Zechariah 9:16-10:12

Zechariah 9:16 – "On that day the Lord their God will save them, as the flock of his people; for like the jewels of a crown they shall shine on his land.

	3467 [e] 5·šî·'ām	341 wə·hō·wō·š	3068 [e] Yah∙weh	430 [e] 'ĕ·lō·hê·hem	3117 [e] y·yō·wm		1931 [e] ha·hū	6629 [e] kə·ṣōn	5971 [e] 'am·mōw;
•	ָןהוֹשִׁיז e them	זיעָّם And will save	יְהֹוֶה Yahweh	אֱלהֵיהֶם their God	בַּלֶּוֹם in day		הָהָוּא that	ןאָל as the flock	– עַמְוֹ of His people
	s 3mp	Conj-w V-Hifil-ConjPerf-3ms	N-proper-ms	N-mpc 3mp	rt N-ms	Prep-b, Art	Art Pro-3ms	Prep-k N-csc	N-msc 3ms
88 [e]		68 [e]	5145 [e]	5264 [e]]	5921 [e]			
kî		'ab∙nê-	nê·zer,	nō·ws·sō·w <u>t</u>	_	'al-	'ad∙mā· <u>t</u> ōw.		
כָּי		אַבְנֵי־	¥	, מֶתְנוֹסְסָוֹת		_	אַדְמָתְוֹ:		
for	ıls	they [shall be like] the jewels	of a crown	ike a banner	r Lifted li	over	His land		
Conj	рс	N-fpc	N-ms	ael-Prtcpl-fp	V-Hitp	Prep	N-fsc 3ms		

- 1. This verse may finish the thought of chapter 9 that describes in part the Lord's restoration, empowerment and salvation of Israel in their land.
 - a. 9:14 YHWH will appear over Israel
 - b. 9:15 YHWH will defend Israel
 - c. 9:16 YHWH will save Israel
- 2. The battle description ends with this verse

9:17 – "For how great is his goodness, and how great his beauty! Grain shall make the young men flourish, and new wine the young women.

8492 [e] wə· <u>t</u> î·rō·wōš		1715 [e] dā·gān	3308 [e] yā·pə·yōw;	4100 [e] ū·mah-		2898 [e] ţū·bōw	4100 [e] mah-	3588 [e] kî	
וְתִירָוֹשׁ	בַּחוּלִים	דָּבָּן דִּבָּן	ן פֿגלן אַ אַר אַר אַר אַר אַר אַר אַר אַר אַר	וֹמַה־ ייים לייים	•	טוּכְוֹ	מַה־ ייים	,	17
Conj-w N-ms	the young men N-mp	Grain N-ms	[great] its beauty N-msc 3ms	and how Conj-w Interrog		[great] is its goodness N-msc 3ms	how	For Conj	

1330 [e] 5107 [e]
bə·t̪u·lō·wtַ. yə·nō·w·b̞êb̞
the young women shall make thrive
N-fp V-Piel-Imperf-3ms

- 1. Chapter 9:17 begins a new section that describes Israel as being:
 - a. Back in the land
 - b. Prospering in the land

- c. Seeking the Lord in the land
- 2. The time of this occurring could refer to:
 - a. History Any time in Israel's history since this is God's plan for his people
 - b. 518 BC After Israel's return from Babylon such as Zechariah's day around 518 BC
 - c. 538 BC 70 AD The time Israel is in the land having returned from Babylon in 538 BC until they are again removed from the land by Rome in 70 AD
 - d. Eschatologically The time after the seventieth week at the beginning of the Kingdom Age on earth
- 3. "Grain" and "Wine" represent prosperity
- 4. "New wine" *tiros* is the first pressing of grapes
- 5. "young men" and "young women" are the new generation living in peace and prosperity in the land of Israel. This is a promise of potential or 518 BC or during times of obedience or the Kingdom Age.
- 6. The pronoun for "his goodness" and "his beauty" could actually be:
 - a. "his" YHWH
 - b. "their" the "jewels" (9:15) referring to the Israelites. This might be the best option since the last reference would be to the "jewels" or the people YHWH defended and saved and placed in the land for the whole world to see
 - c. "its" the land

10:1 – "Ask rain from the Lord in the season of the spring rain, from the Lord who makes the storm clouds, and he will give them showers of rain, to everyone the vegetation in the field.

