

SOUTHLAND CHURCH

THE BOOK OF
ZECHARIAH

12 Day Devotional



foundations
daily devotional

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INTRODUCTION

Zechariah is one of God's *final* messages to His people before a period of relative silence (approx. 400 years) begins, leading up to the coming of Jesus. Zechariah the priest prophesied at the same time as Haggai the prophet, but outlasted him by many years. We can read more about them and that specific time period in their own books, along with the books of Ezra and Nehemiah. Approximately 50,000 Jews had returned to Jerusalem from their exile in Babylon. Overall, they were fairly discouraged and disheartened. Their primary leaders included the governor Zerubbabel and the high priest Joshua. Then there were the prophets Zechariah, and Haggai, challenging the people to keep rebuilding the second temple (the first had been destroyed by the Babylonians) in spite of financial challenges and aggressive enemies. Zechariah's message was clear - if only they would return to God and follow Him, they would be blessed. They must not give up!

In Zechariah God is speaking through His servant to both spur on and encourage His people at that time *and* to comfort future believers. Through what the prophet say, we can see that God is always in control and that He never forgets His people! Can this not encourage us as well? In fact, Zechariah's name means "Yahweh remembers"! Throughout the book Zechariah uses many word pictures to illustrate what he's saying. In fact, as we read Zechariah we are confronted at times with fairly wild visions full of meaning, even brief poetry. Some find this confusing, but it is in part due to the reality that when looking that far into the future, certain things will be cloudy *from our perspective*. Nevertheless, when things get foggy we can remember this - God is speaking and saying, "I am working and I WILL work!" Therefore, reading Zechariah can strengthen our hearts, purify our minds and capture our imagination. What an incredible book!

In Zechariah, we are certainly given a compelling picture of how history will unfold. Much of it centers around the Jews, Jerusalem and, of course, Jesus. For sure *our love for Jesus* can expand in reading Zechariah as many vivid prophecies about His first and second comings proclaim what He has done and what He will do. He is worthy to be praised and followed! And do you ever wonder about all the evil in the world? Do you ever feel that God's Work is progressing too slowly? Do you ever get discouraged by your sin? Zechariah addresses all these questions and challenges. Brothers and sisters, read with *eagerness* as we are told that God WILL fulfill His promises and complete His epic plan for redemption, including that of the Jews. Amen!

DAY 1



READ: Zechariah 1

The book of Zechariah is broken into two parts. Chapters 1-8 focus on the current situation of Israel, while Chapters 9-15 concentrate on the future – *including our future!* The book begins with a powerful word from God, through Zechariah – “return to me . . . and I will return to you” (1:3). Brothers and sisters, we must move toward God if we are to experience Him and walk in His blessings! The Jews needed to hear this because they were growing weary of their temple rebuilding project. There were so many challenges! God was saying – you have a choice to make – be like your forefathers, or be different. This is a lesson for all of us – we can set a new course if the generations before us strayed from God and His Ways. Praise God! Wearisome times will come, but God is waiting to provide us with words to spur us on!

A few months after delivering this prophecy, Zechariah receives a variety of visions. God definitely has many ways to communicate with us! In Chapter 1 he gets a vision of men on horses returning with a report for God. The nations that have oppressed Israel look so

secure, and at peace, BUT God says in response to this report – “things aren’t what they look like!” (1:14-17). How they needed God’s perspective! The proper view, God says, is that He will have mercy on Israel and punish the other nations. The next vision confirms this with a picture of nations and their strength (this is what horns represent) being subdued (1:18-21). What a powerful God we serve!



JOURNALING AND PRAYER

1. Is there an area in your life where you have to return to God? Is there something that you’re trying to keep hidden from Him? Let Him search your heart . . . He will return to you! (v. 3).
2. Write down some past patterns from previous generations (your “forefathers”) in your family that were dishonouring to God. (v. 4) This is not for the purpose of blame or disrespect. Rather, ask God *if* you have made better choices and set different patterns in those areas.
3. Pray that God would “de-horn” (vv. 18-21) the power and strength of nations that hate God’s people, the Jews, and all other believers. He has promised to do this, so we are praying according to His Will. Let’s be a part of His Work!

DAY 2



READ: Zechariah 2

Zechariah continues to receive visions from God. In this vision of the man with a measuring line, God is declaring that one day Jerusalem would spread out much further AND that He would Himself be their wall! (2:4-5) Under David and Solomon, the Jews controlled much land, but at this time they were very, very tiny. They couldn’t help but compare their current state with the past. God often provides His people with “words” about the future so that they could keep going. These visions then would have served as an timely encouragement to the weary, discouraged Jews! Yes they had fallen very far and hard, but the future held something beyond what they had ever experienced.

