

THE PROMISE OF ISRAEL'S FUTURE RESTORATION

(Zechariah 8:1-13)

I. Introduction

II. Zechariah's Opening Address (1:1-6)

III. The Eight Night Visions (1:7-6:8)

IV. The Coronation of Joshua the High Priest (6:9-15)

V. The Question and Answer Concerning Fasting (7:1-14)

VI. The Restoration of God's Favor (8:1-23)

A. The Promise of Future Restoration (vv. 1-8)

1. In answer to the initial question of whether Judah should consider continuing the manmade, self-imposed fasts— for the _____ time “*the _____ of the _____ of hosts came*” to the prophet Zechariah. (v. 1)
2. We are informed in v. 2 that God is not just _____ for Zion (Jerusalem) but this zeal is _____. (v. 2, cf. Ezek. 16)
3. There is coming a day in the future when the Lord will actually _____ in Jerusalem and it will be a city of _____ and Mt. Zion will be _____. (v. 3, cf. v. 8)
4. When Messiah dwells in the city, the most vulnerable, the _____ will sit and relax (v. 4), and the _____ will play in the streets without any fear. (v. 5)
5. Zechariah was _____ pointing out the wonder of his contemporaries in his day, but the utter amazement of the _____ in the day in which it is _____ in the Millennium. (v. 6)

6. A wonderful promise of the future _____ of Israel from worldwide dispersion, and of Messiah _____ among His people. (vv. 7-8)

B. The Exhortation to Zechariah's Present Audience (vv. 9-17)

1. This postexilic generation had been _____ the words of Haggai and Zechariah ever since the foundation of the temple had been laid (v. 9), but yet, there were _____ for men to earn, not even hiring out one's oxen, nor was there _____ in the land. (v. 10a)

* From where did all of this originate? (v. 10b)

* Did God have a right to do this? (Deut. 28; Lev. 26)

2. As the people worked on the temple, Zechariah's generation noticed a change that came about... there was _____ in the land, and agriculturally the _____ were beginning to really _____. (vv. 11-12, cf. Lev. 26:3-6; Deut. 28:3-4, 7)

3. It becomes evident that even though Zechariah had been referring to his _____ generation in verses 9 and following, in v. 13 he now advances to _____ revelation that will find ultimate fulfilment in the _____.

* What can be your personal take away from this passage?