CONGRESS OF THE NEW NATION 2026

INTERACTIVE WORD STUDY

TOPIC: ZION IN GOD'S ETERNAL PURPOSE

1. **Introduction:** We've heard/read so much about Zion as an elevated mountain, as the city of David etc., all drawing from the Old Testament. In this study, we want to examine what Zion connotes in the light of the New Testament and God's overall eternal purpose.

2. **Change of Address:** In the New Testament, Zion is no longer a physical location (John 4:21-24) or the people of the Old Covenant (descendants of Jacob) but God's people under the New Covenant (John 1:11-13, Gal. 4:21-31 and Heb 12:18-24, Eph. 2:19-22, 1 Pet. 2:8-9). This is very instructive. In the Old, emphasis was given to physical things e.g., a physical nation, physical battles/enemies, physical temple and sacrifices, external manifestations, etc. because their spirits had not experienced regeneration; they could not contact or relate to God in spirit. So, God used physical things to portray spiritual truths/realities. However, in the New Covenant, emphasis is now in spirit and in truth. We must take care not to slip back into the flesh what began in the spirit (Gal 3:3).

3. **Zion the fullness.** Zion also represents the apex, climax, zenith, fullness, completion, finishing point of God's agenda and the realization of His ultimate intention. What started as a garden in Genesis moved progressively and incrementally till it became a mighty mountain that filled the whole earth (Dan. 2:34-35, Rev. 21:10). This is consistent with God's nature to start with a seed, then it grows out first the blade, then the ear and finally the full corn in the ear (Mark 4:28-29). Other biblical pointers to this:
   - The hills, the mountains, and the mountain on top of the mountains (Isa. 2:2, Mic. 4:1)
   - Ankle-deep, knee-deep, waist-deep, too deep (Ezekiel 47:3-5)
   - Red Sea crossing, Mt. Sinai encounter, and entering Canaan (these are the major milestones in Israel's journey from slavery to nationhood, also depicted by the feasts of Passover, Pentecost and Tabernacles)
   - 30-fold, 60-fold, 100-fold (Mark 4:8)
   - Little children, young men, fathers (1 John 2:12-14).

   All these represent, on the one hand, the different stages of the Divine working; and, on the other hand, our own progressive journey onto fullness/completion/perfection. Our salvation is a journey; the new birth experience (being born again) is the beginning point and we must continue from faith to faith until we arrive. Sadly, individual believers and Christian groups alike often tabernacle at a level and fail to progress to fullness. We should therefore ask ourselves: how are we progressing in this journey; and are we keeping pace with the move of God on the earth? Are we on the cutting edge of God's move? Are we hearing what is the Spirit of God saying today (Rev. 2 & 3)? Selah!

4. **The Zion Company:** We have said Zion represents the people of God under the New Covenant (which has shifted from flesh/blood bonding to Spirit/faith bonding). However, while the New Testament uses Zion in a most broad and general sense to mean the entire body of believers, in

reality, ***not all believers will constitute Zion but the Overcomer, Man-child company who are the Called, the Chosen and the Faithful.*** This is a most sobering thought. There are enough types in both Old and New Testaments to support this. Let's unpack that a bit:

- *The Overcomer company (Rev. 2&3):* All the letters of King Jesus to the seven assemblies in Revelation ended with *"He who overcomes…"*, implying that the promise is not for everyone but for the overcomers. Earlier in his letter, John had also spoken about the victory that overcomes the world (1 John 5:4)
- *The Man-child company (Rev. 12:5):* We see 3 categories in this chapter: the woman with child who is the mother of all; the man-child who was caught up to the throne; and the rest of her offspring (children - implying she had previous children before giving birth to the man-child).
- *The Called, Chosen and Faithful (Rev. 17:14):* These are 3 categories of believers. Not all who are called are chosen but all the chosen are certainly called. Again, not all who are chosen are faithful but all the faithful are certainly called and chosen. I personally believe that those who are with the Lord here are not three different categories but only one category: the Faithful who have passed the three stages of being called, being chosen and being faithful.
- *The glory of the sun, moon and stars (1 Corinthians 15:41-42a):* Even stars differ in glory.
- *The three partitions of Moses' tabernacle (Heb. 9:2-3):* Outer court, holy place and most holy place (ditto for the temple). All Israelites could access the outer court; only the priests could assess the holy place and the high priest the most holy place. Note that this partition is not God's perfect will. God is not interested in creating an elitist or aristocratic group. But He is Spirit and anyone who wants to do business with Him must meet His criteria. Some will be content with staying at the outer court while others will press into the holy place and a fewer still, the most holy place.
- *Different vessels in a great house (2 Tim. 2:20-21):* Vessels of gold, of silver, and vessels of wood and clay. Your quality depends on your consecration.
- *Three categories of Jesus' disciples:* the 70, the 12, the three and the one (whom Jesus loved). Even outside of this, there were the 120, and the general multitude of admirers.
- *Least, Great, Greatest in the Kingdom:* These were from Jesus' own mouth which clearly shows that eventually, some would be least (Matt. 5:19, 11:11), some great (Matt. 5:19) and some greatest (Matt. 18:4, Mark 10:44).
- *Three categories in eternity (Rev. 21-22):* Take note of this important classification. The picture we see in Rev. 21-22 is that of the overall Kingdom of God. But there are levels. The nucleus (headquarters) of the Kingdom is the Holy City/New Jerusalem/Zion which is the Bride of Christ and the very tabernacle of God, coming down from heaven to be situated among men (vs. 2, 9-23, a fulfillment of the tabernacle in the wilderness – Exod. 25:8). Next are the earthly kings (vs. 24-26); they are NOT part of the Holy City but bring the wealth/tribute of the nations into the city. Finally, the earthly nations who are being sustained by the light that shines from the city and the leaves of the Tree of Life that grow in