While physical protection and future prosperity are enticing promises, we also see in this chapter God’s “motive”. The Jews are the “apple of his eye” (2:8) - it’s the most sensitive part of the eye - and He would not sit by idly while His chosen ones were being hounded without mercy. Some might ask – “why didn’t he do MORE at that moment?” – but God has His timing and ways. The Jews of the past, and all who believe in Him, do well to trust Him in all things. Of course, such trust can be powerfully sustained by specific promises. For example, God tells them, “I will live among you and you will know that the Lord Almighty has sent me to you.” (2:11) *What a promise!* Brothers and sisters, let’s also seek Him for promises in our own lives!



JOURNALING AND PRAYER

1. Pray for the people of Jerusalem and Israel. Pray that they would see that Jesus is their only hope. Not only personally, but *also* the hope for the very land that they live in! (v. 10)
2. In the future Jerusalem will not even have walls due to an explosion in population AND because God will protect it like a wall of fire (vv. 3-5). Ask the Lord if there’s any area in your life (or in your family) where you’re getting attacked and need protection. Pray for God to be a wall of fire around that area!

3. God promises to live among His people (v. 11). He is a personal God, for sure! Pray for more of His presence in your life, through the filling of His Spirit. And then watch what He’ll do in & through you!

DAY 3



READ: Zechariah 3

Here we have a powerful picture of Joshua the high priest being accused by satan, and then being cleansed of his sin, symbolized by a change in garments (3:1-4). The high priest was very important for this recovering Jewish community, and so God was definitely sending a vital message to His people. First; we don’t see the enemy show up much in the Old Testament (though he is active behind-the-scenes), so his noted appearance here should cause us to consider why. Essentially God is declaring that the presence of sin gives the devil a measure of room in our lives. He is an accuser of the brethren, and he had something to accuse them about, as they had persisted in sin. That’s why the exile to Babylon happened in the first place! This sounds discouraging, but the vision doesn’t end with the accusation. Far from it!

Second; this vision highlights that God has AND will continue to do something about the sin of Israel! Praise Him! Even the presence of a remnant in Jerusalem was meant to be sign of this truth, as was the providing of new clothes to Joshua. What a prophetic symbol!

Third; after this cleansing Joshua is called to live a life devoted to God (3:6-7). This aspect of the vision is reminding God’s people that *forgiveness should lead to a clear commitment* IF future blessings are to be experienced.

Finally; the angel tells Joshua that this has an incredible application for future generations. A “branch” (Jesus, from the “tree” of the Jews) will come and He will deal with *all* of the sin in the land. Wow, what a promise! But there’s even more! The result of this work by the Branch will include the reality of *future* unity and fellowship – “in that day each of you will invite his neighbour to sit under his vine and fig tree.” (3:10) Sin has destroyed many things, including relationships, and God will bring restoration to these as well. The impact of His coming will be beyond anything we can imagine!



JOURNALING AND PRAYER

1. Is there any area in your life where you face the accusations of the enemy, where you feel filthy? Ask the Lord what to do about this – is there confession to do? Do you simply need to resist the devil? (James 4:8). Ask Jesus to cleanse you!
2. Ask Jesus to show you some of what He will accomplish with His coming, what He will change about this world. In response to what He shows you, thank Him.
3. Are there any relationships that need restoring in your life, to be brought to a place of peace? (v. 10). Ask God to show you any such relationships, and to work in them. Also ask Him if there’s anything you need to do to participate in His Work.

DAY 4



READ: Zechariah 4

Zechariah continues with the visions that he received from God. Not all commentators agree on the exact meaning of each of the visions, but there is some consensus. We can have confidence that as time progresses, God wants us to know! The picture of the

lampstand, along with a bowl, lights and olive trees likely speaks of the promise of God's power and anointing for Israel. Such items mean similar things throughout the Bible, as God provides order in His Word so that we can understand what He's saying. This is supported by the angel's words, "not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit" (4:6). Essentially, God is saying through His servants that His work will only happen with His power. How could it happen otherwise? He is so powerful that even a "mighty mountain" (could represent a mighty nation or enemy) will not stand. Then the capstone (prob. Jesus) will come out! (4:7). This is our only hope, and Israel's only hope, as our enemies are much too strong for us. We need to call on Jesus for what will happen in the future!

