabia shall come out with many chariots, and the multitude of them shall be carried as the wind upon earth, that all they which hear them may fear and tremble.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:30 Also the Carmanians from the north, raging in wrath, shall go forth as wild boars of the forest, and with great power shall they come, and engage them in battle, and shall waste a portion of the land of the Assyrians. • Ps 80:13

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:31 And then shall the dragons, remembering their origin; shall become still stronger; and conspiring together in great power and turn to pursue them, shall have the upper hand,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:32 Then these shall be disorganized and silenced by their power, and shall turn and flee.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:33 And from the land of the Assyrians shall the enemy besiege them, and consume some of them, and fear and dread shall come upon their army, and strife among their kings.

Ominous Storm Clouds

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:34 Behold clouds from the east, and from the north to the south, and their appearance is very horrible to look upon, full of wrath and storm.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:35 They shall smite one another and shall pour out a heavy tempest upon the earth, and their own tempest,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:36 And there shall be blood from the sword as high as a horse's belly and a man's thigh and a camel's hock. • Rev 14:20

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:37 And there shall be great fearfulness and trembling upon earth: and they that see the wrath shall be sore afraid, and they shall be seized with trembling.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:38 And, after that, great storm clouds

shall be stirred up from the south, and from the north, and another part from the west.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:39 And strong winds shall arise from the east, and shall prevail over the great storm cloud which I raised in MY wrath, and shall dispel it; and the tempest to cause great fear and destruction, and shall be driven violently toward the south and west.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:40 And great and mighty clouds full of wrath and tempest shall rise up to destroy the inhabitants of the earth and make all the earth afraid, and they shall pour out over every high and lofty place (or person), a horrible tempest, EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:41 Fire, and hail and flying swords and floods of water, that all the fields and all the streams may be filled with the abundance of those waters.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:42 And they shall destroy the cities and walls, mountains and hills, trees of the wood, and grass of the meadows, and their corn.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:43 And they shall go steadfastly to Babylon, and shall destroy her.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:44 They shall come to her, and besiege her, they shall pour out the tempest and all its wrath upon her: then shall the dust and smoke go up to the heaven, and all they that be about her shall bewail her. • Rev 14:8, Rev 18:10-19

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:45 And they that survive shall do service to them that have put her in fear.

Asia Has Become Like Babylon

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:46 And you, Asia, that are partakers of the glamour of Babylon, and are the splendor of her person:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:47 Woe be to you, miserable wretch! Because you have made yourself like to her; and have decked your daughters in whoredom, that they might please and glory in your lovers, which have always lusted to commit whoredom with you. • Rev 14:8; Rev 17:4.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:48 You have imitated and followed her that is hated in all her works and inventions: therefore says YAHWEH,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:49 I will send plagues upon you; widowhood, poverty, famine, sword, and pestilence, to lay waste your houses with destruction and death.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:50 And the splendor of your power shall be dried up as a flower, when the heat rises that is sent over you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:51 You shall be weakened like a wretched woman beaten with stripes, and is wounded, so that you cannot receive your mighty lovers.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:52 Would I have dealt with you with a jealous wrath? says YAHWEH,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:53 If you had not always slain MY chosen people, leaping for joy and clapping your hands, and talking about their dead, when you were drunken,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:54 Set forth the beauty of your countenance!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:55 The reward of a whore is in your bosom, therefore you shall receive your recompense.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:56 Like as you have done to MY chosen people, says YAHWEH, even so shall YAHWEH the ALMIGHTY do to you, and shall deliver you over to adversities.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:57 Your children shall die of hunger, and you shall fall by the sword, and your cities shall be broken down, and all your people who are in the open country shall perish with the sword.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:58 They that be in the mountains and highlands shall die of hunger, and they shall eat their own flesh in hunger for bread and drink their own blood in thirst for water.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:59 Unhappy above all others, you shall come through the sea, and receive plagues again.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:60 And in the passage they shall wreck the hateful unprofitable city, and shall destroy some portion of

your land, and abolish a part of your glory, as they return from the devastated Babylon.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:61 And you shall be cast down by them like stubble, and they shall be like fire to you;

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:62 And they shall consume you, and your cities, your land, and your mountains; they shall burn with fire all your woods and your fruitful trees.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 15:63 Your children shall then be carried away captive, and shall plunder your wealth, and mar the beauty of your face.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16 16

