

Ezekiel Thirty-four

Transcribed from tape of Jeremiah using *The Authorized Version* unless noted.

Now Yahshua used the symbol of "sheep" to represent his people. Sheep are meek, docile—they're not headstrong. And he says: "My sheep hear my voice, and they come and follow me." When he uses the term *shepherd*, he's referring to those who have charge over the flock or sheep. Now in this world the "shepherds" are cruel, selfish, indifferent towards the sheep. This prophecy deals with the leaders of this world who are now in control, and this control affects the righteous people who are YAHWEH'S sheep. YAHWEH'S going to describe these shepherds in this chapter.

Verses 1 and 2:

1 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,
2 son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy, and say unto them,
Thus saith the Lord GOD unto the shepherds; Woe [be] to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks?

Now israel was a type, foreshadowing greater things to come. israel were those who claim to be the Lord's People. Today we have nations calling themselves "christians" who claim to be the Lord's People. This prophecy has to do with the Last Days, as do all the prophecies, because the final climax of this evil world will take place in the Last Days. And the fulfillment of these prophecies will be in affect at this time, because this is when man has to make his decision one way or the other. They could not make a decision back then because there was no Truth on the earth. *Now there is Truth*, and man must hear the Truth and make his choice. So the "shepherds" here are those who are in control of the world, those who are ruling over the righteous people, who *are* HIS People. And HE "prophecies against them." And HE says: "Woe be to the shepherds of Israel who feed themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flocks?" In other words the people are being *used*. The rulers of this world are *not* in office to help the people—their primary interest is to serve *themselves*. and use the people. This is the case in either politics, commerce, or religion. These are the 3 ruling elements. They use the people and get all the money they can from them. The only thing that keeps big business down a little bit, from taking every penny that you have, is a little bit of competition amongst themselves—and they're rapidly doing away with this. They're price fixing and raising the prices sky-high so that they can effectively and successfully rob you. They're not thinking of you at all. politics doesn't think of you—the only time he kisses your baby is when he's looking for votes. The businessman is out to get the dollar, and the churches likewise have turned HIS house into a "den of thieves," a house of merchandise. They charge you for YAHWEH'S Word—and it's *not* YAHWEH'S Word.

Verse 3:

Ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed: [but] ye feed not the flock.

Again HE'S stressing the point that they do *nothing* for the sheep, that they use the sheep for their own gain.

Verse 4:

The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up [that which was] broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them.

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Now you know HE'S not talking of literal sheep because these shepherds are "ruling." Now a literal shepherd doesn't really *rule* sheep. To rule someone he must be able to understand laws and commandments. Literal sheep are just driven. So HE'S speaking about HIS People, that they've been "ruled with cruelty." Now "not taking care of the diseased or the sick" shows that they have absolutely no concern over the people. If they did, then they would take care of them, they'd feel sympathy for anyone that was suffering. But they care *nothing* for them. This is a wicked and cruel organization, and it's every man for himself. And the people are used to make those in authority richer than they already are.

Verse 5:

And they were scattered, because [there is] no shepherd: and they became meat to all the beasts of the field, when they were scattered.

Again HE'S using an illustration where, like a poor shepherd who cares nothing for the sheep, allows the wolves to tear into them and tear them apart, he allows them to get lost and doesn't care where they go; he doesn't herd them in and bring them into the fold. He just turns them loose and lets them go and uses them whenever he can. In other words there's no interest in the sheep, there's no interest in YAHWEH'S People.

Verse 6:

My sheep wandered through all the mountains, and upon every high hill: yea, my flock was scattered upon all the face of the earth, and none did search or seek [after them].

Now HIS sheep are the *righteous* ones. No one cares about the righteous ones, no one cares about HIS People. Anyone that raises his voice in protest or contrary to the system is locked up or chewed out—no one would sympathize with him. Anyone who tries to live GODly, he makes himself a spectacle in this wicked world. So they are *not* "sought after," no one cares for them.

Verses 7 and 8:

7 Therefore, ye shepherds, hear the word of the LORD; [Or "Therefore ye rulers hear the word of the Lord.]

8 [As] I live, saith the Lord GOD, surely because my flock became a prey, and my flock became meat to every beast of the field, because [there was] no shepherd, neither did my shepherds search for my flock, but the shepherds fed themselves, and fed not my flock.

"As I live, saith the Lord God, surely because my flock became a prey, and my flock became meat to every beast of the field." In other words "because you didn't give a darn about them; you didn't care what happened to them—no love, no sympathy, no parental care" "Because there was no shepherd, neither did my shepherds search for my flock, but the shepherds fed themselves, and fed not my flock;"

Verses 9 and 10:

9 Therefore, O ye shepherds, hear the word of the LORD;

10 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I [am] against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock; neither shall the shepherds feed themselves any more; for I will deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them.

