Be Encouraged

Zechariah

Dr. Rick Griffith, Crossroads International Church Singapore BibleStudyDownloads.org

Discouragement.

We all need encouragement



Discouragement.

Discouragement.



Discouragement especially happens with work.



Zechariah

the struggle is real

DISCOURAGEMENT

Discouragement while serving Jesus is real.

carried away ministries



http://www.lawrencewilson.com/stop-saying-1700-pastors-leave-the-ministryevery-month/

Are All Pastors Miserable and Want to Quit?



Home > 2015 > October

OCT 14, 2015 PASTORS

That Stat that Says Pastors are All Miserable and Want to Quit (Part 1)

Are pastors really leaving ministry in droves? Not so fast... | ED STETZER



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http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2015/october/that-stat-that-sayspastors-are-all-miserable-and-want-to-q.html

Among Protestant Pastors "I feel privileged to be a pastor."



http://lifewayresearch.com/2015/09/01/despite-stresses-few-pastors-give-up-on-ministry/

How can you be encouraged in your service for Christ?

Background: Judah hanging on a limb







Dates in Zechariah





Zechariah 1

"In November of the second year of King Darius's reign, the LORD gave this message to the prophet Zechariah son of Berekiah and grandson of Iddo" (Zech 1:1 NLT).



Meaning זכריה

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*'Yahweh has remembered'' (Hebrew)

"I, the LORD, was very angry with your ancestors. ³Therefore, say to the people, 'This is what the LORD of **Heaven's Armies says: Return to me, and I will** return to you, says the LORD of Heaven's Armies' (Zech 1:2-3 NLT).

"Don't be like your ancestors who would not listen or pay attention when the earlier prophets said to them, 'This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: Turn from your evil ways, and stop all your evil practices" (Zech 1:4 NLT).

"Where are your ancestors now? They and the prophets are long dead. ⁶But everything I said through my servants the prophets happened to your ancestors, just as I said" (Zech 1:5-6a NLT).

"As a result, they repented and said, 'We have received what we deserved from the LORD of Heaven's Armies. He has done what he said he would do'" (Zech 1:6b NLT).

2 ways

How can you be encouraged in your service for Christ?

I. See your privileged position (Zech 1–6).



Even today Jews pray every day for the temple rebuilding

Israel's privileged position should result in temple rebuilding (Chs. 1–6)



Vision 1: Red-Horse Rider among the Myrtles (Zech 1:7-17)

"Three months later, on February 15, the LORD sent another message to the prophet Zechariah son of Berekiah and grandson of Iddo.⁸In a vision during the night, I saw a man sitting on a red horse that was standing among some myrtle trees in a small valley. Behind him were riders on red, brown, and white horses. ⁹I asked the angel who was talking with me, 'My lord, what do these horses mean?' 'I will show you,' the angel replied" (1:7-9 NLT).

"The rider standing among the myrtle trees then explained, 'They are the ones the LORD has sent out to patrol the earth'" (1:10 NLT). "Then the angel said to me, 'Shout this message for all to hear: "This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: My love for Jerusalem and Mount Zion is passionate and strong. ¹⁵But I am very angry with the other nations that are now enjoying peace and security. I was only a little angry with my people, but the nations inflicted harm on them far beyond my intentions" ' " (1:14-15 NLT).



Vision 1: Red-Horse Rider among the Myrtles (Zech 1:7-17)

God's anger against the nations and blessing on restored Israel

Bible Knowledge Commentary, 1:1549



Zechariah 1:8 expands in Revelation 6:1-4

650 1:16 "My temple will be rebuilt!" זכריה



Eight Covenantal Visions

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Vision	Text	Meaning	
Red-Horse Rider among the Myrtles	1:7-17	God's anger against the nations and blessing on restored Israel	
Four Horns and Four Craftsmen	1:18-21	God's judgment on the nations that afflict Israel	
Surveyor with a Measuring Line	Zech. 2	God's future blessing on restored Israel	
Cleansing and Crowning of Joshua the High Priest	Zech. 3	Israel's future cleansing from sin and reinstatement as a priestly nation	
Golden Lampstand and Two Olive Trees	Zech. 4	Israel as the light to the nations under Messiah, the King-Priest	
Flying Scroll	5:1-4	Severity and totality of divine judgment on individual Israelites	
Woman in the Ephah	5:5-11	Removal of national Israel's sin of rebellion against God	
Four Chariots	6:1-8	Divine judgment on Gentile nations	
Contraction of the second s	14	Bible Knowledge Commentary, 1:1549	

Vision 2: Four Horns and Four Craftsmen (Zech 1:18-21)

God's judgment on the nations that afflict Israel

Bible Knowledge Commentary, 1:1549

"Then I looked up and saw four animal horns. ¹⁹What are these?' I asked the angel who was talking with me. He replied, 'These horns represent the nations that scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem'" (Zech 1:18-19 NLT).

