

Israel in Zechariah's day, the priesthood, the kingship and the prophetship were practically abolished, as far as official agencies were concerned, but that's a secondary point. I'm trying to establish with you now who will feed the flock? God will feed them. But, specifically. Then, said I, I will not feed you. Let it dieth, if it dieth let it die. And that it is to be cut off, let it be cut off and let the rest eat everyone the flesh of another. Well, in one place he says, I took two staves to feed the flock, and now God says, I will not feed you. What is the meaning of this with regard to the promises given to Israel? The answer comes out in the next few verses. Verse 10, I took my staff, even Beauty, and I cut it asunder, that I might break my covenant which I had made with the people. Not the covenant of blood, but the covenant of the land. The covenant of the land. The covenant that this is your land Abraham, and you will have it for eternal possession. Abraham will have it, but he doesn't have it now. He has a little section of it, so to speak, in the Jewish republic, but even if they were to hold all the land, there is no Biblical guarantee that they won't be run into the Grecian Sea and then restored to the province of God again in the time yet to come. In other words, I took my staff and I broke it in order that I might break the covenant of the land and the people were carried away into captivity. God speaking. And then in the next verse, the Lord said, or rather, in the next verse, it was broken that day so the poor of the flock that waited upon me knew that it was the word of the Lord. Those Godly people in Israel who waited for the deliverance of God, when they saw the captivity, they knew that God had promised it and they knew it was the Word of the Lord. And in verse 12, I said unto them, if ye think good,