

THE TEMPLE

Mat 5:17-18 "Don't think that I have come to **abolish the Torah or the Prophets**. I have come not to abolish but to complete. Yes indeed! I tell you that **until heaven and earth pass away**, not so much as a yud (י) or a stroke will pass from the Torah — not until **everything that must happen has happened**.

Yeshua is saying that **everything prophesied in the Tanakh must come to fruition** before Heaven and Earth pass away (remember that statement as we look at Tanakh passages). Tonight we are going to study what's been prophesied in relation to the Temple, why we know beyond a doubt that there has to be another Temple here on earth, and all the prophecies about who will serve in this Temple...

2Th 2:3 Don't let anyone deceive you in any way. **For the Day** (Messiah's return) will not come until after the Apostasy has come and the man who separates himself from Torah has been revealed, the one destined for doom. He will oppose himself to everything that people call a god or make an object of worship; he will put himself above them all, so that **he will sit in the Temple of YHWH and proclaim that he himself is God**.

Prior to this prophecy in Second Thessalonians, something similar had already happened! In the book of Macabees Antiochus Epiphanies sacrificed a pig on the altar of the Temple. **1Ma 1:44** And the king sent letters by messengers to Jerusalem and the towns of Judah; he directed them to follow customs strange to the land,

1Mac 1:45-49 to forbid burnt offerings and sacrifices and drink offerings in the sanctuary, to profane sabbaths and festivals, to defile the sanctuary and the priests, to build altars and sacred precincts and shrines for idols, to sacrifice swine and other unclean animals, and to leave their sons uncircumcised. They were to make themselves abominable by everything unclean and profane, so that they would forget the law and change all the ordinances. **v54** Now on the fifteenth day of Chislev, in the one hundred forty-fifth year, they erected a desolating sacrilege on the altar of burnt offering. They also built altars in the surrounding towns of Judah,

And once after the prophecy in Thessalonians the Romans invaded and destroyed the Temple, Josephus' description of this closely matches Matthew's and Luke's prophecy.

And just as Antiochus and later his Roman counterpart failed, the future attempt by the last anti-messiah will also fail (**Rev 20:7**)

Also we know that there are many "ant-messiah's" (**1Jn 2:18**) and his spirit was alive thousands of years ago (**1Jn 4:3**) But there are many things THE anti-messiah has yet to do, like preventing you from buying or selling unless you take his "mark" (**Rev 13:16-17**) So according to Thessalonians, before Messiah's return there will have to be a TEMPLE and THE anti-messiah will sit on the throne of this Temple! Currently there is NO Temple, so this implies one is to be built...

The Stone of Israel...

Scripture speaks of a person who will expedite the unification of Israel, who will rebuild the Temple and who will usher in the beginning of the 7th Millennium (the last 1000yrs without satan). Who is this person? He is called by many names, "The Branch", "The Sheppard", "The stone of Israel", the "Prince", and "David your

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sovereign” Our first response is to assume that these titles have to be references to Yeshua HaMeshiac. This is an EXTREMELY important question, because if this person is the Messiah, then those scriptures who refer to him would all be prophecies of His Return (Second Coming). But if this person is someone else, other than the Messiah, we must then interpret all references to this person in a completely different context. Perhaps we should look carefully into what Scripture said.

In **Gen 49** Jacob whose name was later changed to “Israel” is blessing his sons, each of which represent one of the Twelve Tribes However Joseph receives a DOUBLE BLESSING. Instead of Joseph’s family name only representing one Tribal name, his two sons Ephraim and Menasha were each granted the privilege of representing a tribe, Thus Joseph’s descendants became two tribes.

Gen 49:22-24 *"Yosef is a fruitful plant, a fruitful plant by a spring, with branches climbing over the wall. The archers attacked him fiercely, shooting at him and pressing him hard; but his bow remained taut; and his arms were made nimble by the hands of the Mighty One of Ya`akov, from there is the Shepherd, the Stone of Isra'el*

This text cannot be referencing the Messiah, as we all know Yeshua was prophesied about and is from the tribe of JUDAH (**Isa 11:10, Rom 15:12, Heb 7:14, Rev 5:5, Rev 7:5**), not JOSEPH! Let’s read what else the Tanakh has to say...

