

ZAKARIAH.

The period of Zakariah's Prophetic Office was about 520 to 517 B.C.

A Call to Listen to God.

1 **I**N the seventh month of the second year of Darius, the Command of the EVER-LIVING came to Zakariah-ben-Barakiah-ben-Ado, the Preacher, to say;—

2 "The EVER-LIVING was angry with your fathers, angry; so say to them, Thus says the LORD OF HOSTS, 'Return to me,' says the LORD OF HOSTS, 'and I will return to you,' says the LORD OF HOSTS. Be not like your ancestors, when the former Preachers addressed them, to say,— 'Thus says the LORD OF HOSTS turn from your evil paths and bad practices,'—for they would not listen, nor would they seek Me," says the EVER-LIVING.

3 "Your fathers,—Where are they? And do the Preachers live for ever?"

4 "But, however, My words, and My decrees, and My commands to My servants the Preachers, did they not catch your forefathers, who repented and said, 'As the LORD OF HOSTS decided to do to us, He has done to us, in accordance to our ways and practices.'" 5

Zakariah in Vision shown a Red Horse and its Rider amongst the Myrtles.

7 On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, that is the month of Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the command of the EVER-LIVING came to Zakariah-ben-Barakiah-ben-Ado the Preacher;—

8 And I was enlightened in the night, and saw a man mounted on a red horse, who stood amongst the shadow of the Myrtle trees; and red, bay, and white horses followed him. So I asked, "What are these, sir?" When the Messenger who conversed with me replied, "I will show you what these are."—

10 Then the man who was stationed

amongst the Myrtles answered and said, "These are those whom the EVER-LIVING sends to patrol the earth."

Then they addressed the Messenger of the EVER-LIVING who was stationed amongst the Myrtles, and said, "We have patrolled the earth and all the earth rests and is still!"

The Messenger of the EVER-LIVING, however, replied and exclaimed, "For how long, LORD, will you not have pity on Jerusalem? and the Cities of Judah, with which you have been angry for these seventy years?"

And the EVER-LIVING responded to the Messenger who spoke with me in kind words, consoling words, when the Messenger of the EVER-LIVING who conversed with me said, "Proclaim and say,

"Thus says the LORD OF HOSTS, I am jealous for Jerusalem, and for Zion with a great jealousy; and I am angry with a great anger against the wanton Heathen!—When I was a little angry, they helped themselves to sin!—Therefore," thus says the EVER-LIVING, "I will return to Jerusalem with mercies. My House shall be rebuilt in it," says the LORD OF HOSTS, "and a Hope shall be extended to Jerusalem!"—Proclaim again, and say, "Thus says the LORD OF HOSTS; My City shall again expand with prosperity, and the EVER-LIVING again pity Zion, and choose Jerusalem again!"

The Vision of the Horns and Smiths.

Then I raised my eyes and looked, and saw four horns! So I asked the Messenger who was conversing with me, "What are these?" When he replied to me, "Those are the horns that scattered Judah, and Israel, and Jerusalem."

3 The Noble¹ then showed me four
smiths, and I asked, "What have
4 these come to do?" When he re-
plied by saying, "Those horns scat-
tered Judah, so that hardly a man
could hold up his head, but these
come to terrify them, to depress the
horns of the haughty Heathen, who
toss up the land of Judah on their
horns."

The Man with a Surveyor's Line.

5 I again raised my eyes and looked,
and saw a man with a measuring line
in his hand, so I asked, "Where are
you going to?"
6 When he replied to me, "To
measure Jerusalem, to ascertain what
is its breadth, and what is its length."
7 And then I saw the Messenger who
was conversing with me go away,
and another Messenger came to
8 speak with him, and said to him;
"Run and tell this young man, and
say, 'Jerusalem shall overflow with
population,—with the crowd of men
9 and animals in it, and I will be a wall
of fire to it around,' says the EVER-
LIVING, 'and as a splendour in her
heart.'"

A Call to Israel to Return.