Denunciation Of Babylon, Asia, Egypt, And Syria

Sorrows And The Beginning Of Evils For Babylon

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:1 Woe to you, Babylon and Asia! woe to you, Egypt and Syria!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:2 Gird up yourselves with sackcloth and haircloth, bewail your children, and lament for them; for your destruction is at hand.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:3 The sword has been sent upon you, and who is there to turn it back?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:4 A fire has been sent upon you, and who may quench it?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:5 Plagues has been sent upon you, and who is there that may drive them away?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:6 May any man drive away a hungry lion in the forest? or may any one quench the fire in stubble, when it has begun to burn?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:7 May one turn again the arrow that is

shot of a strong archer?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:8 YAHWEH the ALMIGHTY sends the plagues and calamities and who is there that can drive them away?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:9 A fire shall go forth from HIS wrath, and who is there to quench it?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:10 HE shall cast lightnings, and who shall not be afraid? HE shall thunder, and who shall not be terrified?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:11 YAHWEH shall threaten, and who shall not be utterly shattered at HIS presence?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:12 The earth and the foundations quakes, the sea arises up with waves from the deep, and the waves of it are troubled, and the fish also at the presence of YAHWEH, and before the splendor of HIS power: • Ps 18:15

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:13 For strong is HIS right hand that bends the bow, and HIS arrows that HE shoots are sharp, and shall not miss, when they begin to be shot into the ends of the world.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:14 Behold, the plagues and calamities are sent forth and shall not return until they come and cover the earth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:15 The fire is kindled, and shall not be put out until it consumes the foundations of the earth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:16 Like as an arrow which is shot of a mighty archer returns not backward: even so the plagues that shall be sent upon earth shall not return again.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:17 Woe is me! woe is me! Who will deliver me in those days?

The Beginning Of Calamities

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:18 The beginning of sorrows and great mournings and lamentations; the beginning of famine and great death; the beginning of wars, and the powers shall stand in fear; the beginning of evils! when all shall tremble. What

shall we do in these circumstances, when these evils and calamities shall come?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:19 Behold, famine and plague, tribulation and anguish are sent as scourges for the amendment and correction of men.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:20 Yet for all these things they shall not turn from their lawless wickedness, nor be always mindful of the scourges.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:21 Behold, provisions shall be so very cheap upon earth that they shall imagine to themselves that peace is assured for them, and then shall evil calamities spring up on earth, the sword, famine, and great confusion.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:22 For many of those that dwell upon earth shall perish by famine; and those that escape the hunger, shall the sword destroy.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:23 And the dead shall be cast out like dung, and there shall be no man to comfort them: for the earth shall be left desolate, and the cities shall be demolished.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:24 There shall be no man left to till the earth, and to sow it.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:25 The trees shall give fruit, and who shall gather it?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:26 The grapes shall ripen, and who shall tread them? For all places shall be desolate of men:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:27 So that one man shall long to see another, or even to hear his voice.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:28 For out of a city there shall be ten left, and out of the field, two who have hidden themselves in thick groves and clefts in the rocks.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:29 As in an orchard of Olive trees, upon every tree there be left three or four olives; • Isa 17:6

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:30 Or as when a vineyard is gathered, there are left some clusters of them that diligently seek through the vineyard:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:31 Even so in those days there shall be three or four left by them that search their houses with the

sword.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:32 And the earth shall be laid waste, and the fields thereof shall wax old, and her ways and all her paths shall grow full of thorns, because no sheep shall go along them.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:33 The virgins shall mourn, having no bridegrooms; the women shall mourn because they have no husbands; their daughters shall mourn because they have no helpers.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:34 Their bridegrooms shall be killed in war, and their husbands shall perish because of famine.

Warnings Of Impending Disasters

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:35 Hear now these things and understand them, you servants of YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:36 Behold, the Word of YAHWEH, receive it, and do not disbelieve what YAHWEH says: do not believe the gods of whom YAHWEH spoke.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:37 Behold, the plagues and calamities draw near, and are not delayed.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:38 Just as a woman with child, in the ninth month, when the time of her delivery draws near, has great pains about her womb for two or three hours beforehand, and when the child comes forth from the womb, there will not be a moment's delay.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:39 Even so shall the plagues and calamities not be delayed in coming forth upon the earth, and the world shall groan, and pains and sorrows shall seize it on every side.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:40 Oh MY people, hear MY Word: prepare yourself for the battle, and in the midst of the calamities and evils be even as pilgrims and strangers upon the earth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:41 He that sells, let him be as he that flees away: and he that buys be as one that will loose: • 1Cor

