

The Almond tree.

The three stages, buds, blossom and fruit, symbolize life. The almond tree, being of the first blossoming trees in spring, speaks of life after death - resurrection -, and at the same time it speaks of God's covenant faithfulness, God watching over His promises. In Hebrew words for "to watch" and "almond" sound almost the same, cf. Jer. 1:11

NET Bible Study note:

sn There is a play on the Hebrew word for “almond tree” (שָׂדֵה, shaqed), which blossoms in January/February and is the harbinger of spring, and the Hebrew word for “watching” (שָׂדֵה, shoqed), which refers to someone watching over someone or something in preparation for action. The play on words announces the certainty and imminence of the Lord carrying out the covenant curses of Lev 26 and Deut 28 threatened by the earlier prophets.