Hos 1:10-11 (2:1-2) *"Nevertheless, the people of Isra'el will number as many as the grains of sand by the sea, which cannot be measured or counted; so that the time will come when, instead of being told, 'You are not my people,' it will be said to them, 'You are the children of the living Elohim.' Then the people of Y'hudah and the people of Isra'el will be gathered together; they will appoint for themselves one leader; and they will go up out of the land; for that will be a great day, [the day] of Yizre`el.*

Hos 6:2 *After two days, he will revive us; on the third day, he will raise us up; and we will live in his presence. (a day is a thousand years **Psa 84:10, Psa 90:4, & 2Pe 3:8**)*

Messiah, who was born approximately 4 BCE, and whose ministry lasted to approximately until 26 or 29 BCE, two thousand years after his birth (i.e 1996 to 1999) the house of Israel began to re-assemble! And it also seems likely that there will also be special events that occur 2000yrs after his ministry and resurrection (i.e 2026 to 2029). This is perfect, keeping with the Hebraic concept of Messiah: one who vanquishes Israel’s enemies, then brings the lost and scattered of Israel back to the eternal covenant (Torah). Yeshua is doing all of these things for His people (His Body or assembly of Israel as it is referred to over 100 times in the Tanakh), leading them by His Spirit.

Zec 14:3-4 *Then **YHWH** will go out and fight against those nations, fighting as on a day of battle. On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which lies to the east of Yerushalayim; and the Mount of Olives will be split in half from east to west, to make a huge valley. Half of the mountain will move toward the north, and half of it toward the south.*

Zechariah also agrees that when the Messiah returns he will defeat Israel’s enemies and the mount of olives will be split in two.

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Jer 30:6-9 Ask now and see: can men give birth to children? Why, then, do I see all the men with their hands on their stomachs like women in labor, with every face turned pale? How dreadful that day will be! — there has never been one like it: a **time of trouble for Ya`akov**, but out of it he will be saved. "On that day," says **YHWH**-Tzva'ot, "I will break his yoke from off your neck, I will snap your chains. Foreigners will no longer enslave him. Instead, they will serve **YHWH** their **Elohim** and **David their king, whom I will raise up for them.**

Who is David their king, whom I will raise up during the tribulation (Jacob's Trouble)? It cant be David himself as Jeremiah is post Davidic kingdom, it cannot be Yeshua, he has already raised up, and when he returns the Scripture says he will come down on the clouds (**Mat 24:30, Mat 26:64, Mark 13:26, Mar 14:62, Rev 1:7**) and as we just read in **Zechariah 14:3-4** all of Israel's enemies will be defeated and the mount of olives will be split.

Jer 30:18-21 Thus says **YHWH**: "I will return Ya`akov's captives to their tents; I will take pity on his dwellings. Cities will be rebuilt on their own tels, with palaces where they're supposed to be. From them will come thanksgiving and the sound of people celebrating. I will increase them; they will not be decreased; I will honor them; they will not be despised. Their children will be as they used to be, their community confirmed in my presence; and I will punish everyone who oppresses them. **Their leader will be one of their own, their ruler will come from among them.** I will cause him to come close and let him approach me; for, otherwise, who would guarantee his heart enough to approach me?" says **YHWH**.

This "Governor/Prince/Stone of Israel" is elected, (Yeshua needs no election) and he will have some access to Temple service.

Two different "Branches" mentioned in the Tanakh – Netzer and Tsemach...

""Strong's H5342 נֶצֶר nêts'er nay'-tser

From **H5341** in the sense of greenness as a striking color; a shoot; figuratively, a descendant: - branch.""

This "NETZER" is used in prophecy to references Yeshua the Messiah, as in...

Isa 11:1 But a branch will emerge from the trunk of Yishai, a **shoot**^{H5342 NETZER} will grow from his roots.

The second word for "branch" is...

""Strong's H6780 צִמָּח tsemach tseh'-makh

From **H6779**; a sprout (usually concretely), literally or figuratively: - branch, bud, that which (where) grew (upon), spring (-ing).""

This "TSEMACH" is used in reference to a "prince of Israel" from the tribe of Joseph who has son's and has limited access to Temple Service...

Isa 4:2 On that day, **YHWH's plant**^{H6780 TSEMACH} will be beautiful and glorious; and the fruit of the land will be the pride and splendor of Isra'el's survivors.

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Jer 23:5 "The days are coming," says **YHWH** when I will raise a righteous **Branch**^{H6780 TSEMACH} **for** David. He will reign as king and succeed; he will do what is just and right in the land.