the City (21:24, 22:2). Pls, note: these nations are NOT part of the Holy City. This is the clearest picture of what eternity-future looks like.

- *Israel, Judah, Jerusalem/Zion:* Israel was the entire nation of 12 tribes; inside the nation was the tribe of Judah, inside Judah was Jerusalem and inside Jerusalem was Zion (oftentimes, Zion and Jerusalem are used interchangeably. Also, in the prophetic scriptures—especially in its post-exilic context, Zion was used as a metaphor for the entire Israel). It is interesting to note that both during David's time and the post-exilic period of Ezra and Nehemiah, Jerusalem was not just randomly inhabited but by the king and his royal household and officials, leaders and chiefs, priests and Levites, temple servants and specialist-artisans and one in every ten family-returnee (this was to repopulate the city after returning from exile) (2 Sam. 5:9-11, 1 Chron.9:2-3, Neh. 11:1-2).

  Take Nigeria for example; it has 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. Inside Abuja is the Aso Villa (the home and office of Mr. President, similar to the US White House). Now, it is possible for a Nigerian to grow up to 90 years old and never get to physically meet Mr. President even for once. Those who live in Abuja may stumble on his motorcade once in a while. But then, those who work with him in Aso Villa live before him and behold his face (Hos. 6:2). Of course, it doesn't mean the rest are less Nigerians but it points to the rare privilege and grave responsibility which—if wishes were horses—every single Nigerian would love to have.

We can go on and on because there are so many examples. But here is the point of emphasis: having known that there are levels in the Kingdom, what level are you; or what level/category do you want to be? The Divine arrangement has made it possible for everyone to choose their level. Are you content being in the general class or are you going to press into the highest level attainable? May a holy desire be birthed in you to strive to attain gold (the Zion company).

An important caveat: the concept of a Zion company is not for anyone to develop an elitist or superiority complex over the rest of God's people (that's a common pitfall to vigorously resist). And truth be told, no one can absolutely say that he is in this or that class until the Lord comes. Remember when James and John wanted Him to designate them as throne ministers, He flatly refused, because until He comes with His reward (and responsibilities), we all are fellow stewards in the Lord's service. However, that does not stop us from aspiring (*If anyone wants to be great…*) and paying the price associated with that level (*Are you able to drink that cup? strive lawfully, beat my body, bring it under subjection etc.*)

5. **Gold for the things of gold:** Requirements and standards for being in Zion:

   a) *Holiness is non-negotiable*. Psa. 15:1–2, Isa. 4:3–4, 35:8–10; Obad. :17, Joel 3:17; Zech. 14:20–21; Eph. 5:25-27; Heb. 12:14, 22–23; Rev. 21:27.
      - However, we need to decipher legalistic holiness from true holiness. The former focuses on self (self-effort and self-conscious) but the latter is God-conscious
      - True holiness is an outworking of love. Agape love is selfless; laying down one's life for others (1 John 3:16). All sin stems from self-love; when you love someone genuinely, you don't want to steal from them.

- Holiness is a state of being separated exclusively onto God (Lev. 20:26).
- Holiness is the description of a life or society that is committed to complying with the laws of the Kingdom. It is the state of being law-abiding i.e., righteousness. In the natural, a person who keeps the law of the land is righteous Psa. 119:1, Ezek. 11:20).