"Thus saith the Lord God; Behold I am against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their

hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock." Now these are strong words, and when they're understood, YAHWEH is going to "require HIS flock from their hand," in other words to the religionists who are supposedly in control of the Lord's People, HE says: "What did you do with my people? How come they have no understanding? And they're scattered? How come they're in confusion? Why didn't you feed them properly? Why didn't you tell them the Truth? Why did you merely use them? Why did you charge them, for words which are not mine?" So HE'S going to "require the sheep at their hand." And HE'S going to "cause them to cease from feeding the flock." In other words, their going to be exposed to the point where everyone will see that they have nothing to offer, and HIS People will no longer feed from them. And HE does say that "I will give you shepherds (or pastors) who will teach you with knowledge (Jeremiah 3:5)." Indicating that the present shepherds have no knowledge. So HE'S going to "cause them to cease from feeding the flock; neither shall the shepherds feed themselves any more; for I will deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them." This means that YAHWEH is going to get HIS sheep out of there, "come out of her my people that ye be not partakers of her sins and receive not of her plagues." (Revelation 18:4) And HE is going to call them out through *understanding*. The righteous will hear the righteous message and respond. And they will come out of this wicked system, and they will no longer be used as they have been used.

Verse 11:

For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, [even] I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out.

Now how does HE do this? YAHWEH isn't going to come on earth and seek out all HIS sheep, but HE'S going to use a willing class of people: HIS People Israel. It'll be Israel that will glorify HIM. And HE says: "For I will send for many hunters and they shall hunt them out, and I will send for many fishers and they shall fish them out." So the ones who are going to be gather HIS People is Israel, who will speak to other individuals—the message will spread and Israel will get a great publicity. And in this manner HE will gather HIS People—through the understanding.

Verse 12:

As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep [that are] scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.

Now the time that HE does this is during the "cloudy and dark day" -- this is the "day of the Lord," a "day of clouds and thick darkness" (Joel 2:2). This is the time when the "earth" or the world, will be in it's greatest darkness. Now HE says that "light is sown for the righteous (Psalm 97:11),"so this doesn't mean that the Lord's People will be in darkness -- there will be light in the earth. But the more understanding you give the wicked, the more confusion there'll be in their ranks - - because they don't understand anything to begin with. And when they hear the Truth it will go contrary to their plans and they'll get even more confused. So the "light is sown for the righteous" but the world will be in total darkness.

Verse 13:

And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country.

Now you notice HE begins to give you an idea that they're not sheep -- HE'S going to take them out from the people, and HE'S going to "gather them from the countries" or the different nations they live in, and these are people, not sheep -- "and bring them to their own land." Now this is a place of

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security, a place where they will feel at home, and what it actually represents is HIS Kingdom. HE says: "at that time will the righteous flourish." "Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." --when HIS Will is done on earth HIS People will feel at home. They will live in an environment which shall be compatible to their desires.

Verse 14:

I will feed them in a good pasture, and upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be: there shall they lie in a good fold, and [in] a fat pasture shall they feed upon the mountains of Israel.

In other words HE'S promising HIS People that they'll be really taken care of. They'll have a shepherd who really cares for the sheep who will feed them, and water them and cause them to "lie down" and be secure, and have nothing to frighten them, nothing to "scatter" them, no "wild beast" to "tear into them" -- they will feel safe and secure.

Verse 15:

I will feed my flock, and I will cause them to lie down, saith the Lord GOD.

Now "lying down" means feeling secure enough to lie down. No one lies down unless he knows everything is all right. If there are enemies around you won't find animals laying down -- they're always on the alert, always watching. But when they lie down, it means that they feel secure. This indicates that YAHWEH'S People will feel secure "and every man will dwell under his own vine and fig tree, and none shall make him afraid." (Micah 4:4) So there'll be no organization which'll continue to threaten with taxes, et cetra.

Verse 16:

I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up [that which was] broken, and will strengthen that which was sick: but I will destroy the fat and the strong; I will feed them with judgment.

"I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick." Now everything that they have not done, HE will do. The treatment they have given them because of the unsympathetic and selfish manner in which they have ruled over the sheep will be completely turned around, and they'll be under the loving care of a shepherd who loves HIS sheep. And the treatment will be the absolute opposite. "but I will destroy the fat and the strong; I will feed them with judgement." Now the "fat and strong" are the ones who have authority, the ones who gain the key positions. Now HE'S beginning to separate the sheep from the sheep and the cattle from the cattle. In other words they're all people anyhow. So there are different types of people as HE shows through the different types of sheep. There'll be the strong and the fat sheep who will push the others around -- the rulers of this world -- HE "will feed them with judgement."

