

Minor Prophets
Zechariah
Lesson 10

Text: **Zechariah 12:1-14:21**

Intro: As we approach the last chapters of the book of Zechariah, we start to get a glimpse at the end time prophecies. The Gentile nations attacking Israel, the time of Jacobs troubles, the Jews experiencing great tribulations, and the Lord coming back with Power and Glory. This is the second oracle, or message of Zechariah, (Last week we looked at the first) and one of the themes we will see in it is the “Day of the Lord”. The phrase the day of the Lord is found 16 times in these three chapters. It is also worth noting that the word Jerusalem is mentioned 52 times in the book of Zechariah, and 22 of them are in the last 3 chapters. As we looked at last week, the Lord loved and is Jealous of Israel, as stated in the first chapter. And God is determined to draw them back into a vibrant relationship with Him. Remember that everything we have studied has been leading up to this, God drawing Israel back into that relationship, and The eventual 2nd coming of **the Lord to rule with Power and Glory.**

I. Israel Will Be Attacked, Vs.12:1-3 &14:1&2

A. God is Sovereign Over All,

i. God Created All,

a) **Vs.1** opens with the understanding that God is the creator of all things.

- It places God as the creator of the Heavens, the Earth, and the Spirit world.
- There is nothing above, Beneath, or out of Reach for God.

b) I think it is important for us to constantly remind ourselves of this truth.

- Here we are about to enter into a great time of tribulation, and God starts out by affirming that He is in control.

ii. “All People”

a) notice the phrase All People,

- this is all the nations that will turn against Israel.
- It is still amazing to me that while we have great nations with great power, that the entire earth will be fixated on Israel.
 - This is because there is more here than the physical realm, there is a spiritual realm.
 - A couple of weeks ago, one of the questions was why was Satan so concerned with Israel.
 - Does God love Israel anymore than any other people? And Satan focuses on Israel to do the most Hurt?
 - God has no respecter persons, See **Acts 10:34; Romans 2:11**
 - I think Satan thinks that If he can stamp out the nation of Israel, there would be no way for the final prophecies to be fulfilled, and that would prolong the final judgment.
 - Remember Hell is a place of judgment for Satan and the fallen angels.
 - The irony is the more thy try to stop it, the more they help fulfill the prophecies of God, and usher in the destruction.
 - **I Corinthians 2:7&8** “But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, *even* the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:8Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of

glory.”

- It goes on to say that these spiritual things are only revealed spiritually, So Satan and the powers of this world in haste to kill Jesus only fulfilled the plan of God.

b) **Vs.2** speaks of the cup, of then in scripture a cup is a picture of judgment.

- There are a number of places in scripture: **Psalm 75:8; Isaiah 51:17; Jeremiah 21:15-28; Ezekiel 23:31-33; Revelation 14:10, 16:19, 18:6.**
- But what was the most famous picture of a cup being symbolic for judgment?
 - **Matthew 26:39** “...O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.”

c) The Nation of Israel has been taken over from time to time, the people have suffered, imprisoned, and even killed. But the nation has never been destroyed, God has always brought it back.

- The same thing will happen here, after the great battles and persecutions, the Nation of Israel will be raised by God.

B. The Lord will Defeat the Enemy, **Vs.12:4-9 & 14:3-15**

i. **The Lord Will Appear, vs.14:3-7**

a) The Promise was given to the disciples in Acts 1:9-12 that this same Jesus would return,

- and here we see it.
- The mount of Olives will split into two, and the Nation of Israel will run to the valley beneath them, to be under the protection of God, or the deliverance of God.

b) How long had the 2nd coming been preached?

- I have said there is nothing in the New Testament that was not preached in the Old Testament, including the 2nd coming, even before the first coming.
- Jude recorded that “And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,¹⁵To execute judgment upon all, ” **Jude 14&15**
- and this is exactly what Zechariah is writing.

ii. **The Lord will Defeat the Enemy, 12:4-9 & 14:12-15**

a) **12:8** “in that day the Lord shall defend”

b) horses will panic, people will become as blind, riders will become overtaken with madness fighting one another.

c) And during this time, the Lord will watch over His people.

d) But Victory is not the only objective here.

- There is still the issue of the rebellion of the people of God,

C. Israel will be cleansed, **Vs.12:10-13:9**

i. **Israel Repents, 12:10-14**

a) Grace comes to the house of David, **vs10**

b) their eyes will be opened to the fact of what they have done to Jesus, they will look upon the one who they have pierced.

- The great mourning,
 - I wonder how much of that will be because of the ones who have forsaken Jesus, never repented of their sins, while the evidence was there all alone.
- Even if we lived in a religion that only accepted the Old Testament, but had heard of Jesus, we would have to see the prophecies fit the description of who Jesus is. After all Zechariah is in the Jewish bible.

ii. The Nation Cleanses, Vs 13:1-7

- a) a fountain opens to the house of David,
 - for the purpose of cleaning themselves.
- b) the idols will be cut out from the land,
- c) False prophets will be cast out of the land,
 - Who are these false prophets?
 - The prophets of the small g idols? Yes, but also the Jews, that looked for another messiah and rejected Jesus.
- d) Vs.6, again they see the true Jesus, Messiah.

iii. The Nation will be Sanctified, Vs.13;8&9

- a) God will refine His people, as if through fire,
 - the way a smith would refine metal.

D. The Lord Reigns Over ALL the Earth, Vs. 14:8-11 & 16-21

i. The Land changed, Vs.8-11

- a) vs.8 speaks of the living water that shall go through the land.
 - Making the land fertile, and good for growth.
- b) vs.10&11 speaks of the land being a plain for growth,
 - some will say because of the earth quakes, the land will no longer have any great mountains, but they will fall and level on the ground for growing things.
- c) Vs.11 also suggest the land will be safe to dwell in,
 - this is also what we saw last week that the older people and the children could feel safe in the land.

ii. Gentile Nations Worship God as well, Vs.16

- a) the Nation of Israel was never meant to be exclusively the people of God,
 - God chose the nation of Israel to show the world who He is, but it was never meant for Israel to keep and exclude other nations.
 - God wants everyone to be in that relationship with Him.

iii. God will execute judgment on the Nations, Vs.17-19

- a) during the 1,000 year reign, Jesus will sit in judgment of all nations,
 - and the ones who do not send their representatives to Jerusalem, will suffer the punishment of Jesus.
 - It is amazing that in spite of all that is done, there will still be people who do not submit to the Leadership of the Lord.
 - The same is in our lives, we see the Lord move and bless, but still we sometimes do not submit to Him.

iv. The Character of God, Vs.20&21

- a) the bell of the horses,
 - literal there will be the ornaments on the horses
- b) all the pots in Jerusalem will be holy,
- c) we know, it was expected for the priest to be holy, and for the things in the temple,
 - **Exodus 28:35&36** “And it shall be upon Aaron to minister: and his sound shall be heard when he goeth in unto the holy *place* before the LORD, and when he cometh out, that he die not.³⁶And thou shalt make a plate of pure gold, and grave upon it, *like* the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD.”
 - but, in that day, not only the temple, but everything.
 - Everything will be the Lord's, as it should be now,
 - as Christians, we should submit, not only ourselves, but everything.
 - We should not have to wait until then, but willfully do it now.