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"Then take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set them upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest; And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaks the LORD of hosts, saying, 'Behold The Man' whose name is The BRANCH; and He shall grow up out of His place, and He shall build the Temple of the LORD; even He shall build the Temple of the LORD; and He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon His throne; and He shall be a priest upon His throne; and the counsel of peace shall be between them both." (Zechariah 6:11-13)

"Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, and against **The Man** who is My Associate (My Companion), says the LORD of Hosts; strike the Shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered..." (Zechariah 13:7)"

"Then Pilate therefore took Jesus, <u>and scourged Him</u>. And the soldiers made a Crown of Thorns, and put it on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe, and said, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' And they slapped Him with their hands. Pilate therefore went forth again, and said unto them, 'Behold, I bring Him forth to you, <u>that you may know that I find no fault in Him</u>. Then Jesus came forth, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe. And Pilate said unto them, 'Behold The Man!' When the chief priests therefore and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, 'Crucify Him, crucify Him.' But Pilate said unto them, 'You Take Him, and crucify Him; for I find no fault in Him.' But The Jews answered him, 'We have a law, and by our law He ought to die, because He made Himself to be the Son of God.' " (John 19:1-7)

The: from the Greek word <u>Ho</u> which means: 'the' (the definite article); also: this, that, those, these, etc... (Hebrew in Zechariah 13:7, 6:12 - implied)

Man: from the Hebrew word <u>geber</u> which means: the-man; a man as being strong, distinguished from women, children, (Zec. 13:7) (from *gabar* which means: to be strong, or mighty). Also from the Hebrew word <u>ish</u> which means; a man (Zec. 6:12)(the more common word); and the Greek word <u>anthropos</u> which means: a man, a human, mankind.

The Man: in ordinary use, the words 'the man' carry nothing more than 'that specific man' or person; However, in context, the context of these quoted verses, there is much more meaning. Jesus is the unique and very specific Man chosen by the Father to fulfill His Devine plan for the salvation of the World! Consider the following observations:

- In Zechariah 13:7 the words "The Man" are preceded and followed by two distinct Messianic titles of Jesus: My Shepherd (the Father's Shepherd), and My Associate (the Father's Associate or intimate Companion); thus, in a sense, elevating the words "The Man" to a unique title in itself.
- the title "The Man" is also used within a very profound prophecy which is being spoken by the Father Himself against His own Beloved Son saying, 'Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, and against The Man who is My (close and intimate) Associate and Companion, ... and strike the Shepherd (Jesus).' This is of course speaking of the trial, scourging, crucification, and death on the Cross of the Son of God, the Son of Man.
- Jesus **IS** <u>The Man</u> chosen by the Father to fulfill all such Messianic prophecies! Jesus is <u>The Man of the Moment</u> the predetermined moment in time in which the Great Plan of Salvation is to be fulfilled!
- After much frustration and resignation, after dealing with the accusers of Christ Jesus, and examining Jesus himself, Pilate, who knows that Jesus is innocent, presents Jesus before His accusers, and echoing Zechariah 6:12 says, 'Behold **The Man!**' Jesus is the specific Man of this predetermined moment standing before His accusers; standing besides the Governor Pontius Pilate; standing there scourged and bleeding; standing there adorned with a royal robe and a crown of thorns; standing there before His Beloved Father in heaven in obedience to His Father; standing there waiting for the verdict that He has known all along would come; standing there for the Joy set before Him!

The Man

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Consider the events of that predetermined 'Moment' as it continues in John's Gospel:

"But The Jews answered him, 'We have a law, and by our law He (Jesus) ought to die, because He made Himself to be the Son of God. When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he was even more afraid; and he went again into the judgment hall, and said unto Jesus, 'Where are You from?' But Jesus gave him no answer. Then Pilate said unto Him, 'Do You not Speak unto me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and I have power to release You?' Then Jesus answered, 'You could have no power at all against Me, unless it were given to you from above (i.e. from the Father!); therefore he who delivered Me unto You has the greater sin.' And from then onward Pilate sought to release Him; but the Jews cried out, saying, 'If you let this-one go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a King speaks against Caesar. When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha. And it was the preparation-day of the Passover, and about the sixth hour; and he said unto the Jews, 'Behold your King!.' But they cried out, 'Away with Him, away with Him; crucify Him.' But Pilate said unto them, 'Shall I crucify your King?' The chief priests answered,' We have no king but Caesar.' Therefore he (Pilate) then delivered Him (Jesus) unto them to be crucified. And they took Jesus, and led Him away. And He, bearing His cross, went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha; where they crucified Him, and two other with Him, one on either side, and Jesus in the midst. And Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the Cross. And the writing was, 'JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS.' This title was then read by many of the Jews; for the place where Jesus was crucified was near to the city, and it was written in Hebrew, and Greek, and Latin. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, 'Write not, <u>The King of the Jews</u>; but that He said, *I am* King of the Jews.' But Pilate answered, What I have written I have written." (John 19:7-22)

