

Zech 12:1-14

Session Eleven, Zechariah

Previously...

“Zechariah 9-10 envisions YHWH’s plan of restoration and hope. Beginning in chapter 11, though, the prophet portrays the era of the monarchy to the Babylonian exile in completely _____ terms.

Chapter 11 is a massive dose of in-your-face-reality: ungodly leaders destroyed monarchic Israel (Lessing, 466).

Chapter 11 ends with a one-eyed worthless shepherd with a withered arm. This is not an encouraging word! Questions abound. Under such circumstances, how will the flock ‘doomed to slaughter’ (11:4,7) become a flock like the jewels in the crown (9:16)? Will the coming King (9:9) be able to turn things around so that his rule extends to the ends of the earth (9:10)? How will Judah and Joseph be reunited (10:6)? What is YHWH’s plan to bring exiles home (10:10)? And what about the unfulfilled promises in chapters 1-8? How will iniquity be removed in one day (3:9)? How will Jerusalem become the ‘city of truth’ (8:3) and nations become attracted to Jerusalem (8:20-23)? Chiefly, what about the promises to the house of David? Zech 12-14 answers these questions, bringing resolution to the first eleven chapters” (Lessing, 464).

Zechariah 11 = Davidic condemnation

Zechariah 12 = Davidic restoration

Both sections, 12:2-13:6 and 14:1-21 depict the _____ end-time events, yet from _____ perspectives.

This literary feature—repetition with intensity—appears throughout the Bible, especially in Revelation (Lessing, 465).

“The movement in chapters 12-14, then, is from _____ to _____ but it is hardly a straight line” (Lessing, 467).

Zechariah 12:1

“YHWH the Creator of the heavens and earth, will forge his people’s future. Without YHWH’s global authority and universal power, the events in Zech 12 could hardly come about” (Lessing, 466).

LSB Footnote: What He did in the beginning shows what He can do in the end.

Zechariah 12:2-9

v. 1-4: outside the walls

v. 5-9: in the people

What's in the cup? (v. 2)

"On that day" occurs _____ times in chapter 12 and _____ times in chapters 12-14.

The passive "will be gathered" in v. 3 is important because it shows YHWH is doing the gathering of all the nations.

Key: What is Jerusalem? What is Judah?

Luther: "But we who are weak in the presence of the world, we who are thrown into prison and are even killed—yes, we—He says, are torches to burn that dry straw and wood."

"The blaze in v. 6 is also against 'trees' which again signify God's _____" (Lessing, 470).

What is the significance of giving salvation to the "tents of Judah first"? (v. 7)

"YHWH is ready to destroy all of the nations attacking Jerusalem. He is slow to anger and slower to judge. But when YHWH is provoked to act in judgment, his fury is unfathomable" (Lessing, 471).

Zechariah 12:10-14 Him Whom They Have Pierced

God pours out his "Spirit of grace" so that people will gaze upon the Pierced One. See especially John 19:34-37.

The last four verses of this chapter describe in great detail the great grief of those who see God pierced.

The righteous king _____ was killed in the plains of Megiddo (2 Chr 35:20-24). He was Judah's last hope and the last Davidic king to do "what was right in YHWH's eyes" (2 Ki 22:2).

David and Nathan (1 Chr 14:4) =
Levi and Shimei (1 Chr 16:1-2) =

MOURNERS
aristocracy
clergy
people

"Those who lament are from all orders, both high and low, civil and ecclesiastical—all must confess their sins" (Lessing, 476).

Chapter 12 is all about _____!