Unquestionably the Jews and maybe even we today wonder – things seem so bad right now, how will they turn around? To this, God says – "who despises the day of small things?" (4:10) God is saying to them and to us - *small now doesn't mean big won't happen later!* Finally, the picture of the two olive branches and the two golden pipes could represent the marrying of the priesthood & royal functions – Joshua was an example of this (see 6:9-11) – and the raising up of Joshua (high priest) and Zerubbabel (governor). As God often did, He gave present day examples of what He would do in the future. Of course, Jesus would come and serve as priest, prophet and king *all wrapped up in one!*



JOURNALING AND PRAYER

1. Ask God where you are doing things in your own power, rather than with His help. Confess this and then ask Him to flow into that area in your life.
2. Ask God to show you where He is working in your life, even though things seem really small (v. 10). Then ask Him for promises in this area, thanking Him in faith for what He'll do.
3. Spend some time worshipping Jesus for being our prophet, priest and king. Journal what each of these mean to you.

DAY 5



READ: Zechariah 5 & 6

In chapters five and six Zechariah continues to receive "downloads" from God in the form of visions. We see that God is so faithful in speaking to His people, directing and comforting them. Perhaps you need to ask God to speak to you in dreams and visions? He still does today! In these chapters, we are first reminded that God *will* judge sin – including stealing and swearing falsely. These are serious things in God's eyes and the size of the scroll described, along with the reality it's flying, likely points to the fact that no one can hide from God's judgment (5:1-5). We must deal with ALL sin. The promises of God's mercy are wonderful and He does accept a commitment to holiness in response. Thankfully God helps us move on from sin as we see in the giving of new clothes to Joshua (chapter 4) and now through the vision of wickedness being carried away. Why is it carried away to Babylon? Often Babylon represents the place of wickedness and depravity (i.e. the Harlot Babylon). One day this vision will be fully fulfilled, and we will dwell in a place with no sin! Aren't you thankful?

In chapter 6 (vv. 1-8) we see chariots with horses going out, very likely doing God's work. Why are they different colors? This may be to represent different things that God will do, similar to the horses and their riders in the book of Revelation. Whatever the exact meaning, we must not lose sight of the fact that we can trust God to accomplish His Will! This is so reassuring! Brothers and sisters, He will complete what He has begun! Illustrating this exact point, Joshua is given a crown to show what God will do at that moment and in

the future. The throne and temple, the kingship and priesthood, will be united (6:13). This is important because often God's leaders were corrupt. Ultimately, all of God's promises will be realized WHEN Jesus takes His rightful place as King of Kings and Lord of Lords (as spoken of in Rev. 11:15). Of course, there are aspects of God's plan that are conditional (depend on us) for individual believers *and* people groups. For example, Joshua is told, "this will happen if you diligently obey the LORD your God." (6:15)



JOURNALING AND PRAYER

1. Sin brings a curse on the earth and judgment to individuals. Both the Old and New Testaments testify to this reality. Ask God – have you stolen anything (i.e. movies, music, stuff from work)? Have you been swearing falsely – to family, to co-workers, to a boss? Ask God and then repent of anything He reveals.
2. Spend some time asking God to speak to you in a variety of ways – whether through dreams, visions, prophecy, His Word. Remember that bigger things should be submitted to those who are more mature and be held loosely.
3. God will accomplish His purposes. Thank Him for this truth! Now ask him if there's an area you've been procrastinating in. Is there a place where you're not "diligently" obeying Him? (6:15)

DAY 6



READ: Zechariah 7

Chapter 7 of Zechariah is a very, very humbling chapter. We don't always like "rebukes", but God does discipline those He loves. This is merciful, as it saves us from judgment later on. The context is simple - some people from north of Jerusalem come to see Zechariah and they have what seems like a very basic question about fasting (7:1-3). Very likely they anticipated an easy answer. However, Zechariah, in response, proceeds to deliver an incredibly challenging word from God! He tells them that their fasting AND feasting are very selfish, *rather than God-centered and other-centered* (7:4-7). He makes it clear that what God is looking for is specific actions from a wholehearted devotion to Him. Here is a list of some of what He expects:

- a. Justice
- b. Mercy & compassion towards others
- c. No oppression of the widow, fatherless, foreigner or poor
- d. No wrong thoughts of others (7:8-10).

