



THE Gospel

ACCORDING TO THE OLD TESTAMENT

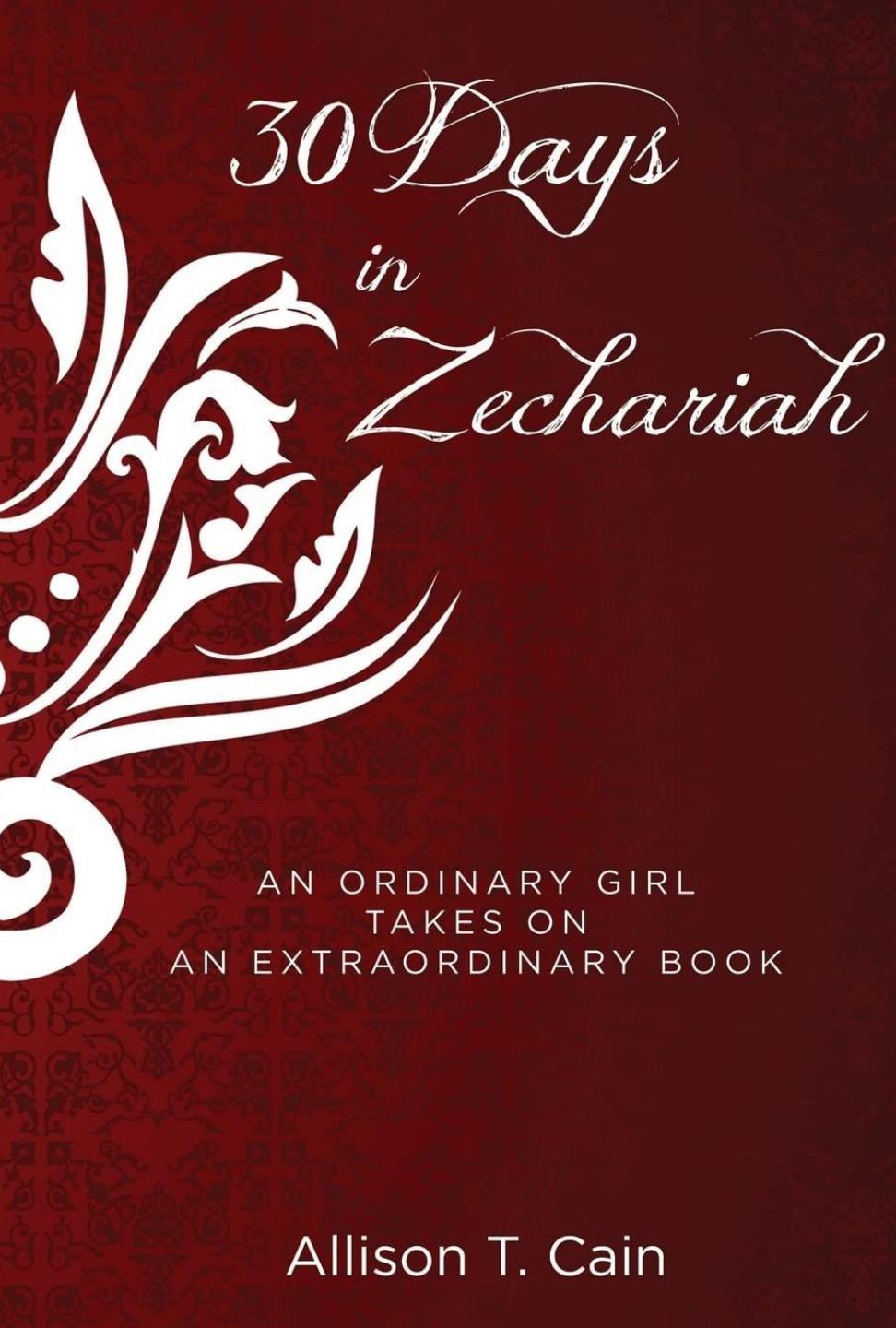
PROPHETS

Grover B. Proctor, Jr.