Jer 33:15 When those days come, at that time, I will cause to spring up **for** David a **Branch**^{H6780 TSEMACH} of Righteousness. He will do what is just and right in the land.

Note, "for David" not "of David" Because this man is not from "Judah", but "Joseph". Also "David's kingdom" was the only one to unite all of Israel.

Zec 3:1-10 He showed me Y'hoshua the cohen hagadol (son of Y'hotzadak **Hag 1:1**) standing before the angel of **YHWH**, with the Accuser [Hebrew: Satan] standing at his right to accuse him. **YHWH** said to the Accuser, "May **YHWH** rebuke you, Accuser! Indeed, may **YHWH**, who has made Yerushalayim his choice, rebuke you! Isn't this man a burning stick snatched from the fire?" Y'hoshua was clothed in garments covered with dung; and he was standing before the angel, who said to those standing in front of him, "Take those filthy garments off of him." Then to him he said, "See, I am taking your guilt away. I will clothe you in fine robes." I said, "They should put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and gave him fine robes to wear, while the angel of **YHWH** stood by. Then the angel of **YHWH** gave Y'hoshua this warning: "**YHWH-Tzva'ot** says this: 'If you will walk in my ways, obey my commission, judge my house and guard my courtyards; then I will give you free access among these who are standing here. Listen, cohen gadol Y'hoshua, both you and your colleagues seated here before you, because these men are a sign that I am going to bring my servant the Branch.^{H6780 TSEMACH} For look at the **stone** I have put in front of Y'hoshua: on one stone are seven eyes; I will engrave what is to be written on it,' says **YHWH-Tzva'ot**; 'and I will remove the guilt of this land in one day. When that time comes,' says **YHWH-Tzva'ot**, 'you will all invite each other to join you under your **vines** and fig trees.' "

Note the language used, similar to **Gen 49**, Stone, vines etc...

Zec 6:12 and tell him, '**YHWH-Tzva'ot** says: "There is coming a man whose name is Branch^{H6780 TSEMACH}. He will sprout up from his place and **rebuild the temple of YHWH**."

Now Ezekiel's Temple...

There are some references below to a "Prince" who serves in Ezekiel's Temple, this "Prince" cannot be the Messiah for THREE reasons... **1.** His access in the Temple is restricted (**Ezek 44:1-3** & v**33**), **2.** The Hebrew word used in Ezekiel for "Prince" is "NASI" and in reference to Yeshua, **Isa 9:5** uses "SAR" as in "Sar Shalom" or "Prince of Peace" and **3.** This "Prince" has physical sons on earth (**Ezek 46:16-18**)

Many claim this is a "heavenly" Temple or that this Temple has already been built... both of these claims are not supported by scripture...

Ezek 37:28 The nations will know that I am **YHWH**, who sets Isra'el apart as holy, when my sanctuary is with them forever.' "

So we see that "Nations" will see this (earthly non heavenly trait) and the Temple will be with them "Forever" it wont be until the anti-messiah set's himself up as "god" which is the end of the earth (**Rev 20:8-11**)

Ezek 40:46 while the room facing north is for the cohanim in charge of the altar; these are the descendants of Tzadok, who are the descendants of Levi designated to approach **YHWH** and serve him."

Again, physical sons or descendants, an earthly trait.

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*Ezek 43:1-7 After this, he brought me to the gate facing east. There I saw the glory of the God of Isra'el approaching from the east. His voice was like the sound of rushing water, and the **earth** shone with his glory. The vision seemed like the vision I had seen when I came to destroy the city; also the visions were like the vision I had seen by the K'var River; and I fell on my face. **YHWH's glory entered the house through the gate facing east.** Next, a spirit took me up and brought me into the inner courtyard, and I saw **YHWH's** glory fill the house. I heard someone speaking to me from the house, and a man was standing by me. He said, "Human being, this is the place for my throne, the place for the soles of my feet, where I will live among the people of Isra'el forever. The house of Isra'el, both they and their kings, will never again defile my holy name by their prostitution, by [burying] the corpses of their kings [on] their high places,*

If this were a "past Temple" or "one already built" then what **YHWH** showed Ezekiel would be a lie, because all past Temples were destroyed! If this is in "New Jerusalem" or "Heaven" **YHWH** would not have to come into the House, for He already resides there... **Rev 21:22** *I saw no Temple in the city (New Jerusalem), for **YHWH, Elohim** of heaven's armies, is its Temple, as is **the Lamb.***