Verse 17:

And [as for] you, O my flock, thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I judge between cattle and cattle, between the rams and the he goats.

Now the "judging between the cattle and the cattle, and the rams and the he-goats" means that there are differences in the people. There are those who are in authority, those that have taken the wealth of the land, those that are in control and able to push the others out and gain an abundance for themselves selfishly. These are the ones that HIS judgement turns on.

Verse 18:

[Seemeth it] a small thing unto you to have eaten up the good pasture, but ye must tread down with your feet the residue of your pastures? and to have drunk of the deep waters, but ye must foul the residue with your feet?

"Seemeth it a small thing unto you to have eaten up the good pasture, but ye must tread down with your feet the residue of your pasture?" Now HE'S bringing out the extreme selfishness and inconsideration, when it's not enough that they ate of the pasture, but they tread the rest down so that no one else could eat. HE'S illustrating the utmost inconsideration that the rulers of this world have for YAHWEH'S People. Anything they do for you they do for their own selfish gain. So some one will sell you a car -- they make profit in selling the car to you. Well you can't afford the car, so they'll do you a favor and finance it. So there's another parasite that's in on the deal, and you're paying a lot more for the car because you couldn't afford the car in the first place. So they have your money tied up before you even earn it. So anything they do is for themselves -- they {w/u} to guarantee to fail, and you're going to pay for it. So there's just one parasite after another -- it's like disease germs finding a field where they can flourish. And they do. They flourish in a very sick system, a sick organization. "So it's bad enough that you ate everything up, but you trample the rest down underfoot, so no one else could get anything out of it." "and to have drunk of the deep waters, but ye must foul the residue with your feet." So they drank the water and polluted the rest of it, they turned up the mud so that no one else could drink. HE'S illustrating in very forceful language the type of rulers we have in this world. Any ruling organization which would send 18 year old boys to face bullets -- I watched the *world at war* last night, where men were actually burned to the point where they came out of caves with their flesh fall off of them -- and bombers flying in at night time; they wouldn't even put the lights on, and crashing into the sea. Losing their lives right and left -- no consideration at all. These men were just so much material. I don't know how in the world anyone could sleep at night knowing that these boys are just being shot and burned and smashed up in horrible atrocities. One man said "there's no such thing as a hell hereafter -- I've seen all the hell I possible could see right here." Rulers like this are not rulers -- they're just demonized, selfish ... well I don't want to say anymore -- afraid I'll use foul language.

Verse 19:

And [as for] my flock, they eat that which ye have trodden with your feet; and they drink that which ye have fouled with your feet.

So we get the worst of it. You notice the rich get everything, the best of everything -- the best homes, the best furniture, the best cars. But you get a second hand home -- you may buy it, you may rent it. The furniture -- you get it either used or it's inferior. Cars you get: hand-me-downs that someone has gotten the best use out of. You get what's left over. In other words you're just nobody. "We're the ruling class so we have the best. When we're through with it you can have it -- when it's no longer serving us, you take it because you're an inferior person." But Israel is the most noble -- Israel will get the wealth of the gentiles. They'll get everything.

Verse 20:

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD unto them; Behold, I, [even] I, will judge between the fat cattle and between the lean cattle.

HE'S going to judge, and when HE judges, HE judges with justice -- the "fat cattle" are going to get the judgement turned against them, whereas the "lean cattle" will receive YAHWEH'S favor -- these are the ones who've been shut out, deprived, these are the meek of the earth -- these have not been so inconsiderate and so callous that they were able to trample on others and gain the superior

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position -- these are held back because of honesty and consideration. These are the meek of the earth.

Verse 21:

Because ye have thrust with side and with shoulder, and pushed all the diseased with your horns, till ye have scattered them abroad;

This pictures the strong cattle, or strong sheep, shoving the others around, and taking advantage of the weaker ones. This is what happens in the devil's organization. The honest hearted person is willing just to get a job and to work; and all the time he's just being used. These are the strong ones who are taking everything. The ones with money can do everything -- the ones without money can't start anything, but have to sell themselves to someone else.

Verse 22:

Therefore will I save my flock, and they shall no more be a prey; and I will judge between cattle and cattle.

Now this means that Israel will be altogether delivered. Yahshua says "when I have set you free, you shall be free indeed." (John 8:36) The Kingdom of YAHWEH is the only system where everyone can truly be rich -- everyone at once. In this system, Yahshua says: "the poor you will always have with you." The deprived ones are the ones who have to sell themselves to those who have; and instead of the ones who have, employing them for the benefit of those who have not, they employ them so they can increase their wealth, and they don't get the full share or their earnings.

