

ZECHARIAH - Jehovah Remembers

"I Can See Clearly Now"

Zechariah 8:1-8

INTRODUCTION:

1. All through the pages of Scripture we see the glorious hope of Christ's future kingdom.
 - a) Remember the theme of the Bible is - "The King and the Kingdom".
 - 1) **Isaiah 2:1-4; Joel 2:21-27**
2. One day all of the nations will submit to and serve the Lord.
 - a) **Philippians 2:9-11**
3. During Christ's Millennial reign the effects of the curse will be greatly diminished.
4. During the Millennium, Righteousness, Peace, Justice, and prosperity will prevail, as well as long life and health.
5. Also, during the Millennium, Jerusalem, the capital city will be enlarged, and Messiah will reign in holiness for 1000 years.
6. THE OPENING VERSES OF CHAPTER 8 focus on the soon-coming Millennial Kingdom.
7. **Matthew 6:9-10**
 - a) *"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."*
8. HERE IN THE FIRST EIGHT VERSES WE SEE FIVE PRONOUNCEMENTS ABOUT THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM.

I. PRONOUNCEMENT #1 - GOD'S PASSION FOR HIS PEOPLE

1. **Zechariah 8:1-2**
2. Notice Vs 1
 - a) *"And the word of the LORD of hosts came, saying"*
 - 1) This is divine revelation.
 - b) **In Chapter 7:1** *"the word of the LORD came to Zechariah"* to rebuke the people for their ritualistic, external worship.
 - 1) Meaning they were going through the motions.
3. **VERY IMPORTANT:** Notice the repeated phrase *"Thus says the LORD of hosts"*
 - a) **Vs 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 14, 19, 20, 23**

b) Being repeated 10x reinforces the reality that the PROMISE of a future kingdom comes from God Himself.

1) **Genesis 2:1 -3** is the Abrahamic Covenant

4. The phrase "**Thus saith the LORD**" introduces a direct proclamation from God, which emphasizes divine authority, infallibility, and the Word of God over human opinion.

a) It's a reminder that the message is not of human opinion, but divine, demanding attention and submission.

1) **2 Timothy 3:16**

5. What a wakeup call to get right with God.

6. Vs 2

a) "**I am jealous for Zion with great jealousy**"

1) **Zechariah 1:14**

7. God is passionately committed to His people.

a) **Deuteronomy 12:5, 11**

b) **Psalms 135:21**

8. Vs 2

a) "**and I am jealous for her with great wrath**"

9. So, God is passionate for His people, and He is ready to unload His great wrath on Israel's enemies.

a) **Zechariah 1:15**

b) **Genesis 12:3**

10. There is coming a day when that promise will be fully carried out.

a) God's jealousy will be unleashed against those nations that persecuted His people.

11. **2 Thessalonians 1:7-10**

a) Jesus will destroy His enemies @ Armageddon.

1) **Revelation 19:11-19**

2) **Joel 3:12**

b) Israel also needed to shift their focus from themselves and turn their eyes on the glory and goodness of God.

II. PRONOUNCEMENT #2 - GOD PROMISES HIS PRESENCE

1. Vs 3

a) Again - "**Thus says the LORD**"

1) You can bank on it.

2. Vs 3

a) "**I have returned to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem**"

3. Although the glory departed (Ezekiel 10:18), when Jesus sets up His earthly reign it will be in all His majesty and glory.

4. Vs 3

a) "**dwell**" - means to reside, in the tabernacle, in all His glory.

b) "**in the midst**" - means right smack dab in the middle of the city of Zion.

5. In the Kingdom we will be fully engaged in vibrant worship.

a) **Zechariah 6:12-13**

b) **1 John 3:2**

6. Vs 3

a) "**and Jerusalem will be called the faithful city**"

1) Historically, Jerusalem has not been very faithful.

b) **HOWEVER**, when Jesus returns, Jerusalem will be the place where people will know God's Word and live in the light of it.

7. Vs 3

a) "**and the mountain of the LORD of hosts, the holy mountain**"

1) All nations will come to the mountain of Yahweh to learn and submit to the Law.

2) **Isaiah 2:1-4**

b) Because of God's presence, Jerusalem will become the new Eden.

1) **Isaiah 11:6-9**

III. PRONOUNCEMENT #3 - GOD PROVIDES REFRESHMENT FOR HIS PEOPLE

1. **Zechariah 8:4-5**

2. Vs 4

a) "**Thus says the LORD of hosts**"

3. Vs 4b

4. Peace and contentment will abound during this time.

a) **Isaiah 65:19-20**

5. During this time the effects of sin will be curtailed because of Christ's reign.

a) *Revelation 20:1-4*

6. Vs 5

7. The peace that characterizes Christ's future reign encompasses nations and individuals, old and young, men and women, parents and children.

IV. PROVISION #4 - GOD GIVEN POTENTIAL FOR HIS PEOPLE

1. Vs 6

a) *"Thus says the LORD of hosts"*

2. Vs 6

a) *"If it is marvelous in the sight of the remnant of this people in those days"*

3. The previous provisions revealed glorious realities.

a) GOD HAS A PASSION FOR HIS PEOPLE

b) GOD PROMISES HIS PRESENCE WITH HIS PEOPLE

c) GOD PROVIDES REFRESHMENT FOR HIS PEOPLE

d) GOD POWERFULLY PREPARES HIS PEOPLE

4. Vs 6

a) *"should it also be marvelous in my sight, declares the Lord of hosts?"*

5. Vs 6 NLT

a) *"But is it impossible for me?"* says the LORD of Heaven's armies.

6. **THE ANSWER:** Absolutely NOT!!!

7. When we assess our current circumstances, God's promises seem impossible to realize.

a) Israel was struggling to rebuild the Temple from their human perspective.

b) Yet the answer was/is "is it impossible for God?"

8. *Jeremiah 32:17*

9. God's power ensures that His promises will be fulfilled with precision.

V. PROVISION#5 - GOD'S PROGRAM FOR HIS PEOPLE

1. Vs 7-8

2. Vs 7

a) *"Thus says the LORD of hosts"*

3. Vs 7

a) *"I will save my people from the east country, and from the west country"*

1) "save" - means deliverance from beginning to the end.

b) It includes God's spiritual work of salvation, but focuses on rescuing His repentant people from their exile.

4. God will not allow Israel's faithless wandering and physical oppression to continue indefinitely.

5. Vs 8

6. Zechariah is expressing the pinnacle of God's relationship with Israel.

CONCLUSION:

1. There is coming a day when God's glory will return, Jerusalem will be transformed, peace will blanket the earth, and God's people will love Him in truth and righteousness.

2. GOD PROVIDES FOR HIS PEOPLE:

a) GOD HAS A **PASSION** FOR HIS PEOPLE

b) GOD **PROMISES HIS PRESENCE** WITH HIS PEOPLE

c) GOD **PROVIDES REFRESHMENT** FOR HIS PEOPLE

d) GOD **POWERFULLY PREPARES** HIS PEOPLE

e) GOD'S **PROGRAM PREVAILS** FOR HIS PEOPLE prevails