7:29-31

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:42 Let him that does business be like one who will not make a profit: and let him that builds a house be like one who will not live in it:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:43 Let him that sows be like one who will not reap; so also him that prunes the vines, like one who will not gather the grapes:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:44 They that marry, as they that shall not get children; and they that marry not, as the widowers.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:45 And therefore they that labor, labor in vain:

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:46 For strangers shall reap their fruits, and spoil their property, overthrow their houses, and take their children captives, for in captivity and famine shall they get children.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:47 Those who conduct business do it only to be plundered, the more they deck their cities, their houses, their possessions, and their own persons,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:48 The more angry I will be with them for their sins, declares YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:49 Just as a upright, honest and virtuous woman abhors a harlot,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:50 So shall righteousness abhor injustice and iniquity, when she decks herself out, and shall accuse her to her face, when HE comes that shall defend him that diligently searches out every sin upon earth.

The Power And Wisdom Of YAHWEH

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:51 Therefore you, do not be like unto her, nor to her works.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:52 For behold, just in a little while, injustice and iniquity shall be taken away out of the earth, and righteousness shall reign among you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:53 Let not the sinner say that he has not sinned: for YAHWEH shall burn coals of fire upon his head,

which says, I have not sinned before YAHWEH the ALMIGHTY and HIS splendor.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:54 Behold, YAHWEH knows all the works of men, their imaginations and their thoughts, and their hearts:
EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:55 Which spoke but the Word, Let the earth be made; and it was made: Let the heaven be made; and it was created.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:56 At HIS Word the stars were made and were fixed, and HE knows the number of the stars.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:57 It is HE who searches the deep and its treasures, and it is HE has measured the sea, and what it contains.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:58 HE has shut the sea in the middle of the waters, and with HIS Word has suspended the earth over the waters.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:59 HE spreads out the heavens like an arch, and upon the waters has HE founded it.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:60 In the desert HE has put springs of water, and pools on the tops of the mountains, that the floods might pour down from the high rocks to water the earth.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:61 HE made man, and put his heart in the midst of his body, and gave him breath, life and understanding,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:62 And the Ruach of YAHWEH the ALMIGHTY who made all things, and searches out all hidden things in the secrets of the earth,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:63 Surely HE knows your inventions, and what you think in your hearts! Even them that sin and hide their sin. Woe to those who sin and want to hide their sins!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:64 Because YAHWEH will strictly examine all their works, and will make a public spectacle of all of you, and HE will put you all to shame.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:65 And when your sins are brought forth before men, you shall be ashamed before men, and your own sins shall be your accusers in that day.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:66 What will you do? Or how will you

hide your sins before YAHWEH and HIS malakim?

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:67 Behold, YAHWEH HIMSELF is the judge, fear HIM! Cease from your sins, and forget your iniquities, never to commit or to meddle again with them forever: so shall YAHWEH lead you forth, and deliver you from all tribulation.

Impending Persecution Of The Chosen People

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:68 For, behold, the burning wrath of a great multitude is kindled over you, and they shall take away some of you who are idle, and feed you with things offered to idols.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:69 And those that consent to eat shall be held in derision and contempt, and be trodden under foot.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:70 For there shall be in many places and in the neighboring cities, there shall be a great insurrection against those that fear YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:71 They shall be like mad men, sparing none, but plundering and spoiling and destroying those that fear YAHWEH.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:72 For they shall destroy and take away their property, and cast them out of their houses.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:73 Then shall they be known, who are MY chosen people shall be manifest; and they shall be tried as the gold in the fire. • Pro 27:21; Zech 13:9; 1Pet 1:7; Rev 3:18; Job 23:10; WISDOM 3:6.

Promise Of YAHWEH's Deliverance

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:74 Hear, Oh you MY beloved chosen people, says YAHWEH: behold, the days of tribulation are at hand, and I will deliver you from the same.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:75 Be you not afraid neither doubt; for YAHWEH is your guide,

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:76 And the guide of you who keep MY commandments and precepts, says YAHWEH the ALMIGHTY:

do not let your sins weigh you down, and let not your injustice and iniquities lift up themselves and prevail over you.

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:77 Woe be to them that are bound and choked by their sins, and overwhelmed by their injustice and iniquities, just as a field is choked with underbrush, and its paths overwhelmed with thorns, so that no man may travel through!

EZRA -4- ESDRAS 16:78 It is left undressed, and is given over to be consumed by the fire.



We barak our Abba YAHWEH for all that HE is doing for
HIS people and the hope that we have in
His Son Yahshua MessiYah.

HalleluiYAHWEH

