

Zech 10:1-12

Session Nine, Zechariah

Church Militant

Church Triumphant

Who?
When?
Where?
What is it like?

The Restoration of Judah and Joseph

Zechariah 10 in four words: YHWH _____, people _____! (Lessing, 412)

Label as North or South: Judah (v. 3,6), Joseph (v. 6), Ephraim (v. 7)

What is the effect of the frequent switching between 1st (“I”) and 3rd (“he/they”) persons?

Zechariah 10:1-5

Most of the rain in Israel fell in the winter months, but spring rain (“later rain”) came at the end of the season and was essential for crop development. Israelites in Canaan had no constant river water. The sense here is that ask for that which is critical—and YHWH will deliver! God knows our needs (Mt 6:32-33).

How is YHWH contrasted with the household gods (v. 2)?

“It was common in the OT for people publicly to hold to the state-sponsored deity while privately, on the family level, worshiping another god that appeared to be more personal and attentive to their needs” (Lessing, 389-90).

“Sheep without a shepherd.” See Num 27:16-17; 1 Kings 22:17; Ezek 34:5, 8; Mt 9:36

What defenses do sheep have?

Why is God upset with the shepherds?

“YHWH turns his anger against corrupt shepherds. Now he turns to their replacement—a King after his own heart, from the house of David. This shepherd will not only save Judah, but also the dispersed northern tribes” (Lessing, 405).

What aspect or ability is emphasized in each of these metaphors? (v. 4)

Christ the Cornerstone

Christ the Tent Peg

Christ the Bow for War

Zechariah 10:6-12

Luther: "This passage is to be understood about a spiritual conversion." (v. 6)

Who is the "doer" in this section and what does that mean?

Note how compassion is YHWH's motivation (see Mk 6:34).

In v. 9, "sow" means "scatter" into exile.

Gilead (east of the Jordan River) and Lebanon (north of the Sea of Galilee) were typically empty places that neighbored Israel. The idea here is that YHWH is going to bring so many people back, He's going to fill up the empty places and even they won't be big enough for all the people. (It's like saying, "I'll make Wyoming crowded!")

"And he will throw waves into the sea." YHWH enters into the sea and contends with chaos (represented by the waters). This is a new _____! If waters represent chaos, how does this add significance to Jesus walking on the water? Mk 4:41, "Even the wind and the waves obey him!" Or, the fact there is no sea in the new heaven and earth (Rev. 21:1)?

Like chapter 9, Zechariah is mentioning nations (Egypt and Assyria, v. 10) that aren't chronologically accurate to his time, but are symbolic for all enemies of Israel.

How are we called to fight? How are we called to not fight?

Look at all that YHWH does for His people: takes care of them (v. 3), be with them (v. 5), listen to them (v. 6), gather them (v. 8-11), strengthen them (v. 6, 12).

"Onward Christian Soldiers" (LSB 662)

Onward Christian soldiers, marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus, going on before
Christ the royal master, leads against the foe,
Forward into battle, see His banners go!

*Onward Christian soldiers, marching as to war,
with the cross of Jesus, on before.*

Like a mighty army moves the Church of God,
Brothers we are treading, where the saints have trod
We are not divided, all one body we,
One in hope and doctrine, one in charity

Crowns and thrones may perish, kingdoms rise and wane,
But the church of Jesus constant shall remain
Gates of hell can never 'gainst that Church prevail,
We have Christ's own promise and that cannot fail

Onward then, ye faithful, join our happy throng,
Blend with ours your voices in the triumph song,
Glory, laud and honor unto Christ the king,
This through countless ages men and angels sing