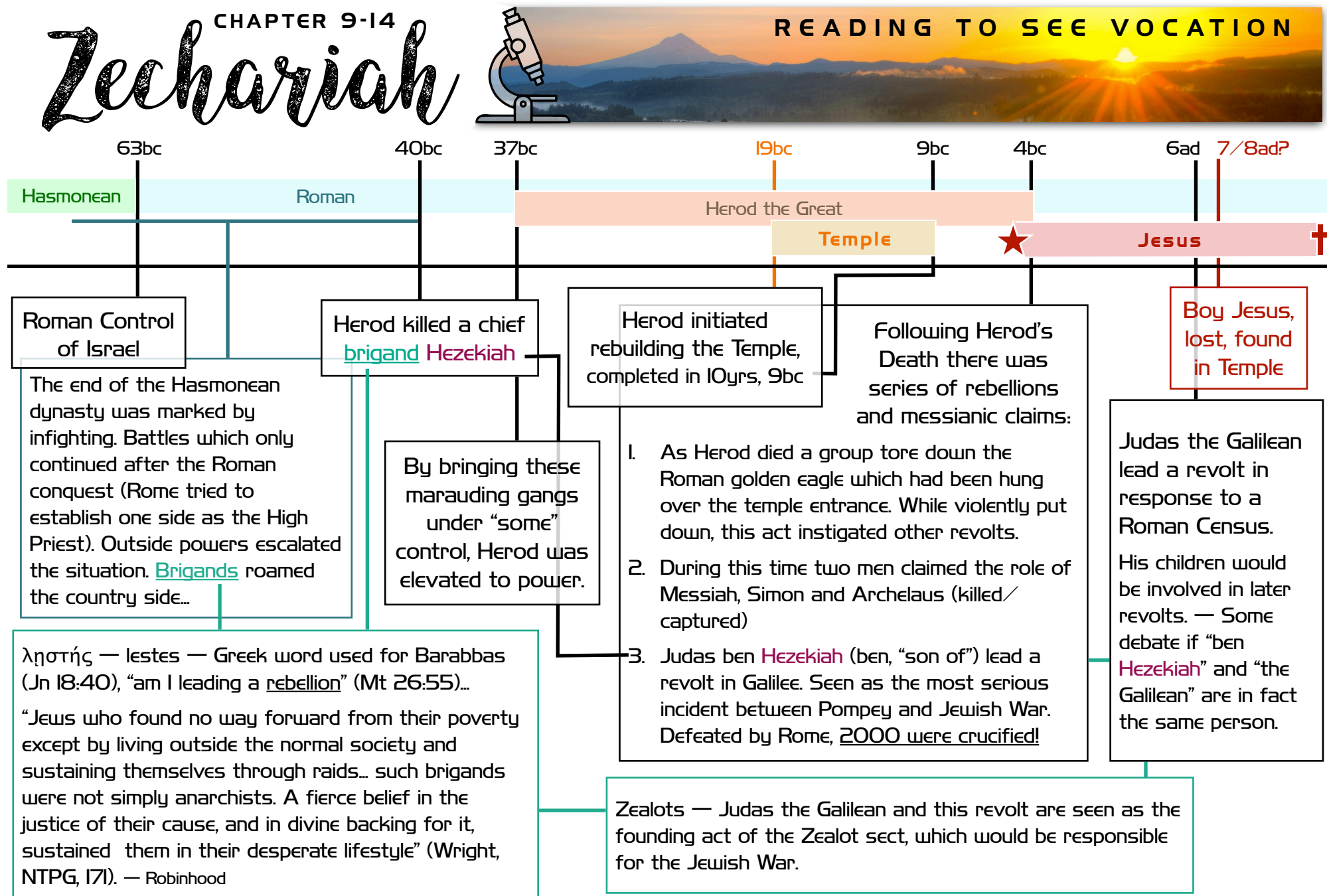


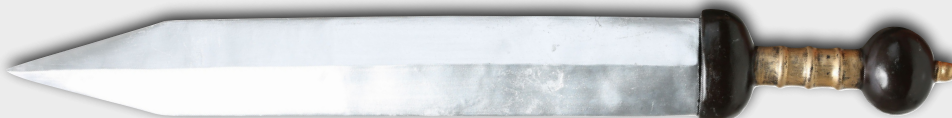
Zechariah

CHAPTER 9-14

READING TO SEE VOCATION



"dangerously determinative."



"Put your sword back in its place," Jesus said to him, "for all who draw the sword will die by the sword."

Zechariah 10-11



Why did first century's reading of the prophets and old testament miss the Messiah? They expected, even insisted ("give us Barabbas"), that the Messiah be revolutionary. In the mold of the Maccabean revolt, they expected the coming King would violently assert Israel's control and authority. — How can we adjust our reading to discover Jesus, rather than stumbling over him? "Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me," Matthew 11:6

Zechariah 10:1-3 ask

VI — This command, "ask", should be read overarching the next two chapters.
Where the people seek outside counsel - even paid - rather than God.

"Rather, we are presented with the simple sad fact that the Israelites' reliance on false prophetic intermediaries, rather than on Yahweh directly, led them to a situation of hopelessness and a sense of emptiness." — Meyers, Anchor:Zechariah 9-14

Zechariah 10:4-12 cornerstone

V4 is Messianic. Cornerstone is obvious, but each is pointing toward the coming Savior and King. The action of Jesus brings reality to v6, "they will be as though I had not rejected them."

V6 — Joseph's sons were Manasseh and Ephraim, Ephraim often the title of the Northern tribes — as in v7. So salvation is coming to Judah and the other people in the land. Whom the NT call Samaritans. Jesus lived this out (John 4).

Note: Ephraim and the Samaritans are a people with a confused history. Intermingled with nations beyond the 10 tribes... yet brought into salvation's story. (Just like us!)

Zechariah 11 thirty pieces

V4 — "flock doomed for slaughter" — This passage is about the people who pay thirty pieces of silver. Their leaders are the shepherds who believe their wealth means God has blessed them (v5), but their selfish desire for power led the flock to slaughter. The staffs of favor (v10) and union (v14) are cut to pieces. No longer union between the tribes, no longer the favored people. This prophecy comes fruition in Jesus. Literally the Jewish leaders pay Judas as they draw the people away from salvation toward destruction with Rome!

(Zechariah's prophecy ends here, but 9 and 10 are also the future!)

"⁹ Then what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: "They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price set on him by the people of Israel, ¹⁰ and they used them to buy the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me."

Matthew 27

Jeremiah? — This quotation is taken from chapter 11 in Zechariah. So why does Matthew cite Jeremiah? Mistake? Perhaps he is drawing together bigger ideas. A potter's jar runs throughout Jeremiah. One is broken symbolically in ch19. See also 18:1-11, 19:1-13, 32:1-4

"This is not simple proof texting, but the product of long and creative engagement with Scripture which delights to draw connections between passages and to trace in the details as well as the basic meaning of the text the pattern of god's fulfillment of his prophetically declared agenda."

France, NICNT Matthew, 1045

Next week:

Read Twelve through Fourteen.
Read as Jesus! Seek your Vocation!

