

**Vicarious Sacrifice: Zechariah's Prophecy of the First Advent & the Siege of Jerusalem, Zech 11:7–11; to Understand History One Must Understand the Angelic Conflict; the Demise of America through Loss of Thought; Yeats's "The Second Coming" Describes the Awakening of the Dark Side's "Rough Beast"; Competing Worldviews Vie for the Souls of Men; John 10:12**

33. The events just covered should not have come as a surprise to the Jews since a precise prophecy by Zechariah gave them about 600 years to prepare for the inevitable:

**Zechariah 11:7** - So I pastured [ gave grace provisions to ] the flock doomed to slaughter [ A.D. 70 ], hence the afflicted of the flock [ the **grace-oriented Pivot** ]. And I took for myself two staffs: the one I called Favor [ **grace protection of the client nation** ] and the other I called Union [ *esōteriké harmonía*: internal harmony of the people ]; so I pastured the flock.

**v. 8** - Then I annihilated the three shepherds [ no prophets, no priests, no political rulers ] in one month, for my soul was impatient with them [ imposition of judgment ], and their soul also was wearry of me [ hatred of YHWH to the point of nausea ].

**v. 9** - Then I said, "I will not pasture you [ no more divine protection ]. What is to die, let it die, and what is to be annihilated, let it be annihilated [ **divine recognition of collective free-will decisions to stand fast in apostasy** ]; and let those who are left eat one another's flesh [ fulfilled during the siege ]."

**v. 10** - I took my staff Favor and cut it in pieces, to break my covenant which I had made with all the peoples [ plural of the noun אַמ ('am): Gentile nations are no longer restrained ].

**v. 11** - So it was broken on that day [ August 10, 70 ], and thus the afflicted of the flock [ the Pivot ] who were watching me realized [ יָדָעַ ('yatha'): Qal imperfect: they kept on realizing ] that it was the word of the Lord [ divinely predicted collapse of the client nation ].

34. The issue in the appeal phase of Lucifer's conviction is human free will. God has installed a system that is managed by the decisions of men.
35. Individually, these decisions either limit future options or broaden them.
36. The prosperity of a client nation depends on the collective good decisions of its believers. When collectively, the Pivot shrinks and the people are engaged in deviations from the laws of divine establishment, then historical downtrends occur.
37. God's grace warns of these things by means of systemic collapses that result in causes, conditions, successions, and relations among the people.
38. Collective negative volition is expressed by a collective drift away from biblically established societal standards of behavior
39. When these violations intrude into family structure, then the core foundation of a civilized society begins to crack.
40. Numerous sexual sins have ramifications that distort the sanctity of marriage. Verbiicide of the institution allows intrusions of abnormal sexual relations to become solemnized.

41. In the process, the children are disoriented from the desired standard and adopt the behavior patterns of their separated, divorced, or degenerate parents.
42. This tragic consequence inspired a comment by Dr. Charles Feinberg regarding Jeremiah 17:1-2, "The children of Judah will be so steeped in idolatry by their parents that the desire for it will emerge at the slightest provocation."<sup>1</sup>
42. Four generations of this kind of inculcation tears at the fabric of society and factions reach fever pitch between those who subscribe to Progressive and traditional standards of behavior.
43. As the society disengages from truth, the wolves of predator nations begin to prowl and stalk giving advance warning of impending attack.
44. The summation of this anfractuous journey into chaos is captured by Irish poet William Butler Yeats in "The Second Coming" (1921):

Turning and turning in the widening gyre (To move in a spiral.)  
 The falcon cannot hear the falconer; (Loss of establishment standards.)  
 Things fall apart: the center cannot hold; (Civic unrest due to lack of Pivot power.)  
 The blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere  
 The ceremony of innocence is drowned; (Absence of restraint.)  
 The best lack all conviction, while the worst  
 Are full of passionate intensity. (Cowardly traditionalists & immoral Progressives.)

Surely some revelation is at hand;  
 Surely the Second Coming is at hand. (National decline imitates Tribulational events.)  
 The Second Coming! Hardly are those words out  
 When a vast image out of *Spiritus Mundi* (The soul of the world.)  
 Troubles my sight: somewhere in sands of the desert  
 A shape with lion body and the head of a man,  
 A gaze blank and pitiless as the sun,  
 Is moving its slow thighs, while all about it (The Dark Side awakens to opportunity.)  
 Reel shadows of the indignant desert birds. (Vultures await to feast on carrion of the fallen.)  
 The darkness drops again; but now I know  
 That twenty centuries of stony sleep  
 Were vexed to nightmare by a rocking cradle, (First Advent & Church Age.)  
 And what rough beast, its hour come round at last,  
 Slouches towards Bethlehem to be born?<sup>2</sup> (The increasing popularity of human good & evil.)

45. There are no prophecies in the Church Age, but there are historical trends that forecast the approach of corrective measures designed by the divine decree.
46. Yeats's use of the Latin phrase *Spiritus Mundi* is interpreted in a footnote to mean, "the organizing principle of the physical universe."
47. That organizing principle is the divine decree enforcing the principles of divine integrity. Yeats's application refers to the developing Zeitgeist of drowned innocence.

<sup>1</sup> Charles L. Feinberg, *Jeremiah: A Commentary* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1982), 127.

<sup>2</sup> William Butler Yeats, "The Second Coming," in *The Literature of England: An Anthology and a History*, 3d ed., George B. Woods, Homer A. Watt, and George K. Anderson (Chicago: Scott, Foresman and Co., 1948), 2:1051.

48. Jews in the first century were brainwashed by the propaganda of the Oral Law and because of it they were blind to the fact Messiah had arrived.
49. This blindness led to a forty-year period leading to the “rough best” of Rome led by the wolf, Titus Vespasianus.
50. What rough beast is being stirred from slumber in the twenty-first century? Our nation’s staffs of Favor and Union are broken.
51. Faith in divine provision has shifted from God’s grace to the ever-powerful State and the Union of national fellowship is ripped apart between competing worldviews vying for the souls of men.
52. There is nothing new under the sun. The similar circumstance prevailed in first-century Palestine. In that case, blind religion was confronted by the power of heathen government and caught in-between were the Lord’s sheep.

**John 10:12** - “He who is a hired hand [ Pharisees are not qualified to lead Israelites ], and not a shepherd, who is not the owner of the sheep, see the wolf coming [ Roman political and military encroachment ], and leaves the sheep and flees [ it was always all about them ], and the wolf [ Titus Vespasianus ] snatches them [ the fall of Jerusalem ] and scatters them [ Diaspora ]. (EXT)