Obviously things weren't quite as good as God's people thought! Zechariah knew that the Israelites had not responded in the past because of the hardness of their hearts, which resulted in punishment (7:11-14). We too must carefully consider if we are right before God, as just doing "religious stuff" and "church stuff" isn't sufficient. The Judge of all knows our hearts! If we will not listen, He will not listen to us (7:13).



JOURNALING AND PRAYER

1. Journal about your journey with fasting and godly celebrations (i.e. Easter). Ask the Lord – have these been done with His heart, or selfishly? Ask Him to speak to you about future fasting and feasting. How can God be loved in these, and others shown compassion?

2. Ask God to speak to you about this question - do you show mercy and compassion towards others? Think of your spouse, your co-workers, extended family, your neighbours.
3. Ask God to speak to you about the widow, fatherless, foreigner and poor in your life, even if you have brief contact with them. Are you judgmental in any way? Racist? Do you “put feet” to your love through use of the time, money and energy God has given you to help the poor or immigrant or fatherless?

DAY 7

 **READ:** Zechariah 8

God is jealous for His people! (8:1-2) He never, ever gives up on those with whom He has a relationship! Some people see God’s jealousy as a threat, as something that will result in an impossible life. However, God’s jealousy is a *wonderful reality*, declaring that He pursues us passionately in a love relationship. He is actually “burning with jealousy!” In the context of Zechariah, this includes jealousy for His land. We are told that He will establish Jerusalem as the City of Truth and the mountain of the Lord will be called the Holy Mountain. (8:3) The amazing promises continue to include safety, joy, prosperity and restoration of festivals! God will bring back His people from all over the world (8:7-8), something that has already begun (from 1948 - on especially) but still needs to be completed. Brothers and sisters, there is much more coming! Praise God! God uses these promises to spur his people on to keep building the temple, to not be afraid! (8:13, 15) Fear can certainly dissipate when we get our eyes on God and His promises!

Of course, with the promise of blessing comes responsibility. God tells them through Zechariah to “love truth” and to love others (8:16-19). Knowing God and His plans should definitely cause us to worship Him with our actions! Finally, there is the incredible picture of many nations coming to Jerusalem to seek the Lord and the special blessing the Jews will have as ones whom God will use to teach about Him. (8:20-23) God wants all to come to Him and know Him! What a great God!

 **JOURNALING AND PRAYER**

1. Ask God what it means when it says that He is jealous. How has He shown His jealousy in your life?
2. Is there anything you are avoiding or shrinking back from because of fear? Like the Jews building the temple, look to God in this area. Ask Him what He wants to say about the area.
3. Grab a map of the world and pick a few nations to pray for. Pray that MANY from that nation would one day seek the Lord!

DAY 8

 **READ:** Zechariah 9

In chapter 9 Zechariah shifts to focus more on international matters, along with providing a more detailed description regarding what will happen in the last days. Of course, Israel is still mentioned frequently as the Jews and their land are the “epicenter” of all that happens. This has been the case since God’s promises to Abraham in Genesis 12. Nevertheless, that very promise was only God’s beginning point, *as it included a desire to bless all the nations*. Since God has His eyes on all nations, Zechariah first gives an oracle

highlighting that those who have been against God’s “house” (Israel) will be dealt with comprehensively, with justice and holiness. (9:1-8) The message of ALL the prophets is that God is sovereign over all! Isn’t it great that we can leave ultimate justice up to God?

Second, Zechariah tells the Jews that a great King is coming! This is a reason to “rejoice greatly” (9:9)! He will bring salvation, peace and MUCH blessing! Are these not things that we all long for? Jesus is bringing them! Then there are promises for us, His people, as we will sparkle “like jewels in a crown” (9:17). These verses speak of both Jesus’ first coming (riding on a donkey, v. 9) and second coming (his rule will extend from sea to sea, v. 10). So much prophecy has “now, fairly soon, and distant future” aspects!

In this chapter, we see that Jesus is gentle (9:9), powerful (9:10, 14-15), a redeemer (9:12) and a wonderful Shepherd (9:16).

 **JOURNALING AND PRAYER**

1. Think of what the devil is using to attack God’s people today. Write these things down in your journal and thank Jesus for having a plan to defeat His enemies.
2. Ask God if you are spending enough time thinking about the future, and His coming. Ask Him to show you the benefits of having your eyes “fixed on what is unseen, not on what is seen”.
3. Spend some time worshipping Jesus for all of the things noted at the end of the chapter 9 write-up. He is so Glorious!