	2385 [e] ḥă·zî·zîm;	6213 [e] 'ō·śeh	3068 Yah·w		4456 [e] mal·qō·wōš,	6256 [e] bə·'ê <u>t</u>	4306 [e] mā∙ţār		3068 [e] Yah·weh	7592 [e] ša∵ă·lū	
•	דְוִיזֵים flashing clouds	עֹשֶׂה will make	ָןה Yahw	יה <mark>–</mark> eh	מַלְלְוֹשׁ of the latter rain	בְּעֵת in the time	בְּטָר for rain		מֵיְהוָה Yahweh	שַׁאֲלוּ Ask	1
	N-mp	V-Qal-Prtcpl-ms	N-proper-	ms	N-ms	Prep-b N-csc	N-ms P	rep-m N	l-proper-ms	V-Qal-Imp-mp	
		ha	7704 [e] ś·śā·deh.	6212 [e] 'ê·śeb		1992 [e] lā·hem.	5	5414 [e] yit·tên	1653 [e] ge·šem	4306 [ū·mə·ṭa	
			בּשָּׁדֶה: בּשָּׂדֶה: the field	עַּעֶׂר		לֶהֶׁם לֶהֶׁם them	of He v	יִתַּן	پر الله الله الله الله الله الله الله الل	יַמַר־ מַטַר־ and ra	ŗ
		Prep-b,	Art N-ms			Prep-I Pro-3mp		_	N-ms	Conj-w N-ms	sc

- 1. Zechariah 10:1:
 - a. continues the agriculture context that began in 9:17.
 - b. begins a new section contrasting:
 - i. asking YHWH for rain, or
 - ii. asking terapim ("household idols", "ancestral images") for guidance
- 2. In the ancient Middle East the cosmic deities were held responsible for the rain which produced fertile fields and prosperity
 - a. Often Israel looked to Baal for rain and blessing

10:2 – "For the household gods utter nonsense, and the diviners see lies;
they tell false dreams and give empty consolation.
Therefore the people wander like sheep; they are afflicted for lack of a shepherd.

	– and	2472 [e] lō·mō·wt <u>וְחֶלמוֹת</u> d dreams v N-mpc	8267 [e] še·qer, לֶשֶׁקֶר lies N-ms	2372 [e] ḥā·zū יוֹדָן envision V-Qal-Perf-3cp	v Conj-w, A	and the	וְהַקּוֹסְמְ diviners	'ā·we [] delusid	n, dib·k	דְּבְרוּ peak	8655 [e] at·te·rā·pîm הַתְּרָפִים the idols Art N-mp	3588 [e] kî יהַ 2 For Conj
•	6629 [e] ṣōn, 內文文 sheep N-cs	3644 [e] ke·mōw- קמוֹ־ like Prep	[the people	5265 [e] nā·sə·'ū 김 ゾ 인구 I wend their way V-Qal-Perf-3cp	3651 [e] kên أي thus Adv	5921 [e] 'al- לך" upon Prep	•	5162 ve·na·ḥê·mī תֵלְגוֹן they comfi nperf-3mp 1	in; he·t בְל – יָבַוּ ort in v	oel y T ain	1696 [e] və·dab·bê·rū, יָדַבֵּרוּ tell el-Imperf-3mp	haš·šā·w הַּשָּׁוּא FALSE
						Punc		7462 [e] rō·ʻeh. בֹיעֲה: shepherd I-PrtcpI-ms	369 [e] 'ên אָין' [there is] no Adv	3588 [4 k	î- ⊋ • theya	6031 [e] ya·ʿā·nū יַעֲׁלָלָּ re in trouble I-Imperf-3mp

