

# Z'khar'yah (Zechariah) 13

## Idolatry Cut Off

<sup>1</sup> "In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness.

**In that day:** בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא bayom ha-hu in the day the he. In that day.

Used to indicate a future prophetic event, such as in the previous chapter.

**A fountain shall be opened:** יִהְיֶה מְקוֹר נִפְתָּח yih'yeh makor nif'takh will-be [dug-out] fountain begun he.

Perhaps a prophetic reversal of Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 2.13

<sup>13</sup> "For My people have committed two evils:  
They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters,  
And hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water.

Also See T'hilim (Psalm) 34.9

<sup>9</sup> For with You is the fountain of life;  
In Your light we see light.

And Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 17.13

<sup>13</sup> O LORD, the hope of Israel, All who forsake You shall be ashamed.  
"Those who depart from Me Shall be written in the earth,  
Because they have forsaken the LORD, The fountain of living waters."

Even Yeshua is portrayed as the fountain of living water, see Yochanan (John) 7.37-39

<sup>37</sup> On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. <sup>38</sup> He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." <sup>39</sup> But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

**For sin and uncleanness:** לְחַטָּאת וְלִנְדָה l'khata't ul'nidah concerning sin and concerning separation (menstrual).

Based on the commandment in yaYikra (Leviticus) 15.19

<sup>19</sup> "If a woman has a discharge, and the discharge from her body is blood, she shall be set apart seven days; and whoever touches her shall be unclean until evening.

A khal v'khomer (small to great) exposition, comparing Yekhezkel (Ezekiel) 36.16-18

<sup>16</sup> Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying: <sup>17</sup> "Son of man, when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own ways and deeds; to Me their way was like the uncleanness of a woman in her customary impurity. <sup>18</sup> Therefore I poured out My fury on them for the blood they had shed on the land, and for their idols with which they had defiled it.

And the restoration after Israel recognizes her Messiah: Yekhezkel (Ezekiel) 36.25-27

<sup>25</sup> Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. <sup>26</sup> I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup> I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

This can also relate to the Red Heifer in b'Mid'bar (Numbers) 19.9

<sup>9</sup> Then a man who is clean shall gather up the ashes of the heifer, and store them outside the camp in a clean place; and they shall be kept for the congregation of the children of Israel for the water of purification; it is for purifying from sin.

This was already brought to us in Messiah and will again be established in the end of days for all Israel: Messianic Jews (Hebrews) 9.13-14

<sup>13</sup> For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, <sup>14</sup> how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

<sup>2</sup> "It shall be in that day," says the LORD of hosts, "*that* I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, and they shall no longer be remembered. I will also cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to depart from the land. <sup>3</sup> It shall come to pass *that* if anyone still prophesies, then his father and mother who begot him will say to him, 'You shall not live, because you have spoken lies in the name of the LORD.' And his father and mother who begot him shall thrust him through when he prophesies.

**Says the Lord of hosts:** a reminder of Who is talking. Used for the effect of 'you better listen' because the command may be difficult to perform.

**I will cut off:** to the point the names of the false gods will not be remembered. This is how we should behave anyway. See Sh'mot (Exodus) 23.13

<sup>13</sup> "And in all that I have said to you, be circumspect and make no mention of the name of other gods, nor let it be heard from your mouth.

**Unclean spirit:** רִמְמוֹת הַיָּדָא *ru'akh ha-tum'ah* breath/wind/spirit the unclean. Not just dusty, but seriously polluted.

**Thrust him through:** Same root word as 'pierced,' *dakar*.

See vaYikra (Leviticus) 20.6-8, 27

<sup>6</sup> 'And the person who turns to mediums and familiar spirits, to prostitute himself with them, I will set My face against that person and cut him off from his people. <sup>7</sup> Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I *am* the LORD your God. <sup>8</sup> And you shall keep My statutes, and perform them: I *am* the LORD who sanctifies you.

<sup>27</sup> 'A man or a woman who is a medium, or who has familiar spirits, shall surely be put to death; they shall stone them with stones. Their blood *shall be* upon them.' "

Also D'varim (Deuteronomy) 18.20-22

<sup>20</sup> But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'

<sup>21</sup> And if you say in your heart, 'How shall we know the word which the LORD has not spoken?'—

<sup>22</sup> when a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that *is* the thing which the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.

<sup>4</sup> "And it shall be in that day *that* every prophet will be ashamed of his vision when he prophesies; they will not wear a robe of coarse hair to deceive.

**Every prophet will be ashamed:** So intense will be the presence of the Spirit of God that the false prophets will be ashamed of their prior prophecies. See Acts 19.18-20

<sup>18</sup> And many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds. <sup>19</sup> Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned *them* in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and *it* totaled fifty thousand *pieces* of silver. <sup>20</sup> So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed.

**Robe of coarse hair:** אֲדֵרֶת שֵׂעִר *aderet se'ar* great-cloak [of] hair. Meant to look the part like Eliyahu (Elijah). Melakhim bet (2 Kings)

<sup>8</sup> So they answered him, "A hairy man wearing a leather belt around his waist."  
And he said, "It is Elijah the Tishbite."