10 "O-ho! O-ho! fly from the land
of the North!" says the EVER-LIVING,
"for I spread you like the four winds
of the skies," says the EVER-LIVING.
11 "A-hoy, Zion, who dwells with the
12 daughter of Babel, escape!"—For
thus says the LORD OF HOSTS, "I
will send a Sun-set splendour to the
Heathen who plundered you;—for
whoever injures you, injures the
13 ball of his own eye. For I will
shake My hand against them, and
they shall be plundered by their
slaves, and learn that the LORD of
HOSTS has sent me!
14 "Shout and rejoice, Daughter of
Zion!—for I will come and reside in
your midst," says the EVER-LIVING,
15 "and many nations will join them-

elves to the LIFE, at that time, and
they shall become My People.—But I
will reside amongst you, and you
shall know that the LORD OF HOSTS
has sent me to you, when the EVER- 16
LIVING possesses Judah as His por-
tion in the Holy Land, and again
chooses Jerusalem!"

Let all existence be silent before
the LORD, for He is awake on His
Holy Hill!

The High Priest and the Messenger.

I afterwards saw Joshua the High 3
Priest standing before the Messenger
of the EVER-LIVING; but Satan stood
at his right hand to accuse him.—
The Noble, however, said to Satan, 2
"The EVER-LIVING reprove you
Satan! Yes! the EVER-LIVING Who
has chosen Jerusalem, reprove you!
Is not he a brand snatched from out
the fire?"

Joshua, however, was clothed in 3
filthy clothes as he stood before the
Messenger, so he spoke to his atten- 4
dants present and said; "Strip those
filthy clothes off from him." And
then said to him, "You perceive
I have removed your frailties from
you, and clothed you in a splendid
robe!"

Then I said, "Let them put a 5
beautiful turban on his head!"

So they put a beautiful turban on
his head, and clothed him in robes.

Then the Messenger of the EVER- 6
LIVING stood up;—and the Messenger
of the EVER-LIVING addressed Joshua
and said;—"Thus says the LORD OF 7
HOSTS—If you walk in My paths;
and if you guard My trust; then you
shall rule My House; and then you
shall guard My Court, and I will
permit you to walk amongst these
officials.—Listen now, Joshua the 8
High Priest, you and your com-
panions, who continue in your pre-
sence,—for they are witnessing men,
—that I will bring out My SERVANT
the BRANCH. Now look at the Stone 9
which I place before Joshua,—on that
peculiar Stone there are seven eyes,
—I have engraved the engraving,"
says the LORD of HOSTS, "and will
remove the frailties of the earth at
that special time.—At that time," 10
says the LORD OF HOSTS, "men will
speak with their friends under the
vine, and under the fig tree."

The Messenger then turned to 4
converse with me, and roused me

¹ NOTE.—Ch. 2, v. 3. "Noble." In the
Hebrew Jehovah—יהוה; which is seen at
times in the Bible to be used in the sense of
"Noble," and is not always to be understood
of the Supreme Being. The common error of
translators and commentators in restricting
in their works the title as alone to belong to
God, has introduced great confusion into
many passages.—F. F.

2 like a man awakened from sleep, and asked me, "What are you looking at?"

When I answered, I have been looking, and saw a lamp all of gold, with a cup on its top, and seven lights on its seven uprights, with seven branches for the lights, that were
3 on its top. Two Olive trees also stood one on the right and the other on the left."—And I continued, and asked the Messenger who was conversing with me, and said,—“Tell me, Sir, what are these?"

5 The Messenger who conversed with me accordingly replied, and asked, "Do you not know what these are?"

And I answered, "No, Sir!"

6 So he said to me, "Say, Thus the EVER-LIVING commands to Zerubabel,—Say, Not by wealth and power, but by My Spirit." The LORD
7 OF HOSTS asks, "What are you, Great Mountain? Before Zerubabel you will be smooth, and he will bring up the great stone with cheers of 'Good luck! Good luck to it!'"

On Zerubabel laying the Foundation of the Second Temple.

8 The command of the EVER-LIVING came to me again to say;—

9 "The hands of Zerubabel have laid the foundation of this HOUSE, and his hands shall finish it,—you will thus know that the LORD OF
10 HOSTS has sent me to you. And who should despise the day of small things? So rejoice, and see, there are on the Stone chosen by the hand of Zerubabel,—those Seven Eyes of the EVER-LIVING that traverse all the earth."

11 But I continued and asked him, "What are those two Olives on the
12 right and left of the lamps?" And I again enquired and asked him, "What are the two Olive branches that are on each side of the two golden feeders that extend from the golden standards?"

13 And he replied to me asking, "Do you not know what they are?"

When I answered, "No, Sir!"

14 So he said, "Those are the two Sons-of-oil who stand near the Master of all the Earth."

Wickedness put into a Skip.

