

# ZECHARIAH 8 -- THE REMNANT IS SAVED!

Sunday November 17, 2024 -- ZECHARIAH series -- msg 13 -- Pastor Andrew Coleman

## REMEMBER THE CONTEXT & MESSAGE of ZECHARIAH:

- 1) The Prophet Zechariah lived and preached in Judah after Jews return to Jerusalem from Babylon.
- 2) The nation of Israel was discouraged because **Jerusalem** and **the Temple** were not rebuilt.
- 3) Zechariah preached God's message to them -- "*Return to Me and I will return to you.*"
- 4) Eight dreams present the world at peace under the rule of God's anointed Priest-King.  
Roaming Patrols (1,8) -- Sinful Opposition (2,3,6,7) -- Messiah's Salvation (4,5)
- 5) Chapter 7 -- two years later, the temple is nearing completion so the people ask if they need to keep their annual ritual of mourning over the destruction of it 70 years earlier. God speaks through the prophet Zechariah to basically say, "*Your religious rituals (fasts and feasts) mean nothing because you have diamond-hard hearts. You still refuse to love and care for one another so your religious activity is worthless. This is why I scattered you in the first place. You have never really repented.*"
- 6) We noted that all **God's warnings, curses, judgments and punishments** in the Bible ultimately point to the cross where Christ bore the wrath of God upon Himself so we may be forgiven. 1 Peter 2:24
- 7) In Ezekiel 36, we saw that only GOD can change a **diamond-hard heart of stone** into a **heart of flesh**. Throughout Scripture we see that GOD is the **prime-mover** in our salvation.

## UNDERSTANDING GOD'S PROMISE FOR SALVATION:

- 1) Throughout the Old Testament God promises that He will save His people.
- 2) God progressively reveals His forgiving, saving nature through what He says and what He does with all humanity but specifically with His chosen people.

### DEUTERONOMY 7:6-8

6 "*For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. 7 It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, 8 but **it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers**, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.*"

### JEREMIAH 31:33-34

31 "*Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make **a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah**, 32 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. 33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. **And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.** 34 And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."*

- 3) God chooses to bring His salvation through them to the nations of the world.

### GENESIS 12:2-3

2 *And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."*

1 And the word of the Lord of hosts came, saying, 2 **“Thus says the Lord of hosts: I am jealous for Zion with great jealousy, and I am jealous for her with great wrath. 3 Thus says the Lord: I have returned to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem, and Jerusalem shall be called the faithful city, and the mountain of the Lord of hosts, the holy mountain. 4 Thus says the Lord of hosts: Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of great age. 5 And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets. 6 Thus says the Lord of hosts: If it is marvelous in the sight of **the remnant of this people** in those days, should it also be marvelous in my sight, declares the Lord of hosts? 7 Thus says the Lord of hosts: Behold, I will save my people from the east country and from the west country, 8 and I will bring them to dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. And **they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in faithfulness and in righteousness.**”**

9 Thus says the Lord of hosts: **“Let your hands be strong, you who in these days have been hearing these words from the mouth of the prophets who were present on the day that the foundation of the house of the Lord of hosts was laid, that the temple might be built. 10 For before those days there was no wage for man or any wage for beast, neither was there any safety from the foe for him who went out or came in, for I set every man against his neighbor. 11 But now I will not deal with the remnant of this people as in the former days, declares the Lord of hosts. 12 For there shall be a sowing of peace. The vine shall give its fruit, and the ground shall give its produce, and the heavens shall give their dew. And I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things. 13 And as you have been a byword of cursing among the nations, O house of Judah and house of Israel, so will I save you, and you shall be a blessing. Fear not, but let your hands be strong.”**

## OBSERVATIONS FROM THE TEXT:

### vs 1-2 Notice the **PASSION** of God’s Desire for His people.

God is jealous for the worship due Him.  
God is jealous for the love of His people.

- God’s jealousy is righteous.
- God’s jealousy is intense.
- God’s jealousy is dangerous.