Zechariah's Second Vision: The Horns and the Smiths (Craftsmen) in Zechariah 1:18-21


"Then the LORD showed me four blacksmiths. ²¹'What are these men coming to do?' I asked. The angel replied, 'These four horns—these nations scattered and humbled Judah. Now these blacksmiths have come to terrify those nations and throw them down and destroy them" (Zech 1:20-21 NLT).

Zechariah 2

Vision 3: Surveyor with a Measuring Line (Zech 2)

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God's future blessing on restored Israel

Bible Knowledge Commentary, 1:1549

"When I looked again, I saw a man with a measuring line in his hand. ²'Where are you going?' I asked. He replied, 'I am going to measure Jerusalem, to see how wide and how long it is.'"

A Measuring Rod for Jerusalem (Zech. 2:1-2 NLT)





Jerusalem (2002)

Foundation for Middle East Peace (March 2002)



Modern Jerusalem: "Many will live outside the city walls" (Zech. 2:4)

NO MAN'S LAND 1949-1967

Nataf.



The Wall of Fire (Zech. 2:3-5 NLT)

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"Then the angel who was with me went to meet a second angel who was coming toward him. ⁴The other angel said, 'Hurry, and say to that young man, 'Jerusalem will someday be so full of people and livestock that there won't be room enough for everyone! Many will live outside the city walls. ⁵Then I, myself, will be a protective wall of fire around Jerusalem, says the LORD. And I will be the glory inside the city!"

Zechariah 3

Vision 4: Cleansing and Crowning of Joshua the High Priest (Zech 3)

Israel's future cleansing from sin and reinstatement as a priestly nation

Bible Knowledge Commentary, 1:1549

"Then the angel showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD. The Accuser, Satan, was there at the angel's right hand, making accusations against Joshua. ²And the LORD said to Satan, 'I, the LORD, reject your accusations, Satan. Yes, the LORD, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebukes you. This man is like a burning stick that has been snatched from the fire'" (Zech 3:1-2 NLT).

"Joshua's clothing was filthy as he stood there before the angel. ⁴So the angel said to the others standing there, 'Take off his filthy clothes.' And turning to Joshua he said, 'See, I have taken away your sins, and now I am giving you these fine new clothes'" (Zech 3:3-4 NLT).



"Then I said, 'They should also place a clean turban on his head.' So they put a clean priestly turban on his head and dressed him in new clothes while the angel of the LORD stood by'" (Zech 3:5 NLT).

Vision 4: Cleansing and Crowning of Joshua the High Priest (Zech 3)

Israel's future cleansing from sin and reinstatement as a priestly nation

Bible Knowledge Commentary, 1:1549

Zechariah 4

"Then the angel who had been talking with me returned and woke me, as though I had been asleep. ²'What do you see now?' he asked" (Zech 4:1-2a NLT).



"I see a solid gold lampstand with a bowl of oil on top of it. Around the bowl are seven lamps, each having seven spouts with wicks" (Zech 4:2b NLT).



Vision 5: Golden Lampstand and Two Olive Trees (Zech 4)

Israel as the light to the nations under Messiah, the King-Priest

Bible Knowledge Commentary, 1:1549

³³⁰ The Two Olive Trees (Rev. 11:4)

The Lamp & Olive Trees (Zech. 4:1-14)

"Zerubbabel is the one who laid the foundation of this Temple, and he will complete it. Then you will know that the LORD of Heaven's Armies has sent me. ¹⁰Do not despise these small beginnings, for the LORD rejoices to see the work begin, to see the plumb line in Zerubbabel's hand.' (The seven lamps represent the eyes of the LORD that search all around the world.)" (Zech. 4:9-10 NLT)

Zechariah 5

Vision 6: The Flying Scroll (Zech 5:1-4)

Severity and totality of divine judgment on individual Israelites

Bible Knowledge Commentary, 1:1549

5:1-4 Flying Scroll

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1.104

"I looked up again and saw a scroll flying through the air. ²'What do you see?' the angel asked. 'I see a flying scroll,' I replied. 'It appears to be about 30 feet long and 15 feet wide'" (Zech 5:1-2 NLT). "Then he said to me, 'This scroll contains the curse that is going out over the entire land. One side of the scroll says that those who steal will be banished from the land; the other side says that those who swear falsely will be banished from the land" (Zech 5:3 NLT).



