

Zech 8:1-23

Session Seven, Zechariah

Review from Last Week

It's not enough to just build the temple. YHWH wanted His people to live holy lives in relationship to Him. What does it mean to be holy?

Ten Oracles, Ten Promises

Ten is the number of human _____ (also in Num 14:22, Josh 22:14, 1 Sam 1:8, Jer 41:8, Job 19:3, Ruth 4:2, Dan. 1:12-15.)

Zechariah 8 is a Gospel-saturated chapter. Each promise is preceded by "Thus says YHWH of armies." Answer: What's the promise? Why does it matter? What does it contribute?

Promise #1 (v. 2): Zeal and Wrath

What is YHWH zealous about?

Promise #2 (v. 3): City of Truth/Mountain of Holiness

Past event or future promise?

YHWH _____ with His people but He will _____ in the temple.

Promise #3 (v. 4-5): Open Plazas

"Too often men are apt to measure a city's significance by its business, professions and industry, its buildings, its wealth, its art and culture. Zechariah suggests that we measure the significance of our cities by their effect upon two groups easily overlooked—the _____ and the _____" (Lessing, 311).

Harmony between male and female (Gal. 3:28)

Promise #4 (v. 6): Wonderful

Luther: God "tells the people to close their eyes and not look at the present but solely to consider the Word of Him who surely is greater than all things present."

Promise #5 (v. 7-8): East and West

Compare Mt. 8:11 and Lk 13:29.

Covenant: "They will be my people and I will be their God" (see Zech 1:3)

segulah—a prized, _____ possession

"A segulah is loved not because it is valuable. Rather, a segulah is valuable because it is loved. Israel's worth, value, and status were located in YHWH's estimation of them, not in what they were in and of themselves" (Lessing, 313)

Promise #6 (v. 9-13): Sowing of Peace

Curse reverse: poor harvest → bumper crop

The temple will be dedicated March 12, 515 BC

The prophet's hope is not redemption _____ the world but redemption _____ the world.

Promise #7 (14-17): Good Plan

YHWH's plan for human relationships: truth, justice, peace!

Promise #8 (v. 18-19): Jubilation and Festivals

4th month: Babylon captures Jerusalem 7th month: death of Gedaliah, Judah's governor
5th month: destruction of Jerusalem 10th month: beginning of siege of Jerusalem

Fasts → Feasts

Luther: "Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: 'Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.'"

Promise #9 (v. 20-22): Many Peoples

Note the shift from "in _____ days" to the "in _____ days"

Influx of Gentiles

Promise #10 (v. 23): Ten Men

Anticipation of Pentecost (Acts 2:8-11)

"the hem of his garment" (Mk 5:27-29, 6:56)

For Discussion

- 1) Of the ten, which is your favorite promise?
- 2) Share a time when you recognized God kept a promise to you.