### vs 3-6 Notice the **PEACE** of God’s Plan.

God’s presence (Rev.21:3; Jer. 31:33; Ezk 37:23)

The people’s faithfulness (Isaiah 1:26)

Everything as it should be.

(See God’s heart for the joy of His people vs 6)

### vs 7-8 Notice the **PROTECTION** of God’s Plan.

From enemies (west) and desolation (east)

Into the safety of His city-fortress

**Proverbs 18:10;** (also see Psalm 18:2)

*The name of the LORD is a strong tower;*

*The righteous runs into it and is safe.*

Lev. 26:12; Jeremiah 30:1-38:22; 31:33; 32:38; Ezek 37:23,27;  
Hosea 2:23; Isa. 43:1; Hebrews 8:10; 1 Peter 2:9-10; Rev 21:3

### vs 9, 13 Notice the **POWER** of God’s Word.

God’s words will strengthen you.

God’s words represent his promises.

You can be strong because you

have God’s promises.

### vs 10-13 Notice the **PROSPERITY** of God’s Plan.

They had returned to Jerusalem but remained in disarray. There was discouragement.

There was embarrassment.

Now, God declares peace and prosperity.

#### PSALM 30:5

*For his anger is but for a moment,*

*and his favor is for a lifetime.*

*Weeping may tarry for the night,*

*but joy comes with the morning.*

Remember...

**“Truth in the mind brings hope to the heart.”**

**14** For thus says the Lord of hosts: "As I purposed to bring disaster to you when your fathers provoked me to wrath, and I did not relent, says the Lord of hosts, **15 so again have I purposed in these days to bring good to Jerusalem and to the house of Judah; fear not.** **16** These are the things that you shall do: Speak the truth to one another; render in your gates judgments that are true and make for peace; **17 do not devise evil in your hearts against one another, and love no false oath, for all these things I hate, declares the Lord."**

**18** And the word of the Lord of hosts came to me, saying, **19** "Thus says the Lord of hosts: The fast of the fourth month and the fast of the fifth and the fast of the seventh and the fast of the tenth shall be to the house of Judah seasons of joy and gladness and cheerful feasts. Therefore love truth and peace.

**20** "Thus says the Lord of hosts: Peoples shall yet come, even the inhabitants of many cities. **21** The inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, 'Let us go at once to entreat the favor of the Lord and to seek the Lord of hosts; I myself am going.' **22** Many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem and to entreat the favor of the Lord. **23** Thus says the Lord of hosts: In those days ten men from the nations of every tongue shall take hold of the robe of a Jew, saying, 'Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.'"

## OBSERVATIONS FROM THE TEXT:

**vs 14-17** Notice the PURPOSE of God's plan.

His purpose of correction. Hebrews 12:3-6  
His purpose of righteousness.

**EPHESIANS 2:8-10**

8 For **by grace** you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

10 For we are his workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works**, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

**vs 18-19** Notice the PROGRESS of God's plan.

**FASTS** for Mourning:

Fourth month --> Jerusalem's walls breached

Fifth month --> Jerusalem's city fell

Seventh month --> Gov. Gedaliah assassinated

Tenth month --> Jerusalem siege began

**FEASTS** for Celebrating God's restoration.

Our Logical response: 'Love truth and peace.'  
(2 Thess. 2:10; 1 Corinthians 13:6)

**vs 20-23** Notice the POSTERITY of God's Plan.

God's plan is transgenerational.

God's plan uses the godliness of His people to bring new people to Him.

When we reflect Him to them, they come!

Our attraction should not be worldliness but godliness!

**JOHN 13:34-35** (Jesus said...)

*This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another".*

## REMEMBER! God's Plan is all about GOD'S MARVELOUS GRACE.

**ZECHARIAH 4:6-7** (God overcomes the 'mountains' of our sin, our enemies and our failures)

*This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts. 7 Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain. And he shall bring forward the final stone of the temple amid shouts of 'Grace! Grace to it!'"*