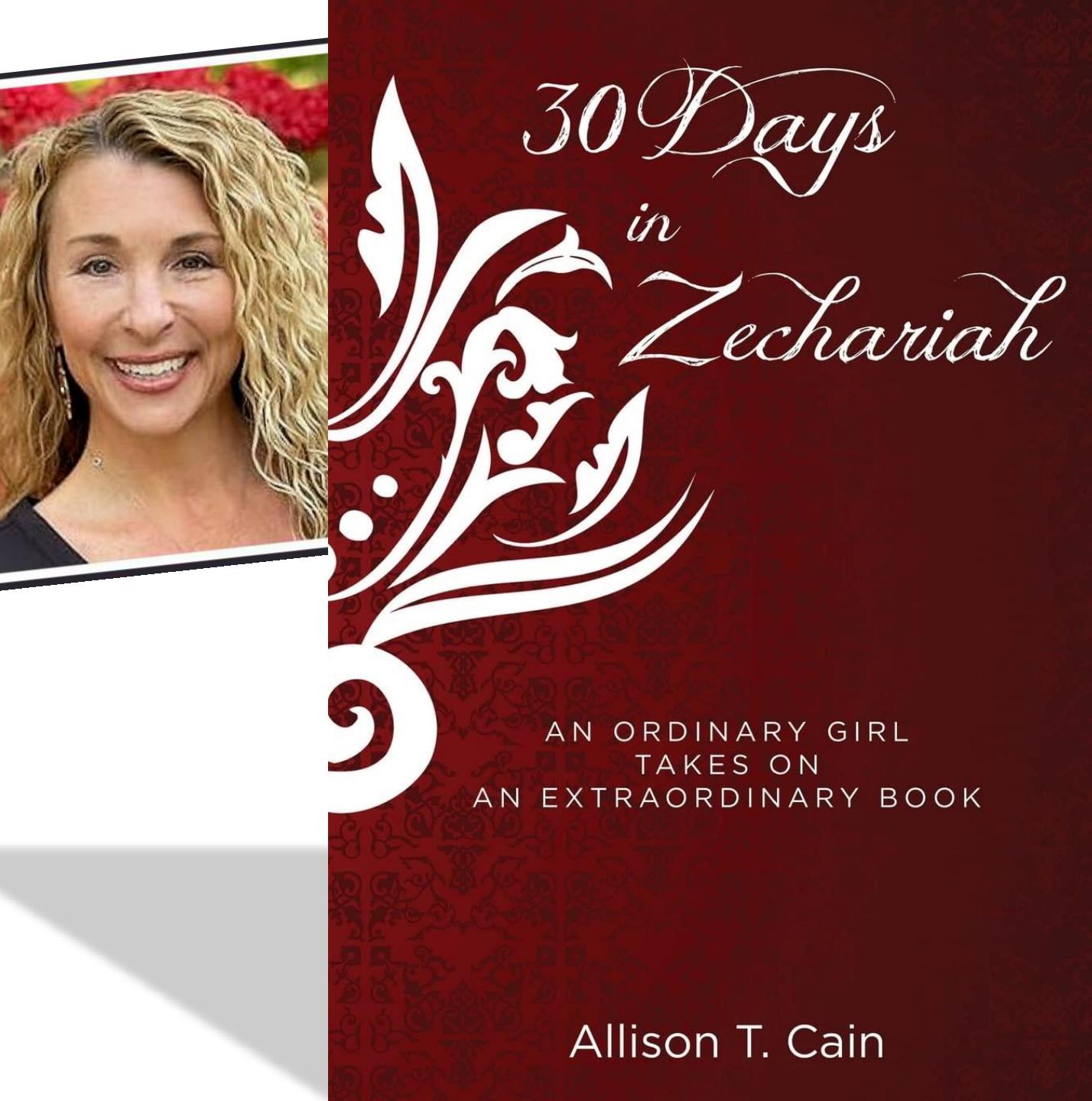
March 1, 2025

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ZECHARIAH 7:2–6

2 The people of Bethel had sent their men to plead for the **LORD**'s favor
3 by asking the priests who were at the house of the **LORD** of Hosts as well as the prophets, “Should we mourn and fast in the fifth month as we have done these many years?”
4 Then the word of the **LORD** of Hosts came to me:
5 “Ask all the people of the land and the priests: When you fasted and lamented in the fifth and in the seventh months for these 70 years, did you really fast for Me? **6** *When you eat and drink, don't you eat and drink simply for yourselves?*”

Holman Christian Standard Bible. (2009). Holman Bible Publishers.