Or like Elisha: Melakhim bet (2 Kings) 2.13-14

<sup>13</sup> He also took up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan. <sup>14</sup> Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, "Where *is* the LORD God of Elijah?" And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over.

Or like Yochanan haMat'bil (John the Baptizer) Matityahu (Matthew) 3.4

<sup>4</sup> Now John himself was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey.

**To deceive:** לְמַעַן כְּהַשִּׁיב ל'ma'an kakhes for-the-sake-of deceit. See Matityahu (Matthew) 24.23-25

<sup>23</sup> "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it. <sup>24</sup> For false christ and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. <sup>25</sup> See, I have told you beforehand.

Or Revelation 13.11-18

<sup>11</sup> Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. <sup>12</sup> And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. <sup>13</sup> He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. <sup>14</sup> And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. <sup>15</sup> He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. <sup>16</sup> He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, <sup>17</sup> and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

<sup>18</sup> Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.

Even if a prophet can make miracles happen, we are still to judge if they are leading us away from God. D'varim (Deuteronomy)

13.1-5

"If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a sign or a wonder, <sup>2</sup> and the sign or the wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, 'Let us go after other gods'—which you have not known—'and let us serve them,' <sup>3</sup> you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams, for the LORD your God is testing you to know whether you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. <sup>4</sup> You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice; you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him. <sup>5</sup> But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has spoken in order to turn you away from the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of bondage, to entice you from the way in which the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall put away the evil from your midst.

<sup>5</sup> But he will say, 'I am no prophet, I am a farmer; for a man taught me to keep cattle from my youth.'

I am no prophet, **I am a farmer:** אֲנִי אִישׁ עֹבֵד אֲדָמָה anokhiy iysh oved adamah I am a man slave [of the] earth.

**For a man taught me to keep cattle from my youth:** כִּי אָדָם הִקְנִי מִנְעוּרַי kiy adam hik'neniy min'uray because a man bought me

Abandoning the lofty and powerful position, the false prophet now tries to hide his shame by pretending to be in the lowest classes of society, a field worker.

Perhaps a remez (hint) in reverse, See Amos 7.14-15

<sup>14</sup> Then Amos answered, and said to Amaziah:

"I was no prophet,  
Nor was I a son of a prophet,  
But I was a sheepbreeder  
And a tender of sycamore fruit.

<sup>15</sup> Then the LORD took me as I followed the flock,  
And the LORD said to me,  
'Go, prophesy to My people Israel.'

6 And *one* will say to him, 'What are these wounds between your arms?'<sup>[a]</sup> Then he will answer, 'Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.'

a. [Zechariah 13:6](#) Or *hands* יָדַיְכָא *yadeykha* hands your.

Perhaps wounds on the forearms from pagan worship rites. See Melakhim alef (1 Kings) 18.27-29

[27](#) And so it was, at noon, that Elijah mocked them and said, "Cry aloud, for he *is* a god; either he is meditating, or he is busy, or he is on a journey, *or* perhaps he is sleeping and must be awakened." [28](#) So they cried aloud, and cut themselves, as was their custom, with knives and lances, until the blood gushed out on them. [29](#) And when midday was past, they prophesied until the *time* of the offering of the *evening* sacrifice. But *there was* no voice; no one answered, no one paid attention.

**Wounded in the house of my friends:** 'הַכִּיִּי בֵּית מְאָוָהְךָ *hukiytiy beyt m'avavay* struck I [in the] house of love my. Rather than admit

Another possibility: since God sometimes identified the false gods which Israel took up with as their lovers, this could be an admission by the false prophet of past idolatrous behavior. See Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 3.1

"They say, 'If a man divorces his wife,  
And she goes from him  
And becomes another man's,  
May he return to her again?'  
Would not that land be greatly polluted?  
But you have played the harlot with many lovers;  
Yet return to Me," says the LORD.

## The Shepherd Savior

7 " Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd,  
Against the Man who is My Companion,"  
Says the LORD of hosts.

**Sword:** כֶּרֶב *kherv* a sword. Represents killing and death, punishment. Not to be taken literally as the cause of Messiah's death.

**My Shepherd:** רֹעִי *ro'iy* shepherd my.

See Yekhez'kel (Ezekiel) 34.22-24, 31

[22](#) therefore I will save My flock, and they shall no longer be a prey; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. [23](#) I will establish one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them—My servant David. He shall feed them and be their shepherd. [24](#) And I, the LORD, will be their God, and My servant David a prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

[31](#) "You are My flock, the flock of My pasture; you *are* men, and I *am* your God," says the Lord GOD.

**Man:** גִּבּוֹר *gever* a man, strong man, warrior.

**My Companion:** אֲמִיִּי *amiyiy* fellow/neighbor mine.

As a contrast to the prior section for the false prophet, the True Prophet is wounded or smitten (lit. stabbed), even to death. And, in the house of His friends, or even lover, Jerusalem and Israel.

And those who did this thought they were rendering God a service. Yochanan (John) 16.1-4

"These things I have spoken to you, that you should not be made to stumble. [2](#) They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. [3](#) And these things they will do to you because they have not known the Father nor

Me. [4](#) But these things I have told you, that when the time comes, you may remember that I told you of them.