DAY 9

 **READ:** Zechariah 10 & 11

Zechariah reminds us in chapter 10 that God is in control – i.e. “he gives showers of rain to men” (10:1). There IS repetition in Zechariah and throughout the Bible because in the course of our daily lives in this world we forget very important things. The Israelites were no different. Our hope & their hope for the future is completely dependent on God – that’s it! There are no other guarantees! In fact, others “speak deceit” and what is “false” (10:2). This will only increase in the last days, so how important it is to know Him then. Even the leaders of Israel were woefully inadequate. Zechariah again reminds them that One will come who isn’t like what they’ve experienced. He is a “cornerstone” (the most important stone!), the tent peg (the key support!), the “battle bow” (their protection!). Praise Jesus! Through Jesus Israel will be restored and His motive is compassion (10:6). Brothers and sisters, God is so compassionate! Israel will be brought back and restored to a place of prominence and prosperity. One of the greatest statements in Zechariah is that “in His Name they will walk” (10:12).

At the end of chapter 10 we once again see that God will deal with Israel’s enemies. Throughout all of the prophets, this is a constant reminder. We may not understand this as we don’t have enemies directly threatening us. However, imagine what it would be like to be under constant attack by a physical enemy? The stress, the pressure, the anxiety – they would be huge! That’s why these promises of justice for Israel’s enemies (10:11) would be so comforting!

In chapter 11 we are told of worthless shepherds who do nothing for their flock. We also find a prophecy of the rejection of Jesus for 30 pieces of silver (11:12-13). This was to be the ultimate act of treachery committed by Israel! Certainly Israel and its leaders had received many chances but their persistent rebellion results in God removing His favour (a consequence that impacts their vertical relationship with Him) and breaking apart

the nation into two parts (a consequence that impacts their horizontal relationships). It is definitely a sad chapter and should cause us to ask if we as sheep have strayed in any way. God has been SO good to us and deserves to be followed with our whole lives! Even His willingness to place specific prophecies (positive and negative) in Scripture, and their fulfillment, is a declaration of His goodness.



JOURNALING AND PRAYER

1. God is in control over the future and has ultimate authority over His enemies! Record a list of things that you and/or your children fear *about the future*. Then in prayer, hand these things over to Him.
2. Ask God to show you words, thoughts and pictures related to His compassion. Ask Him to show His compassion to you this upcoming week AND pray the same things for others in your circles of influence (i.e. family, work).
3. Picture yourself as a sheep going through life – your work, at home, at church, in your neighborhood, among your extended family, doing errands. Ask God to show you if you have strayed in any way. Confess and repent.

DAY 10



READ: Zechariah 12

What a powerful passage of Scripture! What a brilliant description of what's still to come! Here's a question: why should we read such descriptions? Brothers and sisters, they are vital! For one, they give us God's heart for Israel and His plan for that great, but threatened nation. Second, they reveal to us what God is really like. In chapter 12 we are told of a great move by the nations of the world to destroy Israel – "on that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her . . ." and that God will be their victory, "I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations." (12:3) What's amazing about this prophecy is how specific it is – i.e. "the Lord will save the dwellings of Judah first . . ." (12:7) and God's incredible desire to use and bless His people, ". . . so that the feeblest among them will be like David . . ." (12:8) Do we see God this way? Is this only how He deals with Israel, or can we trust God to be just as involved in our lives? As you read through this chapter, keep noting both the power and detail of what God promises – i.e. "I will keep a watchful eye over the house of Judah, but I will blind all the horses of the nations" (12:4).

Then we get the promise of a stunning revival in Israel! "They will look on me, the one they have pierced . . ." (12:10) Jesus hasn't even been pierced yet – what a prophecy! This word from God talks about their reaction at His second coming before the first coming has happened! It's very likely that the Hebrew should be translated, "they will look TO me" rather than, "they will look on me". The grieving and weeping at that time speaks of genuine and true repentance. Again, there are specific details about clans, etc. to show us that God is sovereign and that He will work in a very powerful way. What a great God!



JOURNALING AND PRAYER

1. Ask God how you can pray for Israel right now. What is His heart? His desire? Definitely pray for national revival – this is God's Will!
2. We see how *specific* God is in this prophecy through Zechariah. Ask Him to speak specifically about your life and the details of it. Be open to Him – He is Good! He may speak of things you have not heard from Him before.

3. Ask the Lord if there are areas where you have not shown genuine, heartfelt repentance. Think about His second coming – we want to be unashamed at that moment! Let's deal with anything that would keep us from getting us to that place. Genuine repentance is the pathway there.