Verse 23:

And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, [even] my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd.

Now "David" symbolizes Yahshua. He was YAHWEH'S "anointed king" chosen by YAHWEH -- a "man after YAHWEH'S own heart." You can trace the lineage of Yahshua back to David. So when HE speaks of David, King of Israel, HE'S referring to HIS Son, Yahshua, who will be HIS Everlasting King over Israel. HE says in Micah 5:2: "And thou Bethlehem are the least of the tribes among Judah. But out of thee shall come one who is to be ruler in Israel." "Out of Bethlehem" -- well, he was born in betlehem in judea. He's going to be the shepherd -- he's going to be the king over them.

Verses 24 and 25:

24 And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I the LORD have spoken [it].

25 And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods.

Now HE has promised that there will be peace in HIS Kingdom. In fact Yahshua is referred to as "Shiloh" which means the peaceful one. "The scepter shall not depart from Judah until Shiloh comes, and unto him shall the gathering of the people be." Genesis 49:10 This is pertaining to the coming of the Messiah, and that the people would be gathered to Him, that the true Israelites would follow their Messiah. So YAHWEH makes a "covenant" that "they will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, neither will they learn war anymore." Micah 4:3. So there'll be peace in HIS Kingdom. And they'll be taken care of. When HE says they'll "lie in the woods" or "sleep in the woods"; well who would sleep in the woods today? There's something to be afraid of -- there're animals roaming around, you don't know what's going to

turn up. This means that everything's going to be absolutely secure and peaceful -- nothing to frighten them. There'll be no enemies anywhere.

Verse 26:

And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing.

"And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing." Now HIS "hill" is HIS Kingdom. "...and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing." Now literal rain showers are a blessing because they cause the earth to prosper and yield her increase. Now the "showers of blessing" HE'S referring to, are the blessings that will come through the outpouring of HIS Spirit, and the operation of HIS System, which will free man from the slavery he's now in, and free his mind and his body to do what is just and right. And when man employs all of his faculties towards righteousness, man will really prosper. He will not use like 43 percent of all the taxes to defend these shores way out there. All of this money is labor wasted, the labor of the poor man who works -- there'll be nothing like this in the Kingdom. Every effort that is put forth will be constructive -- everything that is done will be for the benefit of mankind. There'll be no parasites, nothing to suck the lifes blood from the individual. Man will truly prosper.

Verse 27:

And the tree of the field shall yield her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase, and they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I [am] the LORD, when I have broken the bands of their yoke, and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them.

Now how much plainer could HE speak. The blessings will be in abundance "the tree yielding her fruit and the earth yielding her increase" shows that there'll be a land of plenty. They'll be "safe" and HE'LL "break the bands of the yoke of those who ruled over them" or who used them. This means HE'S going to take us away from those who are now in authority and using HIS People and set them free and bless them HIMSELF. HE makes it very plain that "they have served themselves of them." Now Israel knows this, and Israel is beginning to rebel. Israel's going to show them the stuff that they're made of -- they're going to renounce this wicked and satanic organization and tell them just what they are. Filthy nobodies is what they really are. And they've never been placed here by YAHWEH -- they've just taken their own authority. They're nothing but squatters in a land that is not theirs, and they will soon be forcefully evicted.

Verse 28:

And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, neither shall the beast of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make [them] afraid.

"And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen." Now who are the ones that rule over Israel? The heathen -- this includes christians, jews and everyone else who doesn't know the Restored Israel of YAHWEH. "neither shall the beasts of the field devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make them afraid." This is the promise of YAHWEH. The whole earth will be a blessing -- the whole earth will be devoted towards righteousness. The whole system will be one grand insurance policy that man will dwell securely and nothing can happen to him which will let him down or deprive him of the blessings of life.

Verse 29:

And I will raise up for them a plant of renown, and they shall be no more consumed

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with hunger in the land, neither bear the shame of the heathen any more.

Now the "plant of renown" is a symbol of the plant which gives you everlasting life; 'plant of renown." This is something new -- this is something that comes up afterwards. This "plant" comes up after you've entered the Kingdom -- this is something that does not exist now. "...neither bear the shame of the heathen anymore." The heathen actually have suppressed the LORD'S People, made them look like an inferior class of people. So they put in the paper we're blue-collar workers, we're not the upper class but we're working men -- honest working men. So this is inferior to the top class of people. But it's the top class that YAHWEH is against. The top is going to be put down at the bottom -- it's going to be trampled under foot.