Ezek 43:11 *If they become ashamed of all they have done, show them the elevation and plan of the house, its exits and entrances, all its details and decorations, and all its specifications, its design and its Torah. **Sketch it for them to see, so that they can observe the entire design with its specifications, and carry them out.***

Sketch it down so they will build it, a Temple with Ezekiel's dimensions has not been built yet, all Three Temples have different dimensions (**1Ki 6:2 ~ Ezr 6:3 ~ Eze 40 & 42:20**) all the altars are different (**Exo 27:1, Exo 38:1 & Exo 37:25 ~ 2Ch 4:1 ~ Eze 41:22**) in fact the only thing in common that I could find, is that two of the Temples (Solomon's and Ezekiel's) have the same dimensions for the "Especially Holy Place" it is always 35ft. x 35ft. (**2Ch 3:8 ~ Eze 41:4**)

Eze 43:26-27 *For **seven days, they are to make atonement for the altar and cleanse it;** in this way they are to consecrate it. When these days are over, then, on the **eighth day** and afterwards, the cohanim will present your burnt offerings on the altar and your peace offerings; and I will accept you,' says **YHWH Elohim.**"*

This is a reference to Sukkot, ALL the Temples were dedicated, and **YHWH** came into them on Sukkot (**1Kings 8:2-16, 2Chron 7:1-16 & Neh 8:8-18**). Then on the eighth and final day of Sukkot the altar is consecrated and sacrifices are acceptable, but if this were a heavenly Temple only, then there is no need to consecrate an altar, considering the whole city "New Jerusalem" is holy. (**Rev 21:2**)

Ezek 44:9-11 *Here is what **YHWH Elohim** says: 'No foreigner, uncircumcised in both heart and **flesh**, is to enter my sanctuary — no foreigner living among the people of Isra'el. " 'Rather, the L'vi'im, who went far away from me when Isra'el went astray, going astray after their idols — they will bear the consequences of their guilt, but they are to serve in my sanctuary. They will have charge of the gates of the house and of serving in the house; they will slaughter the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people; and they will attend and serve them.*

Another earthly trait, physical circumcision.

Ezek 44:15-18 *" 'However, the cohanim, who are L'vi'im and descendants of Tzadok, who took care of my sanctuary when the people of Isra'el went astray from me — they are the ones who will approach me and*

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*serve me; it is they who will attend me and offer me the fat and the blood,' says **YHWH Elohim**. 'They will enter my sanctuary, approach my table to minister to me and perform my service. " 'Once they enter the gates of the inner courtyard, they are to wear linen clothing; they are not to wear any wool while serving at the gates of the inner courtyard or inside it. They are to wear linen turbans on their heads and linen underclothes on their bodies, and they are not to wear anything that makes them sweat.*

This seems to be another “earthly” trait, clothing to cover us from the knowledge of being naked. (**Gen 2:25 & Gen 3:7**) the only clothes are “white robes of righteousness (**Rev 7:9, 13-14**)” And sweating would also seem to be an earthly curse. (**Gen 3:19**)

Ezek 45:5-9 *A portion eight by three [miles] will be owned by the L'vi'im who serve in the house; it will also have twenty [gatekeepers'] rooms. You are to give the city possession of an area, alongside the offering of the holy portion, one-and-a-half by eight [miles]; it will be for the whole house of Isra'el. 'The prince is to have the territory on both sides of the holy offering and the city's holding; it will extend westward to the western border of the land and eastward to its eastern border; and the length [from the far side of one] of its two parts [to the far side of the other] will be the same as the length of one of the [tribal] portions. His possession in Isra'el will be limited to this, and henceforth my princes will not wrong my people but will give the land to the house of Isra'el according to their tribes.' **YHWH Elohim** says this: 'Princes of Isra'el, that should be enough for you! Get rid of violence and looting, do what is right and just, and stop evicting my people from their land!' says **YHWH Elohim**.*

Many things to note in this verse, The “Prince” noted here is likely the “TSEMACH”/”Stone of Israel” talked about above. “His possession in “Ha Aretz” (the land of Israel) is another “earthly” trait. Also “Violence”, “Looting”, and “Eviction” are all non-heavenly traits. Also the “Tribal land portion” comes from **YHWH** dividing the land amongst the tribes of Israel (**Num 34**)

