

Ezekiel's Prophecy of God's Servant David

Ezekiel prophesied, “I will establish one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them—My servant David. He shall feed them and be their shepherd and I, the Lord, will be their God, and My servant _____ among them; I the Lord have spoken. I will make a covenant of peace with them” (Ezek. 34:23-25). Who would inaugurate this covenant, since David had been dead for some 350 years?

Ezekiel gave a prophecy in Ezekiel 37:24-28 of what would take place upon the return of Israel _____
_____:

- Israel was constituted as “the valley of dry bones” and was called “the whole house of Israel” (v. 11).
- God would put His Spirit in them (v. 14; cf. Acts 2:1-4).
- God would make Judah and Israel one nation again.

- Judah and Israel would have one king over them (v. 22).
- Who would that king be? “David My servant shall be king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd, and My servant David shall be their prince forever” (vv. 24-25).

These references never could apply literally to David. They had to apply to David’s _____ . In Ezekiel 37:26, God states that He would make “a covenant of peace” with them, which would be an everlasting covenant. Likewise, Christ’s covenant was called a covenant of peace (John 14:27; 20:19, 21, 26; Rom. 5:1; Eph. 2:17) and also an everlasting covenant (Heb. 13:20).

There can be no doubt that this applied to and was fulfilled in the Lord Jesus when He came into this world the first time.

In Matthew 22:41-46, Jesus affirmed that He was the Son of David as well as David's Lord (Ps. 110:1). Peter declared in Acts 2:29-36 that Jesus was the Son of David and that upon His ascension was seated on the throne of David. Therefore, there can be no question but that these prophetic references of the Old Testament applied to Christ and were fulfilled in Him when He came the _____ time.

On this basis, they are fulfilled and cannot be applied to a millennium, after Christ comes the second time.

Because both Jeremiah and Ezekiel spoke about the same David and the same covenant, which would be an everlasting covenant, the covenant referenced in Jeremiah 31:31-34 that is spoken of in Hebrews 8:7-13 and 10:9-18 is the eternal one that Christ made (Heb. 13:20).

Zechariah's Prophecy About the Branch

In Zechariah 3:8-9, the prophet writes, “Hear, O Joshua, the high priest, you and your companions who sit before you, for they are a wondrous sign; for behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the Branch. For behold, the _____ that I have laid before Joshua: Upon the _____ are seven eyes.” Zechariah 4:10 states, “They are the eyes of the Lord which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth.” Whose eyes are these?

Revelation 5:5-6 states, “But one of the elders said to me, ‘Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals.’”

And I looked and behold in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a _____ as though it had been slain, having seven horns and _____, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.” Christ has fulfilled this prophecy of Zechariah.

Zechariah 6:12-13, “Behold the Man whose name is the Branch! From His place he shall branch out, and He shall build the temple of the Lord; Yes, He shall build the temple of the Lord. He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule on His throne; so He shall be a priest on His throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.” When Christ came and Israel rejected Him, He said concerning the temple: “Your house is left to you desolate” (Matt. 23:38). Jesus then proceeded to declare and build a new temple (John 2:19-21).

Zechariah 6:13 states, “He shall bear the glory,” that is, the regal (kingly) honors. John 1:14; 2:11; 17:5; Luke 9:32; 24:26; Acts 3:13; Hebrews 2:9; 2 Peter 1:17; and Revelation 5:12 all speak of Christ’s present glory.

The Messiah would be a priest after the order of Melchizedek, wherein the priesthood and the throne were combined (Ps. 110:4; Heb. 5:6, 10; 7:14-15). The Branch was the Lord Jesus Christ. There is no literalism here. If there were, David himself would have to be resurrected to _____.

Peter disproved that theory when he said David was still in the tomb (Acts 2:29-36) and Christ at His resurrection and ascension was seated on the throne of David (Acts 2:30-31).

Did Christ Have a Right to the Throne of David?

Hosea prophesied that Israel would be without a king: “For the children of Israel shall abide many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar, without ephod or teraphim. Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the Lord their God and David their king. They shall fear the Lord and His goodness in the latter days” (Hos. 3:4-5). According to the context, the “latter days” mentioned here certainly refer to the latter days of the Old Covenant, as is seen by the phrase “David their king,” who was the Lord Jesus Christ. Jacob had prophesied, “The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes, and to Him shall be the obedience of the people” (Gen. 49:10). Hebrews 1:8-13 declares that the throne, the scepter, and the kingdom belong to Christ and that He is to sit at

God's right hand until God makes His enemies _____
_____.

Christ had the legal right to the throne of David as conveyed to Him by His foster father Joseph, who was of the lineal descendant of king Jehoiachin, also called Jeconiah and Coniah (see 2 Kings 24:8-12; Jer. 22:24-30; Matt. 1:11-12).

God raised unto David a righteous Branch, Jesus. Mary, the mother of Jesus, descended from David, and therefore she carried on the bloodline of David (Luke 3:23). Because of this, the continuity of the house of David is in Christ Jesus the Branch.

After Jeremiah prophesied that a righteous branch would come from the line of David (Jer. 33:15-16), he continued, "For thus says the Lord: David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel" (v. 17).

In Ezekiel 21:25-27, God said that He would thrice overturn the throne and “give it to Him whose right it is.” Looking at Genesis 49:10, we learn that the scepter belonged to Judah and that it would stay there “until _____ comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the people.” The dominion and rulership belonged to Judah, from whom both David and Christ the Messiah would come.

Isaiah 11:10 says that the Root of Jesse would be as a banner or ensign of the gathering of the people. Jesus is the ensign, the flag under which Christianity flies.

Israel was to abide many days without a king. The kingly line could not have gone to Zedekiah, for he was put in power by Nebuchadnezzar and therefore did not have the legal right to the throne.

Zedekiah was the uncle of Jehoiachin (2 Kings 24:17-18), and it was Jehoiachin's sons who were the heirs to the throne (1 Chron. 3:17-18; Matt. 1:11-12). Nebuchadnezzar killed Zedekiah's sons (2 Kings 25:7; Jer. 39:6) so the throne and the kingly line were empty

_____ ,
_____, came.

Truly, Israel did abide many days without a king! Nevertheless, the real king has come, the Branch, David's greater Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore, Jesus did have the right to the throne of David.