- 1. "Idols" terapim
 - a. Seen in:
 - i. Genesis 31:19, 34-35 "Laban had gone to shear his sheep, and Rachel stole her father's <u>household gods</u>.... Now Rachel had taken the <u>household gods</u> and put them in the camel's saddle and sat on them...So he searched but did not find the <u>household gods</u>."
 - ii. Judges 17:5-6 "The man **Micah** had a shrine, and he made an ephod and household gods, and ordained one of his sons, who became his priest. In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes."
 - iii. Judges 18:14-20 "Then the five men who had gone to scout out the country of Laish said to their brothers, "Do you know that in these houses there are an ephod, household gods, a carved image, and a metal image? Now therefore consider what you will do." And they turned aside there and came to the house of the young Levite, at the home of Micah, and asked him about his welfare. Now the 600 men of the Danites, armed with their weapons of war, stood by the entrance of the gate. And the five men who had gone to scout out the land went up and entered and took the carved image, the ephod, the household gods, and the metal image, while the priest stood by the entrance of the gate with the 600 men armed with weapons of war. And when these went into Micah's house and took the carved image, the ephod, the household gods, and the metal image, the priest said to them, "What are you doing?" And they said to him, "Keep quiet; put

your hand on your mouth and come with us and be to us a father and a priest. Is it better for you to be priest to the house of one man, or to be priest to a tribe and clan in Israel?" And the priest's heart was glad. He took the ephod and the household gods and the carved image and went along with the people."

- iv. 1 Samuel 15:23
- v. 1 Samuel 19:12-17 "So **Michal let David** down through the window, and he fled away and escaped. Michal took an image [or, "household god"] and laid it on the bed and put a pillow of goats' hair at its head and covered it with the clothes. And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, "He is sick." Then Saul sent the messengers to see David, saying, "Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may kill him." And when the messengers came in, behold, the image [or, "household god"] was in the bed, with the pillow of goats' hair at its head. Saul said to Michal, "Why have you deceived me thus and let my enemy go, so that he has escaped?" And Michal answered Saul, "He said to me, 'Let me go. Why should I kill you?'"
- vi. Ezekiel 21:21-22 "For the **king of Babylon** (Nebuchadnezzar) stands at the parting of the way, at the head of the two ways, to use divination. He shakes the arrows; he consults the <u>teraphim</u>; he looks at the liver. Into his right hand comes the divination for Jerusalem, to set battering rams, to open the mouth with murder, to lift up the voice with shouting, to set battering rams against the gates, to cast up mounds, to build siege towers.

b. Terapim -

- i. Images that represented deceased ancestors and were used to venerate them.
 - 1. The *terapim* may have served as deeds or claims to property, possessions, blessings, favor, or access to the spiritual realm.
 - 2. The *terapim* were used to remember the deceased ancestors and were images that helped provide a point of focus to continue to care for the deceased in the after life.
 - 3. The *terapim* were used to contact the deceased or access the spiritual realm to seek influence from the deceased.
 - 4. The *terapim* may have indicated the deceased ascendency to some level of divine status and may have been worshipped, or at least, honored.
- 2. "Diviners" from *qasam* meaning "to practice divination. Here it is *wə·haq·qō·ws·mîm* meaning those who practice, lead, officiate divination. This word "diviners" (*wə·haq·qō·ws·mîm*) is associated wit:
 - a. "practicing witchcraft" (Dt. 18:14),
 - b. "making sons or daughters pass through the fire" which means "burns his son or his daughter as an offering" (Dt. 18:10),
 - c. Saul saying to the witch (medium) of Endor: "Divine for me by a spirit and bring up for me whomever I shall name to you." The woman said to him, "Surely you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the necromancers from the land." (1 Samuel 28:8-9)

3. "Shepherd"

- a. Kings were the shepherds or leaders of the people.
- b. Kings in the ancient world referred to themselves as "shepherds"
 - i. Lugal-zagesi 2358-2334 BC the Sumerian king