5 Then I turned, and raised my eyes and looked, and saw a flying

roll, and he asked me, "What are you looking at?" And I answered, "I am looking at a Flying-roll of twenty cubits long, and ten cubits broad."

When he said to me, "That is the
3 DIVINE POWER that will go out over the whole face of the earth, when every thief will be reformed by it, like this, and every perjurer will be reformed by it, like that. I will ex-
4 pand it," the LORD OF HOSTS has declared, "and it will enter into the house of the thief, and into the house of the perjurer from My Name, and lodge in his house, and purify its timbers and stones!"

The Messenger also proceeded to
5 talk with me, and told me, "Now, raise your eyes and see what will come out from these." And I asked,
6 "What is it?" When he replied, "That is the Ephah which will go out, and," he continued, "this is the Wickedness of all the land!" Then
7 I saw him lift up a talent of lead, and that a woman sat inside the Ephah!
8 "This," he said, "is Wickedness!" and flung her into the Measure, and threw the lump of lead on its mouth!

I again raised my eyes and looked,
9 and saw two women come up with a wind in their wings,—and their wings were like the wings of a stork, and they carried the Measure up between the earth and the skies. So I said
10 to the Messenger, "Will you inform me where they are carrying the Measure to?" When he replied,
11 "To build a House in the land of Shinar, and when it is ready she will be fixed there on her own seat!"

The four Chariots between two Hills of Steel.

I turned again and raised my
6 eyes and looked, and saw four chariots come from between the two mountains,—but the two mountains were hills of steel. In the first
2 chariot were red horses, and in the second chariot bay horses, and in the
3 third chariot white horses, and in the fourth chariot dark grey horses. So
4 I spoke, and asked the Messenger who was conversing with me, "What are these, sir?"

When the Messenger answered
5 and said to me, "These are the four winds of the Skies that travel out from the Court of the Master of all

6 the Earth. The one with the Red Horses, proceeds to the land of the North; and the White proceed to the West; and the Bay proceed to the land of the South." And the Grey advanced and enquired the journey they were to go on the earth? when he said, "Go! and travel up and down on the earth!"—

8 He then called to me, and said, "Look! Those going to the land of the North, will allay my wind in the land of the North."

The Prophet Ordered to Crown Joshua-ben-Jhozadak as the Branch.

9 Again the command of the LORD came to me to say;—

10 "Take some of the Transported, some from Huldi, some from Tobiah and some from Jedaiah, and at the same time enter the house of Joshiah-ben-Zephaniah, who has come from Babel. You must also take silver and gold and make a turban and set them on the head of Joshua-ben-Jhozadak, the High Priest, and say to him, 'Thus says the LORD OF HOSTS—Proclaim this is the Man whose Name is THE BRANCH! and under it they shall grow who will build the Temple of the EVER-LIVING!'

13 For he will build the Temple of the EVER-LIVING, and carry honour, and sit, and govern on his throne, and become an enthroned Priest, and peaceful council will be amongst them. Here are also the turbans for Huldi, and Tobiah, and Jedaiah, for Ken-ben-Zephaniah, as a memorial in the Temple of the EVER-LIVING, for they came from afar to build the Temple of the EVER-LIVING." And they recognized that the LORD OF HOSTS sent me to them. "And it will be done, if you listen to the voice of your GOD."

Darius's Ambassadors sent to Enquire of the Lord

7 It also occurred, in the fourth year of King Darius that the command of the LORD came to Zakariah, in the fourth day of the ninth month,—in Kislul, when Beth-el sent Sharazer, and Reghem Melek and their people to worship in the Presence of the LORD, and to ask the Priests of the House of the LORD OF HOSTS, and

the Preachers, enquiring, "Should I weep in the fifth month in Remembrance as I have done for so many years?"

Then the command of the LORD OF HOSTS came to me to say,—"Address all the People of the Country, and the Priests, and say, When you fasted and mourned in the fifth, and in the seventh, during these seventy years, did you fast to Me?"

"And when you ate and drank;—did you not eat and drink for yourselves? What were the Messages that the EVER-LIVING proclaimed by means of the former Preachers, when Jerusalem was inhabited, and prosperous, with villages around her, and the pastures and the slopes were peopled?"