The Man of this predetermined Moment was Jesus, who is our Savior from sin and it's punishment. There was a predetermined "Plan' also! Consider this 'Plan' of the Father and Son as prophesied through the prophet Isaiah, concerning **The Man** Jesus:

"Who has believed our report? And to whom is the **Arm of the LORD** (Jesus) revealed? For He (Jesus) shall grow up before Him (the Father) as a tender plant, and as a Root out of dry ground; He has no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him. He is despised and rejected of men; a Man of Sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and we hid as it were our faces from Him; He was despised, and we esteemed Him not. Surely He has borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem **Him stricken**, **smitten of God**, and afflicted. And He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed. All of us like sheep have gone astray: we have turned every person to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; He was brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He did not open mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment; and who shall declare His generation? For He was cut off out of the land of the living; for the transgression of My people He was stricken. And He made His grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death; because He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth. Yet it pleased the LORD (the Father) to bruise Him (Jesus); He (the Father) has put Him (Jesus) to grief. When You (the Father) shall make His (Jesus) soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied. By His knowledge shall My (the Father's) Righteous Servant (Jesus) justify many; for He (Jesus) shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide for Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong; because He has poured out His soul unto death: and He was numbered with the transgressors; and He bore the sins of many, and made intercession for the transgressors." (Isaiah 53:1-12)

The Man

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The predetermined 'plan' for **'The Man'** Jesus also includes mention of <u>those persons</u> who would be the 'sword' bearers who would 'strike' dead The Man destined for 'that moment' of prophetic fulfillment:

"Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and **against His Anointed** (the Messiah - Jesus the Christ), saying, 'Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.' He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall have them in derision." (see Psalm 2:1-12)

"And being let go (Peter & John), they went to their own companions, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them. And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, 'Lord, You are God, who has made the heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is; and who by the mouth of Your servant David has said, 'Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things? The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against His (the Father's) Christ.' For truly against Your Holy Child Jesus, whom You have anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, to do whatever Your hand and Your counsel predetermined to be done." (see Acts 4:18-28)

All that was predetermined via the prophetic Word of God was accomplished! **The Man Jesus** was slain by the Sword of the Cross! **The Man Jesus** was wounded <u>for our transgressions</u>, He was bruised <u>for our iniquities</u>. This Man 'poured out His soul unto death' for our salvation!

Finally consider this statement by one of His executioners, (from Luke 23:45-47):

"And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst. And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, He said, 'Father, into Your hands I commend My Spirit;' and having said thus, He gave up the Spirit. Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, **Certainly The Man, this-one** (on the middle Cross) Was Righteous."

Jesus is The Man ...

... who was the Father's chosen Shepherd – <u>our Shepherd!</u>
He was the Father's intimate Companion chosen to be stricken on <u>our behalf!</u>
He was the Anointed One, the Father's promised Messiah-Savior!

it pleased the Father to bruise The Man Jesus on <u>our</u> behalf!
He was The Man stricken and smitten of God according to sure word of prophecy!
He was The Man who <u>bore our iniquities</u> on the Cross for the forgiveness <u>of our sins!</u>
it pleased the Man Jesus, for the Joy set before Him, to endure the Cross for <u>us!</u>

Let all who believe say,
'Behold The Man' who endured the Cross
'Behold The Man' The Righteous One who is <u>our</u> Savior!
'Behold The Man' who is seated at the Right Hand of the Father Most High!

All Praise to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!
All Glory and Honor and Power is theirs forever and ever

Thank You Jesus – Always and always – Amen!