Ezek 45:17 *The prince's obligation will be to present the burnt offerings, grain offerings and drink offerings at the feasts, on Rosh-Hodesh, and on Shabbat — at all the designated times of the house of Isra'el. He is to prepare the sin offerings, grain offerings, burnt offerings and peace offerings to make atonement for the house of Isra'el.'*

Just as the leader of Israel did so in the previous two Temples (**1Ch 23:31, 2Ch 2:4 [2:3], & Neh 10:33[10:34]**)

Ezek 46:16 *"**YHWH Elohim** says this: 'If the prince turns over part of his hereditary property to one of his sons, it is his inheritance; it will belong to his sons; it is their possession by inheritance.*

Ezek 46:17 *But if he gives part of his hereditary property to one of his slaves, it will be his until the year of freedom (Jubilee), at which time it will revert to the prince, so that the prince's heritage will go to his sons.*

Ezek 46:20 *about which he said to me, "This is the place where the cohanim will boil the guilt offerings and sin offerings and bake the grain offerings. In this way they won't have to bring them into the outer courtyard and risk transmitting holiness to the people."*

Once again, all the traits and characteristic above are all earthly. And before we read the last characteristic of Ezekiel's Temple, I have a question for you... **Is the Dead Sea salty today? ~ YES IT IS!**

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Ezek 47:1 Then he brought me back to the entrance of the house, and I saw water flowing eastward from under the threshold of the house, for the house faced east. The water flowed down from under the right side of the house, south of the altar. Next he led me out through the north gate and took me around outside to the outer gate, by way of the east gate, where I saw water trickling from the south side. With a line in his hand the man went out toward the east and measured a thousand cubits [one-third of a mile] and had me wade across the stream; the water came up to my ankles. He measured another thousand and had me wade through the water, which reached my knees. He measured another thousand and had me wade through water up to my waist. Finally he measured a thousand, and it was a river I couldn't cross on foot, because the water was so deep one would have to swim across; it was a river that could not be waded through. He asked me, "Human being, have you seen this?" Then, guiding me, he got me back to the riverbank. After being returned, I saw on the bank of the river a great number of **trees** on the one side and on the other. He said to me, "This water flows toward the eastern region and continues down to the `Aravah. When it enters the sea, the sea of stagnant water, [the Dead Sea,] **its water will become fresh**. When this happens, swarms of all kinds of living creatures will be able to live in it wherever the streams flow; so that there will be a vast number of fish; for this water is flowing there, so that, wherever the river goes, everything will be restored and able to live. Then fishermen will stand on its shores spreading their nets all the way from `Ein-Gedi to `Ein-`Eglayim. There will be as many kinds of fish there as in the Great Sea, [the Mediterranean,] a great variety. However, its mud flats and marshes will not become fresh but will remain salty. On both riverbanks will grow **all kinds of trees for food**; their leaves will not dry up, nor will their fruit fail. There will be a different **kind of fruit each month**, because the water flows from the **sanctuary**, so that this fruit will be edible, and the **leaves will have healing properties**."

None of this has happened yet, also Ezekiel's Temple will be the only Temple that ever existed while Satan/Beast/False Prophet are locked up, this also explains why this is the closest earthly Temple compared to what the Heavenly "New Jerusalem" is, considering the exact same thing happens in the "New Jerusalem" except water comes from the throne of **YHWH** and the **LAMB (Yeshua)**...

Rev 22:1-5 Next the angel showed me the **river of the water of life**, sparkling like crystal, flowing from the **throne of Elohim and of the Lamb**. Between the main street and the river was the **Tree of Life producing twelve kinds of fruit, a different kind every month; and the leaves of the tree were for healing the nations** — no longer will there be any curses. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. Night will no longer exist, so they will need neither the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because Adonai, God, will shine upon them. And they will reign as kings forever and ever.

One of the main stumbling blocks is the sacrifices that are done in this future Temple. Everything done on earth is only an imperfect shadow of the perfect Heavenly... The Levites, a picture of the priest hood of Messiah (Malki-Tzedek), the Temple, a shadow of "New Jerusalem" (**Heb 8:1, Heb 8:5, Heb 9:11, Heb 9:24**). But as long as we are here on EARTH, this system will be in place, or as YESHUA put it, "until heaven and earth pass away". If you can read the book of Hebrews in this mind set it becomes even clearer that Yeshua is our "Heavenly High priest", and the Levites are our "earthly priest's". The Sacrifice's done will be

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to point at what He (Yeshua) did and no longer pointing forward to what he would do (as in the last Temples)!!!

Shabbat Shalom!

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