

"Zechariah's Second Burden"

Part 10

Zechariah 12-14

➤ **THE CONCLUSION**

Introduction: We have finally come to the last message in our study of Zechariah. Before we get to the heart of the message, I want to back up just a little to set the stage for what we are going to see today.

Zechariah records 2 burdens. The first burden is in chapters 9-11 and in that burden, Zechariah tells of how the Jews would reject Jesus Christ at His first coming. The result would be the postponement of the Kingdom and the Kingdom blessings. The second burden is recorded in Zechariah 12-14 and this burden deals with how Israel will turn to the Lord and eventually be saved. The result will be the establishment of the Kingdom and the enjoyment of the promised blessings. In this burden Zechariah also reveals some of what the nation will go through in the Tribulation. They will be under attack from the nations of the world and God will empower them to fight and He Himself will fight for them. But in all of what unfolds many will die.

Zechariah 13:8-9

⁸ And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein.

⁹ And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

Only one third of the nation will survive. This is what it will take to get the unbelieving nation to accept Jesus Christ as their Messiah and King. Once the one third is saved then Jesus will return and He will establish His Kingdom. Then there will be great blessings that will be poured out upon the nation of Israel. We looked closely at the River of Life that will flow from the Millennial Temple as recorded in Ezekiel 47 and Zechariah 14. Today we have come to the last party of Zechariah 14

"Kingdom Worship"

Notice Zechariah 14:16

There is a lot to consider within this verse. Those who are left of the nation's here are Gentiles that will enter into the Kingdom.

Matthew 25:31-34, 41, 46

³¹ *When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:*

³² *And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:*

³³ *And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.*

³⁴ *Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:*

⁴¹ *Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:*

⁴⁶ *And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.*

There will be Gentiles who will survive the tyranny of the Anti-Christ and many of them will be believers. All the Gentiles who survive will be brought before the Lord and those who are saved will enter the Kingdom and those who are lost will be sentenced to Hades until the Great White Throne Judgment. Those who are saved and enter the Kingdom are those who Zechariah is speaking of in verse 16 and they will come to Jerusalem every year to worship and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. The Jews will already live in their land so they will not need to make a long journey but many of the Gentiles will live in the uttermost parts of the earth. How will they get there? Could be by plane or by caravan.

Revelation 6:12-14

¹² *And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;*

¹³ *And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.*

¹⁴ *And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.*

Possibly when the judgments happen the continents may come back together and there will be land bridges that will allow people to walk or use some means of land transportation to

get to Jerusalem. However, they travel they will be required to be there every year to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

Leviticus 23:33-34, 39-43

³³ And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

³⁴ Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the LORD.

³⁹ Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto the LORD seven days: on the first day shall be a sabbath, and on the eighth day shall be a sabbath.

⁴⁰ And ye shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days.

⁴¹ And ye shall keep it a feast unto the LORD seven days in the year. It shall be a statute for ever in your generations: ye shall celebrate it in the seventh month.

⁴² Ye shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths:

⁴³ That your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

The Feast of Tabernacles was a greatest of all feasts and was a time to remember God grace and provisions for Israel. Now the interesting point in all of this is the fact that during the Kingdom Age there will also be sacrifices offered at the Millennial Temple. Why the need for sacrifices? Listen to the words of David Levy from FOI.

"Some scholars believe the Millennial offerings will be memorials, similar to keeping the Lord's Supper today in remembrance of Christ's death. They reason that sacrifices are needed because Millennial saints will live in an ideal setting where Christ's righteousness will fill the earth and people will need a reminder of the awfulness of sin.

Therefore, the shedding of blood will visibly remind them that only Christ's blood can take away sin. This interpretation has two problems: (1) Nothing in the text [Ezekiel 43 - 46] indicates the sacrifices are memorials, and (2) the prophet says the sacrifices are to make atonement.

Consequently, these offerings must be much more than memorials.

Animal sacrifices offered in the Millennial Temple will be needed to cover the worshipers' ceremonial uncleanness. Why? Because God will be dwelling on Earth in the midst of sinners living in their natural, unresurrected bodies. Without blood sacrifices, these impure worshipers would defile God's holy Temple when they come to worship Him."

Notice Zechariah 14:17-19

There will be many in the Kingdom who will not want to bow the knee to the King. Who are these people? The Kingdom will begin with all saved people. We will enter with glorified bodies, the Old Testament saints will enter with glorified bodies, and the Tribulation saints who were martyred will enter with glorified bodies. But when living believers at the end of the Tribulation will enter with natural bodies and they will populate the Kingdom. The children who are born to them will be born as we are and they will have a sin nature as we do and they will need to be saved. Many of them will not be saved and they will not want to worship the Lord. Many of them will go through the motions but their hearts will be against Jesus Christ. Let us notice how many of these unbelievers will be in the Kingdom.

Revelation 20:7-10

⁷ *And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,*

⁸ *And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog, and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.*

⁹ *And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.*

¹⁰ *And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.*

During the Kingdom Satan will be chained up and people will still reject Jesus Christ.

Application:

This shows the depravity of man. In the Kingdom man will be set in the middle of a perfect society with a perfect King and a perfect economy, and he will still be corrupt and reject Jesus Christ. A particularly important point here is that man's problem is not his

surroundings but his problem is his heart. The heart is sinful and only the Gospel can change the heart.

Jeremiah 17:9

⁹ *The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?*

Notice Zechariah 14:17-19 again.

Those who refuse to worship the King will receive no rain. But those from Egypt who will not come to Jerusalem to worship will suffer with a plague. Why the difference? Because of what Egypt did to Israel in Exodus. They killed the baby boys, they oppressed the Israelites, and they refused to let God's people go.

Application:

This is a reminder as to how sin carries consequences that can last for thousands of years. These people in the Kingdom had no part in what happened in Exodus but the consequences will stay with the nation until the end of the Kingdom Age. Remember the sins of David and what Nathan told him?

2 Samuel 12:7-15

⁷ *And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul;*

⁸ *And I gave thee thy master's house, and thy master's wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things.*

⁹ *Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.*

¹⁰ *Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife.*

¹¹ *Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun.*

¹² *For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.*

¹³ And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

¹⁴ Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.

¹⁵ And Nathan departed unto his house. And the LORD struck the child that Uriah's wife bare unto David, and it was very sick.

Notice Zechariah 14:20-21

These two verses speak of the purity that will exist in the Kingdom and in the worship service at the Millennial Temple. No Canaanite means that there will be no one who will defile the worship of the Lord. In the Kingdom there will be pure worship which takes place at the Temple. The Shekinah Glory will fill the Temple and it will be there that people will worship God.

Conclusion:

What does all of this mean for us today? This is God's desire for Israel, holiness. He desires the same for the church and the same for you and me. He wants us to be holy, that is separated from the contamination of the world.

Romans 12:1

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Ephesians 5:25-27

²⁵ *Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;*

²⁶ *That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,*

²⁷ *That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.*

Colossians 1:21-22

²¹ *And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled*

²² *In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight:*