

Ezekiel 28:13-19

Ezekiel 28:13-19 - is a prophesy against the Prince of Tyre. But it telescopes into a prophetic vision of Satan the “anointed cherub” present in Eden but lifted up in pride, and then ultimately cast down - see also Isaiah 14. (Or alternately, some commentators see Adam, standing up in pride before his fall)

The word for “anointed” cherub - mimshah - is not the usual word for anointed, is only used here, and its meaning is dubious. Possibly "cherub of expansion.”

The nine precious stones here mentioned answer to nine of the twelve (representing the twelve tribes) in the high priest's breastplate (Ex 39:10-13; Re 21:14, 19-21). Of the four rows of three in each, the third is omitted in the Hebrew, but is supplied in the Septuagint. In this, too, there is an ulterior reference to Antichrist, who is blasphemously to arrogate the office of our divine High Priest (Zec 6:13).

—Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Bible Commentary

Revelation 21:19 reproduces this imagery in John’s vision of the foundation stones of the New Jerusalem.

In relation to the Torah readings, the rabbis and the New Testament writers saw Cain as a reflection of the pride of the Prince of Tyre/Satan.

1 John 3:12 - “Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother.”

The last three verses are words of comfort for Israel.

(Each Haftorah attempted to close the passage with comfort).

Ezekiel 28:24 - And there shall be no more a pricking brier unto the house of Israel, nor any grieving thorn of all that are round about them, that despised them; and they shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

The briars and thorns recall the crown of thorns that pierced Christ’s head.

Ezekiel 28:26 - “they shall dwell safely” in the Promised Land, while Cain must wander as an exile from God.