- ii. Uruinimgina 2300 BC a king in Mesopotamia in the city-state of Lagash
- iii. Ashurnasirpal II Assyrian king 883-859 BC wrote that he was "shepherd of the four quarters who has brought all peoples under one authority."
- iv. Ashurbanipal of Assyria
- v. Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon
- 4. Because the people and their leaders sought terapim and diviners they were lost with no truth
 - a. False reality
 - b. Faulty answers and resolutions for problems
 - c. Inability to perceive truth and process reality

10:3 – "My anger is hot against the shepherds, and I will punish the leaders; for the Lord of hosts cares for his flock, the ho

for the Lord of hosts cares for his flock, the house of Judah, and will make them like his majestic steed in battle.

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		7462 [6		2734 [e]	2	639 [e]	5921 [e]	_	260 [e]			_	3588 [e]
	m 'al-	hā·rō·'în		ḥā∙rāh		'ap∙pî,	wə·ʻal-	1	ū∙dîm	hā·'at·ti	wd;	'ep·qō·w	kî-
3	עַל־ הָ	וְרֹעִים		חָרָה		אַפִֿי	ַן עַל־	7	ָדָעַתּוּ	ידים –	אָפְי	פָקוֹד	⊄ ړ۔
	ls Against	the shepherd		kindled	is I	My anger	and	s	herds	the goat	nish	I will punis	for
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ro1	6405	2000 [6]	2025 [6]	.1 6	052 [-	5720 fel	052 [6]	004 [6]	40	2002 [6]		7760 [6]	
	6485		6635 [e]			5739 [e]	853 [e]	004 [e]		3063 [e]		7760 [e]	
	pā∙q		oā·'ō·w <u>t</u>	ī- żə.b	· ej	'e₫·rōw	'e <u>t</u> -	bê <u>t</u>		yə·hū·dāh,		wə∙śām	
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ſe]	853	5483 [e]	35 [e]	19	421 [e]	4							
	'ō∙w∙ <u>t</u> ā	kə·süs	v-dōw			bam·mil·ḥ							
N	הָֿב	בְּסְוּס	הוֹדָוֹ		בַּמִּלְחָנְ	•							
m	the	as horse	royal	His	e battle	in the							
np	DirObjM 3i	Prep-k N-msc	3ms	N-msc	rt N-fs	Prep-b, A							

10:4 – "From him shall come the cornerstone, from him the tent peg,from him the battle bow,from him every ruler—all of them together.

	4480 [e] mim·men·nū	6438 [e] pin·nāh		l480 [e] nen∙nū		3489 [e] yā· <u>t</u> êd,		4480 [e] mim·men·nū	7198 [e] qe·še <u>t</u>		4421 [e] mil·ḥā·māh;	4480 [e] mim·men·nū
4	בְּבֶּנְבּוּ From him	פַנָּה nerstone	the co	מָמֶנוּ מוֹ mim mo	fro	יָתֵׁד the [tent] peg	•	בְּלֶּבֶּוּ from him	ֶּבְלִשֶׁת the bow	•	מִלְחָמֵה battle	לֶקֶנוּ from him
	Prep 3ms	N-fs		p 3ms	Prep	N-fs		Prep 3ms	N-fsc		N-fs	Prep 3ms
	3318 yê	3605 [e] <u>k</u> āl	5065 [e] 1ō·w·gêś		3162 [e] aḥ·dāw.							
	እ com V-Qal-Imperf-3	כְל־ every	נוֹגֵשׁ ruler Prtcpl-ms	r	יַחְדָּו: gether Adv	- to						

- 1. "Cornerstone" is a cut stone that is used to:
 - a. ensure the spiritual stability of a temple or palace
 - b. establish the structural integrity of a physical building
 - c. secure the correct location and orientation of the building since this is the first stone laid.
 - d. anchor the structure as the foundation stone.
- 2. "Tent peg" large pegs driven into the ground that were used to secure the ropes that hold up and secure the stability of a tent.
- 10:5 "They shall be like mighty men in battle, trampling the foe in the mud of the streets; they shall fight because the Lord is with them, and they shall put to shame the riders on horses.