Verses 30 and 31:

30 Thus shall they know that I the LORD their God [am] with them, and [that] they, [even] the house of Israel, [are] my people, saith the Lord GOD.

31 And ye my flock, the flock of my pasture, [are] men, [and] I [am] your God, saith the Lord GOD.

So HE makes it very clear that HE wasn't speaking of literal sheep or cattle -- HE was referring to people.

This study concerns the disregard of the world rulers in the Last Days, for the ones they are over. The word 'shepherd' is used as a symbol for these rulers. A literal shepherd takes care of the needs of the flock -- food, water. They see that they don't stray or that wild animals attack them and if they are hurt or sick, that they get the care they need so that they'll be healed. The sheep, which are meek and docile in character represent his people. Yahshua said: *'My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.'* (John 10:27)

Verses One and Two.

And the word of YAHWEH came unto me, saying,
 Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel,
 prophesy, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord YAHWEH unto
 the shepherds; Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do
 feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks?

In this prophecy it brings out that YAHWEH charges them with feeding themselves, and not the flock. In this world, that is under satan, the 3 main elements that he uses are politics, commerce and religion. These all make use of the people they are over. Their primary interests are to become rich, famous, and honored. Everything else comes last. The politicians are known for making small improvements just before election time and then boast how much good they've done, when in reality the taxpayer is the one who paid for it anyway. It's never changed. The businessman makes you think he's doing you a favor when he finances the car you can't afford, it's the bank he's doing the favor for and himself. And religion not only known for extracting as much as they can by passing the collection plate, or creating funds for helping the poor are even more guilty of defrauding the public; for the poor get nothing and the religionists live an opulent lifestyle.

Verse Three.

Ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed: but ye feed not the flock.

In other words, they are making use of them. But nothing is done for them. Their needs are ignored.

Verse Four.

The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and cruelty have ye ruled them.

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A good shepherd would take care of his flock, he'd look after them in every way to see that they were well kept that they wouldn't be in the conditions that were just described. Just as these were abandoned and left to stray or get hurt or sick the rulers of this world who are responsible for the needs of the people they rule over are just as careless. Now, literal sheep are led or driven, not 'ruled'. Only people can learn about laws and commandments. It shows here how they've been mistreated. HIS People were (and for the better part of Israel that is still in the world) and are still trapped in this system. Not caring for the sick or diseased shows the lack of concern. They aren't dealt with humanely. These are ruled 'with force and cruelty'. [An example of governmental authority is when the u.s. was testing atomic weapons in Nevada. The children in the area developed itchy skin and they also noticed sores on the cows. Sheep died by the thousands on ranges. When this was all going on it was on record that when one of the authorities asked what to say to the people Eisenhower told them to 'keep the people confused.' And that 'It was a small price to pay for the benefits they got from the testing.' In the years to follow, hundreds of people contracted cancer and died. Yes, government had substantial evidence and knowledge of the fallout risk gained from its initial testing in New Mexico during ww 2, and from the experience of hiroshima and nagasaki and from a 1948 federal report that warned of the wide radius of radiation from such bombs. They ignored the problems that it was creating and when 1175 residents tried to sue the government for their illnesses and death it fought to keep it out of court, arguing that the statute of limitations had expired and that its inherent governmental authority precluded a suit against them. (Taken from the Philadelphia Inq. 9/15/82) During this same time the factories that made the components for the warheads, one being Fernald in Ohio, released 298,000 lbs. of uranium wastes into the air since the plant started, and deliberately discharged 167,000 lbs. of wastes into the Great Miami River over 37 years. An additional 12.7 million lbs. were placed in pits, all of which may be leaking. A suit by some 14,000 Fernald area residents has been filed, but a recent supreme court decision ruled that a contractor meeting specifications set by the government is cloaked with immunity from legal action. At another one in Washington state it's estimated that 20,000 children may have been exposed to unhealthy levels of radioactive iodine by drinking milk from cows grazing in contaminated grasslands. A study is supposed to be started soon. These are just a few incidents, brought to light by the freedom of information act, which is simply a release of declassified information which could no longer endanger the government by being released. In this case it's too old for these leaders to be held accountable. Today with the iran-contra scandal still in the news (and evasively so) it's disgusting to think what they're up to today.] And it's not

as though there was one villain or somebody made an error. These things have gone on in all countries since satan corrupted the world. And whenever a new government came up to overthrow a bad one it would be just as bad or worse than the one before it. There are no excuses for them. When the people of Israel come out of these organizations they'll certainly help in exposing them for the wrong their doing ~~when~~ it's happening then!

Verse Five.