We can't overemphasize holiness as a condition for attaining Zion. However, let's consider some other essential attributes or requirements:

b) *An excellent (governmental/kingly/apostolic) spirit and culture*. This must be reflected in lifestyle, speech, dealings with people, in our space, in solving problems, etc. – 1 Kings 10:4-5, Dan. 5:12, 6:3, 2 Pet. 1:3,5

c) *A strong quest for wisdom, knowledge and understanding:* Prov. 2:2-4, 4:5-7, 18:15. This implies a desire for continuous learning (and becoming), the meekness and simplicity of a child (a teachable spirit).

d) *Having a heart for / deeply committed to the Father's house/business:* Throughout the Psalms, David expressed his love, zeal and commitment to the Father's house, to the City of God and to His purposes. Psa. 27:4, 40:7, 69:9, 132:1-5, 137:5-6. Also demonstrated in Jesus (Luke 2:49, John 4:34) This includes having a heart for all the redeemed (not being sectarian/denominational) and also for all nations (Isa. 56:7). This implies a strong sense of stewardship, of bringing profit to the Father's business, of not loving one's own life onto death (Rev. 12:11) i.e., esteeming the Kingdom's interest a far greater priority than personal comfort or preservation.

e) *Knowing and understanding the times in relation to the will of God:* 1 Chron. 12:32, Matt. 16:2-3, Luke 19:44, Rom. 13:11-12, Eph. 5:15-17, 1 Pet. 10-12.

f) *A heart of and a commitment to pilgrimage:* "God at work—no stopping, no waiting, keep moving!" "Ekklesia: On the move—no stopping till we finish!" Psa. 84:5-7

6. **Separated for Governmental Service:** Again, let's note that attaining Zion is not just to make some an elite class; it is because the governmental functions/service awaiting them requires that level of consecration, devotion, discipline and commitment to God, to His Kingdom, and to His economy—which not everyone will be ready to commit to. It is just like the kind of training special forces in the military (e.g., Delta Force, Navy SEALS or Green Berets – in the US Army) are made to undergo because the nature of their assignments would demand usual level of competence, sound judgment, spartan discipline, incorruptibility, adaptability, reliability and uncommon loyalty.

   Now, it doesn't mean there is a special training reserved only for this Zion company, what it means is that they are giving themselves more studiously to the same New Testament instructions; and the more they do, the more the Holy Spirit orchestrates more specific dealings for them which are not available to believers who have not scaled the previous level.

   A few functions of the Zion company:

   - *They will very literally house Elohim.* All the meticulousness and precision of details in the building of the tabernacle and the temple in the Old Testament all point to this reality.

- *They will execute judgment and dispense justice (Isa. 11:4, Jude :14-15).*
- *They will Rebuild, Repair and Raise-up damaged cities, societies and nations (Isa. 61:4).*
- *They will serve in Messiah's Ruling House/Government (Matt 19:28, 2 Tim. 2:12, Rev. 3:21, 5:10)*

Most of these are earmarked for the Kingdom Age but we will be manifesting bits and pieces of them right from this present age as a foretaste of what is to come.

7. **Our Role Today—the Roman 300:** This was a concept Rome utilized to colonize newly conquered territories. They dispatched about 300 Roman families drawn from various walks of life to be integrated into the new territory such that, after a while, they have reproduced a mini-Rome in that territory—complete with Roman way of life, culture, justice systems, governance structure etc. effectively remolding it into the image of Rome. This gives the citizens of that conquered territory an opportunity to see what Rome looks like in 3D and begin to desire it and eventually adopt Roman (higher) way of life.

   This is what is expected of us today as the Kingdom's outposts on earth. Kingdom communities/ekklesia are to embody and reflect the culture, values, mannerisms, language, justice, economy of the Kingdom in localities where they are planted such that in a little time, that locality begins to adopt the ways and culture of the Kingdom. This is what it means to disciple/colonize the nations. This is the Great Commission.

8. **Cave Adullam:** Now, we turn to the training / process that transforms disgruntled elements into the finest of warriors and nobles in the kingdom. These men came to David as men in distress, debtors and discontented (1 Sam. 22:1-2) but after being with David and saw up-close his character, fear of God, good sense of judgment, etc., they began to be influenced to the point that they became the mighty men of David (formerly individuals but now a collective) who helped him to conquer Zion. Note that David all by himself without these men could not have achieved that feat.

   May the Lord, first of all, raise for us true Davids who will be God's agent of remolding lives that had been damaged by the system. They must first have been worked upon by the Lord and then become a model that others can see and emulate. And may the Lord Himself gather, in this season, such men and women who have long been discontented and misunderstood and ostracized by the religious system, whose hearts are craving for authenticity. And may the Lord raise Cave Adullams in our cities and nations that will be a place of organic formation of the finest among us, valiant Kingdom warriors who will embody all of the qualities of Zion.

   Amen!

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