DAY 11



READ: Zechariah 13

In Zechariah 13 the prophet looks again at the cleansing that has to happen if everyone is to say "the Lord is our God" (13:1, 9). This statement of belonging to Him has always been God's goal – with the creation of Adam and Eve, and with the plan of redemption after they fell. Sin causes separation and God has a plan for redemption! That's why this chapter includes references to Jesus' first coming ("strike the shepherd and the sheep will be scattered", 13:7) and to his second coming. Both are incredibly significant parts of God's agenda for salvation. The cleansing that Zechariah refers to is very specific and includes a removal of idolatry, false prophecy and involves the reality of wide scale destruction. It will be very difficult times, but if we have a clear sense of the wickedness of sin and of the holiness of God, we will understand. We want a world free of sin, do we not? This is the pathway that things must go.

For some this can seem discouraging, disheartening, even offensive. But God is faithful, loving and good. Even the promise, "yet one-third will be left in it. This third I will bring into the fire; I will refine them like silver and test them like gold" (13:9) is a powerful testimony of why we can trust God. Even in discipline and punishment He restores. Also, we cannot elevate ourselves and our thoughts above His. He knows best! Finally, when we trust Him we can know that things will work out for our good and for the good of all who love Him.



JOURNALING AND PRAYER

1. Think about how you feel when someone hurts you, or crosses reasonable boundaries that you've set. Write down some examples. Then thank God that He's going to deal with sin, and all the hurt and pain that come from it. (13:1)
2. Zechariah has been a tougher book to read, parts of it are hard to understand. Write out a prayer to God telling Him that you want to know His Word better, to understand it deeply.
3. God is good! Tell Him that you trust Him no matter what! If fears, or worries arise, declare out loud – "God, I trust you with _____". Ask Him for His Spirit to grow in you, as He promises to Israel in the previous chapter. Ask Him to refine you (13:9).

DAY 12



READ: Zechariah 14

An incredible chapter, full of majestic prophecy! What a glorious day it'll be when our Lord comes to reign! Truly, "the LORD will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one LORD, and his name the only name." (14:9) Even HOLY TO THE LORD will be "inscribed on the bells of the horses, and the cooking pots in the LORD's house will be like the sacred bowls in front of the altar" (14:20). We must keep this in our minds and hearts – this is the goal - that God may be glorified! But what about us? Well, out of His love, His people will share in His glory! This day of the Lord will have such an impact that even the topography, the make-up and structure of the physical land will be altered (see also Rev.

21, Ezek. 47). Yes, there will be a terrifying end-time attack, but even this God is sovereign over. In fact, it is He who gathers the nations against Jerusalem (14:2)! Brothers and sisters, He's in complete control! God has acted and He WILL act. All praise and glory to His Name! The beginning of the next phase in world and redemptive history will be the ultimate holiness of His land and His people.

Towards the end of this splendid chapter there is a reference to all nations celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles. What a diverse celebration this will be, as God is drawing people from all nations to Himself. At the end of the Feast of Tabernacles, the Jews have a portion where they are "married to the law". However, on the day that Zechariah is referring to, we will be married to our bridegroom, Jesus. Wow! We have much to look forward to as we wait for Him. This hope can sustain us through any trial or trouble. This is why Zechariah prophesied, and it's why we read it now – to be encouraged and to keep the fire burning in our hearts. Praise Jesus! "Then the LORD my God will come, and all the holy ones with him." (14:5)



JOURNALING AND PRAYER

1. Journal about the joy, anticipation and blessings associated with a wedding. Ask the Lord to give you insight about this . . . Then thank Him that one day we'll be married to Him in a way that we cannot even comprehend right now!
2. Ask God to help you keep your eyes on the future of what He is going to do, rather than putting your hope in this world. Ask Him to mercifully, lovingly and gently shepherd you to wholeheartedness.
3. It would be fitting to finish this book, one that magnifies Jesus, to get down on your knees or lie prostrate and worship. Praise Him!



The Book of Zechariah

The book of Zechariah is one of great encouragement and hope – for God’s people in the past, in the present and in the future! While judgment and rebuke are a part of the message of Zechariah, much of the book loudly declares God’s plan to powerfully deal with evil and to comfort His people, both Jew and non-Jew. As we view the world around us and wonder about the brokenness and chaos, a book such as Zechariah can serve as an anchor for the heart, soul and mind of any believer.

Zechariah 14:9 (NIV)

“The LORD will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one LORD, and his name the only name.”



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