And if they do so to Yeshua, can we expect better treatment? Matityahu (Matthew) 5.11-12

[11](#) "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. [12](#) Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Yesha'yahu (Isaiah) 52.13-53.12

[13](#) Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high.

[14](#) Just as many were astonished at you, So His visage was marred more than any man, And His form more than the sons of men; [15](#) So shall He sprinkle many nations.

Kings shall shut their mouths at Him; For what had not been told them they shall see, And what they had not heard they shall consider. Who has believed our report?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? [2](#) For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, *There is* no beauty that we should desire Him. [3](#) He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, *our* faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

[4](#) Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. [5](#) But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

[6](#) All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

[7](#) He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.

[8](#) He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.

[9](#) And they made His grave with the wicked— But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor *was any* deceit in His mouth.

[10](#) Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put *Him* to grief.

When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see *His* seed, He shall prolong *His* days, And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.

[11](#) He shall see the labor of His soul, *and* be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities.

[12](#) Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.

“ Strike the Shepherd,  
And the sheep will be scattered;  
Then I will turn My hand against the little ones.

**Strike the Shepherd:** אֶת־הַרְעֵה אֶת־הַיְהוָה *akh et ha-ro'eh* to strike, smite, hit, beat, slay, kill the shepherd.

See Mark 14.27

[27](#) Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: *'I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep will be scattered.'*

**Sheep scattered:** Some interpret this to be Israel, after their rejection of Messiah. Yet, can this be limited to the three days the talmidim were in hiding out of fear?

How about also in the days of the Catholic beginnings, when Yeshua and everything Tanakh was 'struck down,' to be replaced by everything pagan, which forced the truly faithful to flee. See Revelation 18.1-8

After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. [2](#) And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! [3](#) For all the nations have drunk of the wine of

the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury."

<sup>4</sup> And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues. <sup>5</sup> For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. <sup>6</sup> Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her. <sup>7</sup> In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.' <sup>8</sup> Therefore her plagues will come in one day—death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her.

**Then I will turn My hand against the little ones:** וְהִשְׁבֹּתִי יָדִי עַל־הַצְעָרִים *va'ha-shivotiy yadiy al ha-tzo'arim* and the returning

Rather than being a curse, the Hebrew appears to mean God will return His Hand to his people, like in Yekhez'kel (Ezekiel) 34.11-12

<sup>11</sup> 'For thus says the Lord GOD: "Indeed I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out.

<sup>12</sup> As a shepherd seeks out his flock on the day he is among his scattered sheep, so will I seek out My sheep and deliver them from all the places where they were scattered on a cloudy and dark day

Or at Mark 14.28, Yeshua gathering His people, even after their desertion.

<sup>28</sup> "But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee."

<sup>8</sup> And it shall come to pass in all the land,"  
Says the LORD,

" *That* two-thirds in it shall be cut off *and* die,  
But *one*-third shall be left in it:

**In all the land:** בְּכֹל־הָאָרֶץ *v'khol ha-aretz* in all the land.

This refers to the little ones of the previous verse.

**In it shall be cut off and die:** בָּהּ יִקָּרְטוּ יִגְוְעוּ! *bah yikar'tu yig'va'u* in her will-cut them will-expire them.

When has two-thirds of Israel (Jews) been killed? 70 CE, 132CE, 1936-1945? Again?

At which event was Israel gathered right after their devastation? 1948? Will this happen again?

<sup>9</sup> I will bring the *one*-third through the fire,  
Will refine them as silver is refined,  
And test them as gold is tested.  
They will call on My name,  
And I will answer them.  
I will say, 'This *is* My people';  
And each one will say, 'The LORD *is* my God.'"

**Through the fire:** בְּאֵשׁ *ba-esh* in the fire.

**Refine...as silver...as gold:** with both metals, they are purified by melting and/or burning away the impurities. Also a symbol for a believer's cleansing like Yeshu' yahu (Isaiah) 1.24-26

<sup>24</sup> Therefore the Lord says, The LORD of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel,  
"Ah, I will rid Myself of My adversaries, And take vengeance on My enemies.

<sup>25</sup> I will turn My hand against you, (Just like verse 7 above, returning my hand, not being against)  
And thoroughly purge away your dross, And take away all your alloy.

[26](#) I will restore your judges as at the first, And your counselors as at the beginning.  
Afterward you shall be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city."

**They will call...I will answer:** God's phone number – Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 33.3

[3](#) 'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'

**My people...my God:** a restoration to God's original design as in Sh'mot (Exodus) 19.5-9

[5](#) Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine. [6](#) And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These *are* the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel."

[7](#) So Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before them all these words which the LORD commanded him. [8](#) Then all the people answered together and said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do." So Moses brought back the words of the people to the LORD. [9](#) And the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I come to you in the thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and believe you forever."

And Yesha'yahu (Isaiah) 49.13

[13](#) Sing, O heavens! Be joyful, O earth! And break out in singing, O mountains!  
For the LORD has comforted His people, And will have mercy on His afflicted.