CHAPTER ELEVEN

THEME:

- The person and power of the King.
- The purpose and program of the Kingdom.

REMARKS:

Chapters 11 and 12 are the continuation and culmination of the prophecy begun in chapter 7. Chapter 10 concluded with the coming of the King to deliver the remnant in Jerusalem from the approach of the king from the north. In this chapter the person of the King is introduced and the nature of His Kingdom given.

This is one of the great prophecies in the Old Testament concerning the Millennial Kingdom of Christ. The reader should pay particular attention here to the details of the Kingdom. A literal interpretation of this chapter must be insisted upon as the details will be null and void if this is not maintained.

OUTLINE:

1. PERSON and POWER of the King. Verses 1-2
2. PURPOSE of the Kingdom. Verses 3-5
3. PARTICULARS of the Kingdom. Verses 6-9
4. PROGRAM of the Kingdom. Verses 10-16

COMMENT:

Verse 1—And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

A “live sprout” comes forth from the line of David. David is not mentioned, but mention is made of Jesse his father. The royal family had sunk back to the level of Jesse's day. We find here another reference to the “Branch” (Isaiah 4:2). There are 18 words in the Hebrew translated by “branch.” This is one of the titles given to Christ. Again we shall see Christ set before us as the “branch” in the 53rd chapter. There He is the “Root out of a dry ground.”
Delitzsch wrote, “In the historical fulfillment even the ring of the words of the prophecy is noted: The Nehtzer (Branch) at first so humble, was a poor Nazarene (Matthew 2:23).”

Verse 2—And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord;

Here we find the seven-fold Spirit resting upon Him in power. This is the plentitude of power.

1. “Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him”  
2. “The spirit of wisdom”  
3. “And understanding”  
4. “The spirit of counsel”  
5. “And might”  
6. “The spirit of knowledge”  
7. “And of the fear of the Lord”

Verse 3—And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

Verse 4—But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

Verse 5—And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

The purpose of the reign of Christ on this earth is to bring in a reign of righteousness and justice as well as restore the dominion lost by Adam.

Verse 6—The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

Verse 7—And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

Note the radical change that shall take place in the animal world. The carnivorous nature and ferocious aspect of wildlife will disappear.

Verse 9—They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

This Kingdom shall extend over the entire earth.
Verse 10—And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

The Gentiles shall have a part in the Millennial Kingdom.

Verse 11 — And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.

The nation Israel shall be restored to the land, notice that it is always a remnant that shall be restored, and this restores Israel as a national entity. Israel shall be returned from all the nations of the world.

Verse 12 —And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

The division of the Kingdom will be removed.

Verse 13 — The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim.

Verse 14 — But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west: they shall spoil them of the east together: they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon shall obey them.

Verse 15 — And the Lord shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dryshod.

Conditions in the Near East today make this a very interesting passage!

Verse 16 — And there shall be an highway for the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria; like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt.

A great super highway will extend from Assyria to Egypt over the great land bridge of Palestine. Apparently the nations of the world shall come over this to Jerusalem to worship (Zechariah 14:16-18).

~ end of chapter 11 ~

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