4421 bam·mil·ḥā·mā		2916 [e] bə·ţîţ		bô	947 [e] 5·w·sîm	1368 [e] kə·gib·bō·rîm		1961 [e] wə·hā·yū	
– מֵלְחָמֶּה in the batt		··:	vho tread d	own [their er	בּוֹסָׁים nemies] li	כָגְבֹּרְים ike mighty mer		ּוְהָיֹּר And they shall be	5
Prep-b, Art N-	fs N-mp	Prep-b N-msc		V-Qal-P	rtcpl-mp	Prep-k Adj-mp	Conj-w \	V-Qal-ConjPerf-3cp	
5483 [e] sū·sîm.	7392 [e] rō·kə·bê	We	3001 [e] ə·hō·bî·šū	5973 [e] 'im·mām:	3068 Yah∙w			3898 [wə∙nil∙hă∙m	
סוֹמֶים: horses	רֹכְבֵי the riders on	and shall be put	ָןהֹבֶישׁוּ וְהֹבֶישׁוּ	ਪ੍ਰਕੁਧ with them	ನ್ನ Yahwel	כָּי יְהָּן	•	ַלְחֲמֹּוּ and they shall fig	רְּלָ
N-mp	V-Qal-Prtcpl-mpc	Conj-w V-Hifil-Co	njPerf-3cp	Prep 3mp	N-proper-		Conj-w	V-Nifal-ConjPerf-3	ср

- 1. "riders on horses" one of the major innovations of the Persian military was the introduction of the cavalry or "riders on horses" to outmaneuver foot soldiers.
- 10:6 "I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph.
 I will bring them back because I have compassion on them, and they shall be as though I had not rejected them, for I am the Lord their God and I will answer them.

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3467 [e]
                          3130 [e]
                                      1004 [e]
                                                          853 [e]
                                                                           3063 [e]
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     'ō·wō·šî·a',
                        yō·w·sêp
                                          bê<u>t</u>
                                                          wə-'et-
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                             יוסף
                                                                           יָהוּלָה
                                         בֵית
                                                                                          בֵית
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                                                           ַןאָת־ 👡
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                                                                          of Judah the house
                                                                                                                  And I will strengthen
                        of Joseph the house
                                                             and
V-Hifil-Imperf-1cs
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              3808 [e]
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                   lō-
                            ka·'ă·šer
                                                         wə·hā·yū
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                                                  and they shall be
                                                                    I have mercy on them because
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                                                                                     יָהוָה
                                      and I will hear them
                                                                   their God
                                                                                   Yahweh
                                                                                                           for
                                                                                                                    I had cast them aside
                                                                                              I [am]
                      Conj-w | V-Qal-Conjlmperf-1cs | 3mp
                                                                N-mpc | 3mp N-proper-ms Pro-1cs
                                                                                                          Conj
                                                                                                                     V-Qal-Perf-1cs | 3mp
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10:7 – "Then Ephraim shall become like a mighty warrior, and their hearts shall be glad as with wine.

Their children shall see it and be glad; their hearts shall rejoice in the Lord.

3196	[e] 3644 [e]] 382	20 [e]	8055 [e]	669 [e]	1368 [e]		1961 [e]	
yā∙y	in; <mark>kə·</mark> mōw-	- lib	·bām	wə∙śā·maḥ	'ep̄·ra·yim,	<u>k</u> ə·gib·bō·wr		wə∙hā∙yū	
7 –	בָּמוֹ־ נְיֵי)	לָבָּם	וְשָּׁמַח	אֶפְרַיִּם	כְגִבּוֹרׂ		ןֿיָדָן 7	
wii	ne as if with	their l	heart	and shall rejoice	[Those of] Ephraim	like a mighty man		And shall be	
N-r	ns Prep	N-msc	3mp Conj-w	V-Qal-ConjPerf-3ms	N-proper-ms	Prep-k Adj-msc	Conj-w '	V-Qal-ConjPerf-3cp	
		3068 [e]	3820 [e]	1523 [e]		8056 [e]	7200 [e]	1121 [e]	
		Yah·weh.	lib∙bām	yā∙gêl	wə∙ś	ā·mê·ḥū,	yir-'ū	ū∙ḇə∙nê∙hem	
		בַיהוָה:	לָבָּם	יָגָּל		וְשָׂמֶחוּ	יִרְאָוּ	וּכְנֵיהֶםׂ	
	ir	1 Yahweh	their heart	shall rejoice	and	d be glad sha	ıll see [it]	and Yes their children	
	Prep-b N-p	proper-ms	N-msc 3mp	V-Qal-Imperf.Jus-3ms	Conj-w V-Qal-Con	ijPerf-3cp V-Qal-Im	perf-3mp	Conj-w N-mpc 3mp	