Further the EVER-LIVING'S command came to Zakariah to say;—

Thus says the LORD OF HOSTS;—

"Practise Justice, Truth, and Right, with mercy, and kindness, each to his Neighbour; and oppress not widow, orphan, and foreigner, and the helpless; and do not each contrive wrong in his heart against his brother.—But they refused to attend, and presented a stiff shoulder, and deadened their ears to the sound;—and put adamant on their heart rather than listen to the Laws, and the Commands which the LORD OF HOSTS sent by His Spirit, by the hands of the earlier Preachers, consequently great anger came from the LORD OF HOSTS. And as when I proclaimed they would not listen; so when they called to Me I would not listen," says the LORD OF HOSTS, "but scattered them over all the Nations whom they knew not, and this country was deserted after them, both of passengers and inhabitants, for this lovely land was desolate."

The Lord's Love for Zion.

The command of the EVER-LIVING came again to say;—

Thus says the LORD OF HOSTS, "I have an affection for Zion,—a great affection,—I have an ardent affection for her!"

Thus said the EVER-LIVING, "I will return to Zion and reside in Jerusalem, when Jerusalem shall be, 'The City of Truth,' and the Hill of the LORD OF HOSTS, 'The Hill of Holiness!'"

Thus said the LORD OF HOSTS,— "Old men and old women shall again

reside in Jerusalem, and men with sticks in their hands because of the number of days! And the squares of the City shall be full of children, laughing in its squares."

6 Thus said the LORD OF HOSTS;—"If this is wonderful in the eyes of the fragments of this People, in these times,—should it also be wonderful in My eyes?"—the LORD OF HOSTS asks.

7 Thus said the LORD OF HOSTS;—"I will rescue My People from the land of the East, and from the land of the Setting-sun, and will bring them back, and they shall settle in Jerusalem and they will be My People, and I will be their GOD, by truth and right!"

9 Thus said the LORD OF HOSTS;—"Strengthen your hands to listen,—in these days, to the messages from the mouth of those who preached on the day of laying the foundation of the House of the LORD OF HOSTS, on which to build the Temple, for before those times, there were no wages, and no hire for cattle;—and there was no safety in going or returning because of robbery; and I permitted all the country to be each against his neighbour. But now, I am not to the fragments of this People as in those former times," says the LORD OF HOSTS. "For, sowing in peace, the vine yields her fruit, and the earth gives its produce, and the skies give their dew, and I cause the fragments of this People to possess all these. And although you became a curse to the Heathen, House of Judah and House of Israel;—when I rescue you, then you shall become a blessing! Fear not! but strengthen your hands."

14 Thus said the LORD OF HOSTS;—

9 The Burden of the Message of the Lord to the Country near Damask.

"Let it rest;—

For the LORD'S eyes are over Mankind,

And on all the Tribes of Israel;

2 And also Hamath and her district;—

And on Tzur, and on Zidon,

Though she had great skill.

3 For Tzur built a fort for herself,

And heaped up the silver like dust,

And fine gold like mud in the streets.

4 "But look! the LORD will seize her,—

Will strike her power on the sea;

And fire will consume her!—

5 Ashkalon also will see and will fear,—

And Gaza, and Akron in anguish,

"As I decided to punish you, and was angry with your fathers," says the LORD OF HOSTS, "and did not spare; so I will reverse My intention in the present time, and benefit Jerusalem, and the House of Judah need not fear. These are the rules that you must practise. Speak truth each to his neighbour. Practise Truth, Justice, and Peace, in your gates, and do not devise wrong every-one against his neighbour in your hearts,—and love no false oath. For all that is what I hate," says the EVER-LIVING.

A Promise to Judah, and its Conditions.

The command of the LORD OF Hosts came again to me to say;—

Thus says the LORD OF HOSTS, "The Fast of the fourth and the Fast of the fifth,—and the Fast of the tenth,—shall become to the House of Judah a joy and delight, and cheerful feasts, when they love Truth and Peace."

Thus said the LORD OF HOSTS, "Nations will come, and many Cities turn, and Populations will go to another and say, 'Let us march and pray in the Presence of the EVER-LIVING, and enquire of the LORD OF HOSTS,—I myself will go.' For many Peoples, and powerful Nations, will seek the LORD OF HOSTS at Jerusalem, and pray in the Presence of the EVER-LIVING."

Thus said the LORD OF Hosts:—

"In those times ten men of various languages of the Heathen will encourage themselves, and seize the hand of a Jew, and say, 'We will go with you,—for we hear that GOD is with you!'"