And they were scattered, because there is no shepherd: and they became meat to all the beasts of the field, when they were scattered.

They have no interest in the fold. They let them stray. Just as a poor shepherd would turn the flock loose and let them fall prey to wild beasts; the ones who are supposed to safeguard the peoples of their respective governments, don't care what happens to it's people. There's no interest in the sheep. There is no interest in YAHWEH'S People.

Verse Six

My sheep wandered through all the mountains, and upon every high hill: yea, my flock was scattered upon all the face of the earth, and none did search or seek [after them].

Israel are the righteous hearted in this world. And for it we are not "sought after". We look like a spectacle in this world because we make stands against it. Not for our own

interests or for greed. That's strange to them. They released criminals from jail to make room to put us in... and we we're arrested for standing in front of a 'judge's' house with signs for the tax issue. For not supporting the wars of this world.

Verses seven and eight.

Therefore, ye shepherds, hear the word of YAHWEH; [Or 'Therefore ye rulers hear the word of YAHWEH. [As] I live, saith the Lord YAHWEH, surely because my flock became a prey, and my flock became meat to every beast of the field, because [there was] no shepherd, neither did my shepherds search for my flock, but the shepherds fed themselves, and fed not my flock.

Or 'Therefore ye *rulers* hear the word of YAHWEH, because you had no caring for my people. No sympathy or parental concern --here is what will happen to you:

Verses Nine and Ten.

Therefore, O ye shepherds, hear the word of YAHWEH; Thus saith the Lord YAHWEH; Behold I [am] against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock; neither shall the shepherds feed themselves any more; for I will deliver

my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them.

~~YAHWEH~~
HE takes the position of feeding and caring for HIS People because they were not doing ~~YAHWEH'S~~ Will. HE asks them:
'How come they have no understanding?
'Why are they scattered and in confusion?
'Why did you use them?
'Why did you charge for the words spoken that were not mine?'

This portion is directed primarily against religion who should bear the responsibility for this. It was always there to take what it could from the people, every dime that it could, and then claimed that it was from YAHWEH! It never exposed politics and commerce it benefited from their contributions, which in turn made them look holy. There was nothing in their so-called service. YAHWEH choses HIS own to rule over HIS people. Jeremiah 3:15 'I will give you shepherds (or pastors) who will guide you with knowledge.' HE gives this position to his prophets of old whom HE has resurrected in these Last Days. (Refer to Ps. 45:16 R.S.V.) 'Instead of your fathers shall be your sons; you will make them princes in all the earth.' It will be through the knowledge that is given to this people that causes them to be taken out of the mouth of those who would devour them. Having been giving understanding of YAHWEH'S Purpose they are able to understand why the system is a failure and that they have nothing to offer. They come out of the world that would destroy them. Revelation 18:4 brings out that they are to come out of her lest they partake of her sins and her plagues. HIS People will no longer be used by them.

Verse Eleven.

For thus saith the Lord YAHWEH; Behold, I, [even] I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out.

YAHWEH isn't literally going to come down and find HIS People. There is nothing in scripture that backs this up. But they are dear to HIM and provision is made for them to be found. Jeremiah 16:16:

'Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith YAHWEH, and they shall fish them, and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks.'

This is done through HIS People Israel and this task is brought out in Isaiah 49. Not to go into the chapter too much but briefly what is brought out there is that Israel will be an honor to YAHWEH and that *Israel* will gather Israel and everyone else, the heathen, will come to understand YAHWEH'S message. It's done through word of mouth. This will be HIS Publicity where the corruption of

this world is exposed and all will come to know of HIS Purpose.

Verse Twelve.

As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep [that are] scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.

The knowledge is presented to the entire world ~~before~~ ^{during} this day of clouds and thick darkness. Joel 2:2 brings out that this is the 'day of the Lord' a 'day of clouds and thick darkness'. For those who are not righteous the truth is a curse to them and it is in reality their enemy. And the more they have the more they'll become confused. It's contrary to their schemes. This happens when YAHWEH'S Understanding is spread throughout the world. Everything they had for answers is now exposed for what it is. And it's because of their unrighteousness that they don't accept the Truth ~~for what it is~~. It doesn't satisfy their selfish desires. The righteous will always be in the light for it can never be taken from them. Psalm 97:11. 'Light dawns for the righteous and joy for the upright in heart.' Light is sown for the righteous; but the world will be in total darkness.

Verse Thirteen.

And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country.