Again the imagery and the idea of Judah and Joseph (Israel) being successful in battle
 "I will whistle for them and gather them in,
for I have redeemed them,
and they shall be as many as they were before.

7235 [e]	3644 [e]	7235 [e]	6299 [e]	3588 [e]	6908 [e]		8319 [e]	
rā·bū.	kə·mōw	wə∙rā∙bū	p̄ə∙dı̂∙tı̂m;	kî	wa·'ă·qab·bə·şêm	lā·hem	'eš·rə·qāh	
רָבְוּ:	כְמָוֹ	וָרָבָוּ	פְדִיתֵים	בֿנ	וַאָּלַבְּצֵים	לָקֶם	אָשְׁרָקָה	8
they once increased	as	and they shall increase	I will redeem them	for	and gather them	for them	I will whistle	
V-Qal-Perf-3cp	Prep	Conj-w V-Qal-ConjPerf-3cp	V-Qal-Perf-1cs 3mp	Conj	Conj-w V-Piel-Conjlmperf.h-1cs 3mp	Prep 3mp	V-Qal-Imperf.Cohort-1cs	

- 1. "whistle" sharaq "to hiss", "whistle", "pipe" refers to a shepherd whistling to call the sheep of his flock.
 - a. God is the shepherd here
 - b. John 10:27 Jesus is the shepherd that says "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."
 - c. "whistling" is gathering Israel here.

10:9 – "Though I scattered them among the nations, yet in far countries they shall remember me, and with their children they shall live and return.



- 1. Notice "I will sow them" instead of the ESV "scatter". The Hebrew is in line with the Masoretic Text.
- 2. "Sow" should be retained because in YHWH's plan he was doing more than scattering Israel, he was sowing them for refinement to restore them in the future just as these verses are describing.

10:10 – "I will bring them home from the land of Egypt, and gather them from Assyria, and I will bring them to the land of Gilead and to Lebanon, till there is no room for them.



10:11 – "<u>He</u> shall pass through the sea of troubles and strike down the waves of the sea, and all the depths of the Nile shall be dried up. The pride of Assyria shall be laid low, and the scepter of Egypt shall depart.



- 3. The pronoun "He"
 - a. NIV "They will pass through the sea of trouble; the surging sea will be subdued and all the depths of the Nile will dry up."
 - b. KJ "And <u>he</u> shall pass through the sea with affliction, and shall smite the waves in the sea,..."
 - c. NAS "they will pass through the sea of distress And He will strike the waves in the sea...."
 - d. "They" = Ephraim; "He" = YHWH
 - e. Masoretic Text has the singular verb
 - i. The Masoretic Text should always be the primary text unless there is clear textual corruption in the manuscripts. This is not the case here
 - f. Septuagint has a plural verb
 - i. 8, 9, 10 has been first person YHWH as in "I will redeem them", "I sow them", "I will bring them back", "I will bring them". Why switch to "He" to refer to YHWH. But, this type of switch is common in prophetic literature and the rapid switch like this actually distinguishes OT writing.
 - ii. Some dislike the concept of YHWH passing through affliction, but who else is going to then "strike the sea" and dry up the waves of the Nile? This can only be YHWH

10:12 – "I will make them strong in the Lord, and they shall walk in his name," declares the Lord.