For her hope will fade away,
 And the king will fail in Gaza,
 And Ashkalon be deserted,
 And the bastard rule in Ashdod,
 And Philistia's pride will fall ; 6
 His mouth be stopped from blood,
 And his prey torn from his teeth, 7
 And it given to our GOD ;
 And Kalut shall be Judah's,
 And Ekron be like the Jebusi ;
 Then I will encamp in My House, 8
 As a guard against wandering thieves,
 And blackmailers shall no more extort,
 For now I can see with Mine eyes.

" Daughter of Zion be greatly delighted !
 Shout O ! Jerusalem's Daughter ! 9
 Look ! for your King comes to you,
 He is righteous, has power to save,
 Is humble and rides on an ass,—
 On a colt,—on the foal of an ass !
 Will abolish the chariot from Ephraim, 10
 From Jerusalem cavalry drive,
 And will break up the bow made for War !
 Proclaiming full peace to all Nations,
 And will rule from the sea to the sea,
 From the flood to the bounds of earth ! "

The Rescue of Israel.

" Also you, for the blood of your Covenant,
 I will let you go free from your chains, 11
 And, released from the waterless dungeon,
 Return to your fortress, you prisoners of Hope !
 For to-day I declare that to you I return ! 12
 For Judah I bend for Myself ; 13
 And with Ephraim I fill up my bow
 And will waken up Zion, your sons,
 And oppose to your children, O ! Javan,
 And will fly like the sword of a hero ! "

Then the LORD will appear above all, 14
 And His arrows will dart like the light,
 And the MIGHTY LORD sound with a trumpet,
 And march on a storm from the South ;
 The LORD OF HOSTS then will defend them, 15
 When repelling and quelling sling stones,
 And will drink and will roar as with wine,
 And like bowls at the Altar be full !—
 For the LORD GOD effects the salvation 16
 Of the flock of His Race on that day,
 Like bright gems for a crown on His land !
 For how great is their Goodness, 17
 How great is their Beauty !
 When corn and fruit gladdens
 The youths and the maids !

An Exhortation to Pray for Rain.

10 Ask rain from the EVER-LIVING
 at the season of the latter rain,—from
 the LORD who makes the lightnings,
 —and He will give you rain showers,
 —and to everyone grass on his
 farm.
 For the Teraphim have spoken 2
 folly, and the Diviners seen falsehood,

and related vain dreams,—they comforted in vain! Consequently they depart like sheep who suffer from having no shepherd.

- 3 "My anger burns against the Shepherds, and I will punish the Leaders of the flock! For the EVER-LIVING visits His flock of the House of Judah, and will place them like
4 horses arranged for battle. From him comes the LEADER,—from him the DIRECTOR; from him the BOW of WAR; from him every RULER,—
5 who are like heroes trampling in the mud of the streets in battle, and fighting because the EVER-LIVING is with them, so they throw down the
6 riders and horses. For I will strengthen them, the House of Judah, and the House of Joseph, and will establish them, because I pity. So they shall not be as castaways, for I
7 am their EVER-LIVING GOD, and will help them. And Ephraim will become

a hero. Then their hearts will rejoice as with wine, and their children will look on and be glad.—Their hearts will laugh to the EVER-LIVING!

"I will whistle for and collect 8 them. When I visit them they shall increase as they used to increase. Although I sowed them among the 9 Peoples, to a distance, they will recollect Me, and revive with their children, and return. For I will 10 restore them from the Mitzeraim, and collect from Ashur, and bring them to the land of Gilad, and Lebanon, and they shall not thirst."

Then He will cross the Sea of 11 Distress, and conquer the Sea of Willows, and all the channels of the River shall be dried, and the pride of Ashur rush down, and the Sceptre of Mitzer be abolished, and they 12 shall be strong in the EVER-LIVING, and march in His Name, says the LORD.

Israel's Song of Victory.

- 11 Open your doors, O! Lebanon,
That the fire may devour your cedars.
2 Howl, you Pines!
For the Cedars have fallen;
Because their splendour is gone!

- 3 Yell, you Oaks of Bashan!
For the guarded forest has fallen,
The wail of the shepherds is sounding,
Because their flocks are spoiled.
The voice of the young lions roaring,
For the Pride of Jordan has gone!

The Doom of the Faithless Shepherds.