This is also brought out in Isaiah 14 where Israel is brought back to their own land. This whole earth is YAHWEH'S and HIS People are the inheritors of this earth. Being in their own land in this verse as well as in Isaiah 14:1 and 7 that read that '~~the whole earth breaks forth into singing~~' shows that their 'safe place' is not confined to a narrow patch of land in the east but it represents the Kingdom that covers the whole earth. This is the only place that the righteous are secure and feel at home. It is a contrast to this system that is liken to a swamp with eerie creatures that are foreign to us (Isa. 34).

Verse Fourteen.

I will feed them in a good pasture, and upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be: there shall they lie in a good fold, and [in] a fat pasture shall they feed upon the mountains of Israel.

HE'S promising them safety and security. The problems that are now in this world won't exist in the Kingdom. The other verses brought out how we were 'scattered', that 'wild

beasts' would 'tear into us'. In His Kingdom the situations that now threaten us won't be there.

Verse Fifteen.

I will feed my flock, and I will cause them to lie down, saith the Lord YAHWEH.

A creature will only lie down if it feels secure enough to lie down. Micah 4:4 describes what we will experience in this way: 'But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree, and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of YAHWEH of Hosts hath spoken it.' No organization to threaten us with taxes, war.

Verse Sixteen.

I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up [that which was] broken, and will strengthen that which was sick: but I will destroy the fat and the strong; I will feed them with judgment.

This is everything that religion and governments only say they will do. The ones who have fed themselves are going to be fed judgment. The strong and fat sheep represent the ones who are in key positions. These are the aggressive ones who benefit from the others. They bully them into doing what they want. They've used ~~them~~ ^{us} for years and years.

Verse Seventeen.

And [as for] you, O my flock, thus saith the Lord YAHWEH; Behold, I judge between cattle and cattle, between the rams and the he goats.

There are differences in the people. There are the righteous who are meek and humble who have no desire to use others. Then there are the ones in authority who are able to control others, and they take all they can for themselves. It doesn't matter to them if the others are left without. For this reason YAHWEH'S judgement is against them.

Verse Eighteen.

[Seemeth it] a small thing unto you to have eaten up the good pasture, but ye must tread down with your feet the residue of your pasture? and to have drunk of the deep waters, but ye must foul the residue with your feet?

This verse brings out the gross inconsideration of the rulers of this world. For them to think so little of the others, not only to take the best for themselves but then to ruin what is left so that the waters are undrinkable and the foodstuff inedible show a kind of thinking that is piggish even beyond being unscrupulous. History has shown how through politics wars were started and big business profitted by it and innocent victims are slaughtered for it.

They couldn't care less about the people. Their suffering didn't matter.

Verse Nineteen.

And (as for) my flock, they eat that which ye have trodden with your feet; and they drink that which ye have fouled with your feet.

We get the leftovers, and that's putting it mildly. In reality it's the used car, the best and trouble free miles were driven by someone else, now that things are going wrong with it, we're the ones who can't afford the best so we have to make do with something that is going to plague us. It's the same with housing (another necessity). To buy a house outright is impossible, so the banks 'help' you to 'afford' it by giving you a loan to mortgage your house. A 30 year mortgage at 10 1/2 percent interest rate will help you become an owner after they've kept you working for *them* for the first 20 years *then* the last ten years are spent actually paying for the house itself. For the majority of people who can't begin to do this there is renting (if you happen upon something that will allow you to pay your other bills and eat that month also.) Anyone who's rented knows how much is paid for so little. Examples of what is rented are hovels ~~in~~ in high traffic areas or dangerous neighborhoods where no one else would want to live and by the time you're done trying to either ask for the plumbing to be fixed or the roaches exterminated, they'll try shutting you up with 'I have some one else who is interested in the place'. Instead of being concerned to correct the problem. The headaches are endless. And for ~~any~~ ^{any} one who's had any experience with this world you'll find that these same people ~~who won't give you what you are paid for~~ have the best for themselves they wouldn't be humiliated by living in a dump they're renting you. And so many times the ones who try to make it half decent are asked to leave because the place has been sold or they're now going to charge so much that *you can't afford it!* You're nobody to them. Inferior. Unless they see you as money or some other way that would promote their interests you don't exist.

Verse Twenty.

Therefore thus saith the Lord YAHWEH unto them; Behold, I, even I, will judge between the fat cattle and between the lean cattle.

For the reasons stated YAHWEH says 'I will judge between the "fat cattle" and the "lean cattle". In other words, the *judgment's* is *between the* ones who've been cut throat and deprived the others by their actions, and the ones who are meek, who wouldn't benefit from others, they are considerate and honest. That is why they didn't make a killing in this world.

Verse Twenty-one.

