



Sermon Series: Unquenchable Hope Part 11

Sermon Title: God Is Still In Charge

Speaker/ Date: Armin Sommer, July 12, 2020

Zechariah 10:1–12

Shortly before the return of Messiah there will be political turmoil, violence, and people will ask, “What on earth is God doing?”

The big idea: Settle your heart, for God is still in charge.

I. YAHWEH is the One to Trust (Zechariah 10:1-4)

Zechariah 10:2 (NIV) — 2 The idols speak deceitfully, diviners see visions that lie; they tell dreams that are false, they give comfort in vain. Therefore the people wander like sheep oppressed for lack of a shepherd.

The idols to which Zechariah were commonly found in household shrines throughout much of Israel’s history. Even though God commanded people not to worship idols. When people trust leaders who follow false gods, it shifts a culture in the wrong direction. That’s the result of wrongly-directed worship.

The challenge is to choose the right deity. Because the god you worship, will shape your values, your behaviors, and your destiny. Ancient Israel in the time of the Judges learned this. **Judges 21:25**

It led to a repetitive cycles of cultural melt-down and oppression by foreign powers. And they would re-learn the bankruptcy of idolatry later under a parade of bad leaders. It led to the sacrifice of infants to the false god Molech. Trust the wrong leaders, and it leads not only to grinding misery, but to the demise of great cultures. Trust the right God... YHWH.

The prophet uses three terms to describe what He provides: Cornerstone. Tent Peg. Battle Bow. **Zechariah 10:3b–4**

- **Cornerstone.** **Isaiah 28:16.** Jesus is the Cornerstone, the only foundation on which one can reliably build a life.
- **Tent Peg.** Depicts the center pole of a tent that stabilized the structure. Following Jesus leads to stability.
- **Battle Bow.** Portrays power that overcomes an enemy. When Jesus comes again, He will defeat all enemy forces. **Revelation 6:2**

II. YAHWEH is the One Who Gives Victory (Zech 10:5-7)

There is coming a time when a great invasion of Israel by a coalition of enemy nations will take place. Rev 19:19 also describes it. At the height of battle Jesus will gloriously appear and fight for and through them **Zechariah 10:5**

This doesn't come about as a result of a political leader. Victory will be a result from God's direct intervention, not an election. The blessing of this future day will not be just for Israel. It will spill over the entire world. **Zechariah 10:6-7**

III. YAHWEH is the One Who Brings His People Home (Zech 10:8-12)

Zechariah 10:8-9 (NIV) — **8** I will **signal** for them and gather them in. Surely I will redeem them; they will be as numerous as before. **9** Though I scatter them among the peoples, yet in distant lands they will remember me. They and their children will survive, and they will return.

The word "signal" is lit., "whistle."

When Jesus whistles for His people, millions of them will come home from all over the world. **Zechariah 10:10**

The LORD will remove every barrier to their return. **Zechariah 10:11**

There are places in Israel today where Jews are restricted in their access. But not when Jesus comes. They'll go wherever they please. **Zechariah 10:12**

YAHWEH will bring His people Home. Jerusalem will be the city of which **Ezekiel 48:35** says, "the name of the city from that time on will be: YAHWEH is there."

Discussion Questions:

- What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?
- In Zechariah's day people consulted idols. What idols does our society consult today? What are some practical steps to stop idol worship?
- Do you think we are living in the end times? Explain why or why not.

- Describe what you think our culture will look like in 10 years. 20 years. Do you see our culture improving morally over time?
- The big idea for this message is *Settle your heart, for God is still in charge*. How involved do you think God is in the details of our daily lives? Explain.
- Explain a time in your life when God gave you victory over something that seemed impossible. How has that affected your faith?