Law vs. Grace

“The Old Testament was about the law. The New Testament is about grace.” THEVILLAGECHURCH.NET

“The Old Testament is all about Laws Rules and Judgments, but the New testament is all about Love, Forgiveness, Grace, and Salvation.” QUORA.COM

“The way God dealt with His people in the Old Testament was according to the law; that was the basis for Him in receiving them. But in the New Testament the principle of how God deals with us is different; it’s by faith.” CHRISTIANITY201.WORDPRESS.COM

JOHN 1:17 For the law was given through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

ROMANS 6:14 For sin will not rule over you, because you are not under law but under grace.

The Gospel of “Do” Love

- Do what is good, seek justice. Defend the rights of the fatherless. Plead the widow's cause.
- Share your bread with the hungry, bring the poor and homeless into your house, clothe the naked when you see him.
- Administer justice every morning and rescue the victim of robbery.
- Strengthen the weak, heal the sick, bandage the injured, bring back the strays, seek the lost.
- Satisfy the afflicted one.
- Show mercy to the needy.
- Keep your hand from harming the poor.
- Speak truth to one another.

The Gospel of “Do” Love

- Do what is good, seek justice. Defend the rights of the fatherless. Plead the widow's cause. **ISAIAH 1:17**
- Share your bread with the hungry, bring the poor and homeless into your house, clothe the naked when you see him. **ISAIAH 58:7, EZEKIEL 18:7**
- Administer justice every morning and rescue the victim of robbery. **JEREMIAH 21:12, 22:3**
- Strengthen the weak, heal the sick, bandage the injured, bring back the strays, seek the lost. **EZEKIEL 34:4**
- Satisfy the afflicted one. **ISAIAH 58:10, JEREMIAH 21:12**
- Show mercy to the needy. **DANIEL 4:27**
- Keep your hand from harming the poor. **EZEKIEL 18:17**
- Speak truth to one another. **ZECHARIAH 8:16**

Zechariah 7&8

² The people of Bethel had sent their men to plead for the **LORD**'s favor ³ by asking the priests who were at the house of the **LORD** of Hosts as well as the prophets, "Should we mourn and fast in the fifth month as we have done these many years?"

⁴ Then the word of the **LORD** of Hosts came to me:

⁵ "Ask all the people of the land and the priests: When you fasted and lamented in the fifth and in the seventh months for these 70 years, did you really fast for Me? ⁶ **When you eat and drink, don't you eat and drink simply for yourselves?**"

⁹ "The **LORD** of Hosts says this: ***Make fair decisions. Show faithful love and compassion to one another.*** ¹⁰ ***Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the foreigner or the poor, and do not plot evil in your hearts against one another.***"

^{8:19} "***The fast of the fourth month, the fast of the fifth, the fast of the seventh, and the fast of the tenth will become times of joy, gladness, and cheerful festivals for the house of Judah. Therefore, love truth and peace.***"

“And the LORD Said...

DO THESE THINGS:

ZECHARIAH 8:16 Speak truth to one another; make true and sound decisions within your gates.

JEREMIAH 22:3 Administer justice and righteousness. Rescue the victim of robbery from the hand of his oppressor.

ISAIAH 58:10 ...and if you offer yourself to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted one, then your light will shine in the darkness, and your night will be like noonday.

ZEPHANIAH 2:3 Seek the **LORD**, all you humble of the earth, who carry out what He commands. Seek righteousness, seek humility.

DANIEL 4:27 Separate yourself from your sins by doing what is right, and from your injustices by showing mercy to the needy.

“And the LORD Said...

DON'T DO THESE THINGS:

JEREMIAH 22:3 Don't exploit or brutalize the foreigner, the fatherless, or the widow. Don't shed innocent blood in this place.

ZECHARIAH 7:10 Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the foreigner or the poor, and do not plot evil in your hearts against one another.

ZECHARIAH 8:17 Do not plot evil in your hearts against your neighbor, and do not love perjury.

ISAIAH 1:16 Wash yourselves. Cleanse yourselves. Remove your evil deeds from My sight. Stop doing evil.