Because ye have thrust with side and with shoulder, and pushed all the diseased with your horns, till ye have scattered them abroad;

To 'thrust with the side and the shoulder' pictures the manner in which the wealthy have obtained what they have. The boarish manner in which they employ others. To pay them, yes, but only enough to make payments on what they've purchased, a car or house other necessities to keep coming back to make them richer.

Verse Twenty-two.

Therefore will I save my flock, and they shall no more be a prey; and I will judge between cattle and cattle.

Yahshua said: "When I have set you free, you will be free indeed." (John 8:36) In contrast to what this system is, He said "The poor you will always have with you." Israel will be delivered by YAHWEH through HIS own actions. HE brings about a system where there will be no more want. This system exploits the ones who have to work by not giving them their due. So the vicious cycle continues with no real chance for the worker who sells himself only to increase the wealth of the one he is already subjected to.

Verse Twenty-three.

And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, [even] my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd.

David was the King of israel chosen by YAHWEH. He pictures Yahshua. He was a man 'after YAHWEH'S Own Heart'. And in the fulfillment YAHWEH'S choice is HIS Son whom HE anoints as ruler over HIS People. HE places HIS Son as King and High Priest as ruler and guide to lead HIS People back to perfection in a righteous system. He is the supreme shepherd.

Verses Twenty-four and twenty-five.

And I YAHWEH will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I YAHWEH have spoken [it].
And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods.

This promised Kingdom shall end all warfare. Yahshua is referred to as 'Prince of Peace' in Isaiah 9:6 and in the verse 7 it states that in the increase of his government and peace that there would be no end. There will be no more war. To be safe in the wilderness and to sleep in the woods

expresses the complete safety and security his people will dwell in.

Verse Twenty-six.

And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing.

HIS hill is HIS Kingdom. Literal rain showers are a blessing -- they cause the earth to prosper and yeild her increase. The 'showers of blessing' ~~YAHWEH~~ ^{YAHWEH} is referring to are a symbol for the blessings from ~~YAHWEH~~ ^{YAHWEH} upon the earth, blessings that will come through the out pouring of HIS Holy Spirit. HIS Creatures will use HIS Attributes in harmony and being perfect the Kingdom will function with complete prosperity; with all of HIS Creatures having their needs met. The operation of HIS system will free man from the slavery he's now in, and free his mind and body to do what is just and right. 43 percent of what he earns goes to defending a country. Right now their trying to start a system of defense call 'Star Wars' In a publication from 1988 the estimate was from 100 to 1000 billion dollars. (Pages 245 and 251 of *Claiming the Heavens*.) Even more ludicrous is the finding of ~~many~~ top physicist that it's survival against enemy attack was 'highly questionable', also they should wait until the 21st. century. All of this money is labor wasted.

Verse Twenty-seven.

And the tree of the field shall yield her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase, and they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I [am] YAHWEH, when I have broken the bands of their yoke, and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them.

'The tree yielding her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase' means that there will be a land of plenty. 'Break the band of the yoke of those who ruled over them' or those who used them. And delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them. More simply worded this world say they would be taken away from the ones that used them. This is done not only for the crimes they have committed against YAHWEH'S People but also that they have taken these positions for themselves. They've usurped the authority that they have. YAHWEH would have no dealings with these miserable @\$%*!(Words used are not accepted in most circles.)

Verse Twenty-eight.

And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, neither shall the beast of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make [them] afraid.

Everyone who isn't Israel is in reality heathen. For only YAHWEH'S Restored Israel recognize and serve HIM. Jeremiah

refers to the Kingdom as being 'one grand insurance policy that man will dwell securely and nothing can happen to him which will let down or deprive him of the blessings of life.'

Verse Twenty-nine.
And I will raise up for them a plant of renown, and they shall be no more consumed with hunger in the land, neither bear the shame of the heathen any more.

'Plant of Renown' is a symbol of the plant which gives you everlasting life. It is something new. It comes up later. It doesn't exist now.
Not to bear the shame of the heathen means that We're not the so-called upper class. We'd be considered 'blue collar workers', we earn a living. Does this make us 'second rate?'. Whatever we obtain it's because we work for it. Somehow, by not using others to make us wealthy it makes us inferior. But YAHWEH is against this. There will be no classes like this in the kingdom.
The scripture: '...Exalt him that is high and abase him that is low.' applies here where there will be a complete change in the rulership.

Verses Thirty and Thirty-one.

Thus shall they know that I YAHWEH their God [am] with them, and [that] they, [even] the house of Israel, [are] my people, saith the Lord YAHWEH.
And ye my flock, the flock of my pasture, [are] men, [and] I [am] your God, saith the Lord YAHWEH.

All of the descriptions of the symbols used are now made undeniable clear that HE was referring to HIS People.