- 4 Thus says the EVER-LIVING GOD!
"Feed the flock for slaughter, whose Guardians murder and do not consider themselves guilty, and whose
5 seller says, 'Thank the LORD! I am rich!' for their shepherds pity them
6 not! Therefore I will no more pity the inhabitants of the country," says the EVER-LIVING, "but I will abandon the men each to the hand of his neighbour, and into the hand of his leader, and they shall harry the land, and I will not deliver it from their hands."
7 I consequently fed the flock for Slaughter,—who were miserable sheep,—and took myself two wands.—I called one "Beauty," and the other I called "Bonds,"—and pastured
8 the sheep. But I destroyed one of the sheep every month,—for my life

was tired of them, and their lives also were hateful to me. I then said, 9 "I will not attend to you,—let the dying die,—and that for slaughter let it be slaughtered and let the rest devour—each the flesh of the other!"

So I took my staff "Beauty" and 10 cut it in two, to break by that the Treaty I had made with all the People, and it was broken that same 11 day, and thus the poor of the flock who kept with me knew that it was the command of the EVER-LIVING.

Then I said to them, "If it is good 12 in your opinion, pay me my wages;—but if not, refuse." They therefore weighed my wages—Thirty pieces of silver!

But the LORD commanded me to 13 cast into the Treasury, the splendid valuation at which I was valued by them!—So I took the thirty pieces of silver, and flung them into the

House of the EVER-LIVING at the Treasury!

- 14 Then I cut my staff "Bonds" in two, to break the other Treaty with
 15 Judah and Israel.—The EVER-LIVING, however, again said to me, "Take for yourself again the requisites of a simple
 16 shepherd,—for be sure I will now raise up a destructive Shepherd, who will not visit the young, nor seek the wounded, nor care for the sick, nor provide fodder;—but will eat the flesh of the fat, and break their hoofs!"
- 17 Woe to that worthless Shepherd who forgets the flock! The Sword shall assail his right arm and eye;—his arm shall wither; and his right eye be totally blind!

The Burden of the Lord to Israel.

- 12 The EVER-LIVING, Who extended the heavens, and founded the earth, and formed the spirit of man in his breast, says,—“Look!—I will make Jerusalem a cup of staggering to all the Peoples; and they will be also against Judah when besieging Jerusalem.
 3 Yes! at that time I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the Peoples, whoever carries it will be totally crushed;—yet all the Heathen of the earth will collect against it.
 4 “At that time,” says the EVER-LIVING, “I will strike every horse with madness, and his rider with frenzy; and will open My eyes upon the House of Judah, but will strike all the horsemen of the Nations blind. Then the Chieftains of Judah will reflect in their hearts, ‘The people of Jerusalem are my strength, through the LORD OF HOSTS their GOD.’
 6 “At that time I will make the Chieftains of Judah like a fire-grate to wood, and like a torch of fire to sheaves, and they shall consume on the right and left the whole of the Peoples around; and Jerusalem shall again reside under herself, in Jerusalem.”
 7 But the EVER-LIVING will first rescue the Tents of Judah, so that the House of David may not exalt its beauty, and the beautiful site of
 8 Jerusalem, above Judah. The EVER-LIVING will at the same time defend the population of Jerusalem, and their feeble shall become at that time like David; and the House of

David shall become like a DIVINE-POWER; like a Messenger of the EVER-LIVING before them. And at 9 that time I will seek to destroy all the Heathen, who come against Jerusalem, and I will pour out upon the 10 House of David, and upon the population of Jerusalem the spirit of kindness and compassion, and they shall look upon HIM¹ Whom they pierced, and mourn over Him, as if mourning over a loved one; and grieve over Him, as over the first-born!

There shall then be a great mourning 11 in Jerusalem, like the mourning at Hadad-rimon, in the vale of Megiddon, and the country will mourn, 12 family by family alone; the House of David alone; the family of Bethnathan alone; and their wives alone! The family of the House of Levi 13 alone; and their wives alone; the family of Shimai alone; and their wives alone! all the families of the rest, family by family, alone; and their wives alone!

The Fountain for Cleansing from Sin.

At that time a fountain will be 13 opened for the House of David, and for the people of Jerusalem, for sin and uncleanness. “And then,” says 2 the LORD OF HOSTS, “I will destroy the names of their Idols from the country, and they shall no longer be remembered; and I will remove their Preachers, and their foul spirit from the country.—And then whenever a 3 person preaches, his father, and his mother who bore him will say, ‘You shall not live. For you utter lies in the name of the EVER-LIVING!’ And his father, and the mother who bore him, will stab him, when he attempts to preach!