EZEKIEL 34:4 You have not strengthened the weak, healed the sick, bandaged the injured, brought back the strays, or sought the lost. Instead, you have ruled them with violence and cruelty.

“And the LORD Said...

STOP DOING EVIL; REPENT !

ISAIAH 1:11-15 “What are all your sacrifices to Me?” asks the **LORD**. “I have had enough of burnt offerings and rams and the fat of well-fed cattle; I have no desire for the blood of bulls, lambs, or male goats. ¹² When you come to appear before Me, who requires this from you—this trampling of My courts? ¹³ Stop bringing useless offerings. Your incense is detestable to Me. New Moons and Sabbaths, and the calling of solemn assemblies—I cannot stand iniquity with a festival. ¹⁴ I hate your New Moons and prescribed festivals. They have become a burden to Me; I am tired of putting up with them. ¹⁵ When you lift up your hands in prayer, I will refuse to look at you; even if you offer countless prayers, I will not listen. Your hands are covered with blood.

ISAIAH 1:16 Wash yourselves. Cleanse yourselves. Remove your evil deeds from My sight. Stop doing evil.”

MATTHEW 12:7 [Christ to the Pharisees:] “**If you had known what this means: ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice’, you would not have condemned the innocent.” (HOSEA 6:6)**

“And the LORD Said...

IF YOU HAD KNOWN THESE THINGS:

HOSEA 6:6 For I desire loyalty and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

AMOS 5:21 I hate, I despise your feasts! I can't stand the stench of your solemn assemblies.

ECCLESIASTES 5:1 Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. Better to draw near in obedience than to offer the sacrifice as fools do, for they ignorantly do wrong.

PROVERBS 21:3 Doing what is righteous and just is more acceptable to the **LORD** than sacrifice.

MICAH 6:6-8 What should I bring before the **LORD** when I come to bow before God on high? Should I come before Him with burnt offerings, with year-old calves? ⁷ Would the **LORD** be pleased with thousands of rams or with ten thousand streams of oil? Should I give my firstborn for my transgression, the child of my body for my own sin? ⁸ ***Mankind, He has told you what is good and what it is the LORD requires of you: to act justly, to love faithfulness, and to walk humbly with your God.***

The “Gospel of the Prophets”

BUILDING GODLY CHARACTER

FAITH THROUGH WORKS

LIVING AS A SERVANT

27 passages

122 teachings

The “Gospel of the Prophets”

BUILDING GODLY CHARACTER

- **Be Just** act justly; administer justice, justice for oppressed, preserve justice
- **Be Righteous** do right, seek what is right, judge righteously
- **Be Truthful** speak the truth, do not lie, love the truth
- **Be Humble** seek humility, be humble, walk humbly with God
- **Love** show love, love faithfulness & peace, respect women

47 teachings

The “Gospel of the Prophets”

FAITH THROUGH WORKS

- **Do Good** do good works, love/seek what is good, turn away from evil
- **Oppose Oppression** relieve the oppressed, correct the oppressor
- **Lend Selflessly** charge no interest, take no collateral, return collateral
- **Follow God** take refuge in God, follow His commandments, no other gods
- **Keep the Sabbath** honor Sabbath, take delight in it, do no work

41 teachings

The “Gospel of the Prophets”

LIVING AS A SERVANT

- The poor and homeless, the hungry, the naked
- The fatherless, the widow
- The foreigner, the victim, the lost
- The sick and injured, the weak
- One's own family

34 teachings

“And the LORD Said...

REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY:

ISAIAH 56:2 Happy is the man who ... keeps the Sabbath without desecrating it.

ISAIAH 58:13 Keep from desecrating the Sabbath, from doing whatever you want on My holy day; call the Sabbath a delight, and the holy day of the **LORD** honorable; honor it, not going your own ways, seeking your own pleasure, or talking too much ...

JEREMIAH 17:21-22 Watch yourselves; do not pick up a load and bring it in through the gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath day. ²² You must not carry a load out of your houses on the Sabbath day or do any work, but you must consecrate the Sabbath day, just as I commanded your ancestors.

MARK 2:27-28 [Christ to the Pharisees:] **“The Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath. ²⁸ Therefore, the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.”**

“The Gospel According to the Old Testament Prophets”