“And at that time the Preachers 4 will be ashamed, every one of his visions, when he preaches, and will not wear mantles of hair for the sake of deception, but will 5 say, ‘I am not a Prophet. I am

¹ NOTE.—Ch. 12, Verse 10, “Upon Him”—Some manuscripts read “On Me—Whom they have pierced.” Both letters in the Hebrew alphabet are very much alike, *i.e.*, ך “I,” and ך “Me.” So that it is difficult to decide which is absolutely the correct one, as the slightest stroke of a pen transforms one into the other. In a theological sense both might be right.—F. F.

a man who cultivates the ground. For I have been a working man from my youth! And if he is asked, 'What are those tattoos then upon your hands?' he will reply, 'I was marked with them in the house of my friend!'"

The Sword called to Assail the Shepherd.

7 "Sword! arise against My Shepherd! And against the man who is My Companion!" says the LORD OF HOSTS. "Strike the Shepherd, and scatter the sheep; when I turn My hand against the young! And then it will follow that two parts in all the country will be cut off and die," says the EVER-LIVING, "but the third shall remain in it. Then I will pass that third through the fire, and refine it as silver is refined, and test them as gold is tested. It shall call on MY NAME, and I will answer it;—I will proclaim, 'It is My People;' and it will exclaim 'MY EVER-LIVING GOD!'"

The Coming Day of the Lord.

14 "Then the day of the LORD will come, and your spoil will be divided 2 in your midst. For I shall collect all the Heathen against Jerusalem to war, and they will capture the City, and plunder the houses, and ravish the women; and half the city shall go out to captivity, but the rest of the People shall not be cut off from the City." 3 Then the EVER-LIVING will go out to fight with those Heathen, as in a 4 time of war, and fix His feet at that time on the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem, on the East, and the Mount of Olives shall split in its centre from East to West,—a very great valley,—and half of the Mount will remove to the North, and half to 5 the South, and you will fly by the vale of My Hill,—for the vale of the Hill's dale will reach to Azal,—and you will fly as you fled before the earthquake in the days of Uziah, king of Judah, when the EVER-LIVING GOD comes with all His Saints. 6 And when that time arrives there will not be the cold light of stars, 7 but there will be continuous day, appointed by the EVER-LIVING,—neither day nor night,—and when

the period of darkness comes there will be light!

And in that period living waters 8 will extend from Jerusalem,—half to the Eastern sea, and half to the Western sea, both in summer and winter, and the EVER-LIVING will be 9 King over all the earth in that period. —There will be ONE LORD, and His NAME ONE!

All the country south of Jerusalem 10 will be changed like the plain from Geba to Rimmon, and be valuable and inhabited below it, from the Gate of Benjamin to the point of the Foregate, up to the Towers, and the Fort of Hananel, to the Royal Cellars. It 11 will be inhabited, and there will be no more destruction,—but Jerusalem shall be inhabited in security.

And this will be the disease with 12 which the EVER-LIVING will afflict all the Peoples who have warred against Jerusalem; their flesh will waste away whilst they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall waste away in their sockets, and their tongue waste away in their mouth, and then a great disturbance from 13 the EVER-LIVING will come upon them, and each will seize the hand of his neighbour, and rise up hand to hand to injure him; and Judah 14 also will fight against Jerusalem.

Then all the Heathen will collect their armies around, with gold, and silver, and with very many accoutrements. But then a plague will come 15 upon the horses, and mules; and camels and asses, and all the cattle that are in their camps, like the above disease.—

Conversion of all Nations foretold.

Afterwards, all the remainder of 16 the Nations, who came against Jerusalem, will regularly go up, year by year, to honour the King,—the LORD OF HOSTS,—and will keep the Feast of Tabernacles. And whoever will 17 not go up to Jerusalem from their land to worship the King, the LORD OF HOSTS, no rain shall fall upon them! And if the families of the 18 Mitzeraim do not arise and come,—it will not fall on them. The EVER-LIVING will afflict with a plague those of the Nations who do not ascend to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. This 19 will be the punishment of the Mitzeraim, and the punishment of every

Nation which does not ascend to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

20 At that time they will put on the bells of the horses, " Sacred to the LORD;" and the cauldrons in the LORD'S House will be like the bowls
21 before the Altar; for every pot in

Jerusalem will be consecrated to the LORD OF HOSTS, and all the sacrificers can take them and boil in them, and in that period there will be no more trading in the House of the EVER-LIVING.

END OF THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ZAKARIAH.