"And this is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: I am sending this curse into the house of every thief and into the house of everyone who swears falsely using my name. And my curse will remain in that house and completely destroy it—even its timbers and stones" (Zech 5:4 NLT).

Baskets were very familiar to Zechariah



Vision 7: Woman in the Ephah (Zech 5:5-11)

Removal of national Israel's sin of rebellion against God

Bible Knowledge Commentary, 1:1549

"Then the angel who was talking with me came forward and said, 'Look up and see what's coming.' ⁶'What is it?' I asked. He replied, 'It is a basket for measuring grain, and it's filled with the sins of everyone throughout the land.' ⁷Then the heavy lead cover was lifted off the basket, and there was a woman sitting inside it" (Zech 5:5-7 NLT).

"The angel said, 'The woman's name is Wickedness,' and he pushed her back into the basket and closed the heavy lid again" (Zech 5:8 NLT). "The angel said, 'The woman's name is Wickedness,' and he pushed her back into the basket and closed the heavy lid again" (Zech 5:8 NLT).



⁹ Then I looked up and saw two women flying toward us, gliding on the wind. They had wings like a stork, and they picked up the basket and flew into the sky. ¹⁰ Where are they taking the basket?' I asked the angel. ¹¹ He replied, 'To the land of Babylonia, where they will build a temple for the basket. And when the temple is ready, they will set the basket there on its pedestal" (Zech 5:9-11 NLT).

5:9-11 Woman in Basket



"Then I looked up and saw two women flying toward us, gliding on the wind. They had wings like a stork, and they picked up the basket and flew into the sky" (Zech 5:9 NLT).

Wickedness sometimes appears in the imagery of women.

Zechariah 5:9 is one of two places that mention female supernatural beings.

Zechariah 6
"Then I looked up again and saw four chariots coming from between two bronze mountains. ²The first chariot was pulled by red horses, the second by black horses, ³the third by white horses, and the fourth by powerful dappled-gray horses."

"4'And what are these, my lord?' I asked the angel who was talking with me" (Zech 6:1-4 NLT).

Vision 8: The Four Chariots (Zech 6:1-8)

Bible Knowledge Commentary, 1:1549

"The angel replied, 'These are the four spirits of 649 heaven who stand before the LORD of all the earth. They are going out to do his work.

6:1-8 Chariots

⁶The chariot with black horses is going north, the chariot with white horses is going west, and the chariot with dappled-gray horses is going south" (Zech 6:5-6 NLT).

Vision 8: The Four Chariots (Zech 6:1-8)

Divine judgment on Gentile nations

Bible Knowledge Commentary, 1:1549

1. red-horse rider among the myrtles 1:7-17 2. four horns & the four craftsmen 1:18-21 3. surveyor with the measuring line 2:1-13 4. cleansing & crowning of Joshua 3:1-10 5. gold lampstand & the two olive trees 4:1-14 6. flying scroll 5:1-4 7. woman in the ephah 5:5-11 8. four chariots 6:1-8

The Night Visions Reviewed

God also encourages us to serve him by revealing our identity in Christ.

Our Identity in Christ



2 ways

How can you be encouraged in your service for Christ?

I. See your privileged position (Zech 1–6).



II. See your glorious future (Zech 7–14).



Zechariah 7



Persian Kings: Cyrus Darius

"The people of Bethel had sent Sharezer and Regemmelech, along with their attendants, to seek the LORD's favor. ³They were to ask this question of the prophets and the priests at the Temple of the LORD of Heaven's Armies: 'Should we continue to mourn and fast each summer on the anniversary of the Temple's destruction, as we have done for so many years?" (Zech 7:2-3 NLT).

"The LORD of Heaven's Armies sent me this message in reply: ⁵'Say to all your people and your priests, "During these seventy years of exile, when you fasted and mourned in the summer and in early autumn, was it really for me that you were fasting? ⁶And even now in your holy festivals, aren't you eating and drinking just to please yourselves?"" (7:4-6 NLT).



Rebuild Temple for Messiah

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God's Covenant Faithfulness **Future Messianic Rule** Chapters 1–6 Chapters 7–14 "The word of the LORD came to Zechariah..." (1:1) "The word of the LORD came to Zechariah..." (7:1) Visions of the Covenant Visions of the Messiah **Two Burdens** Four **Received** at Eight Joshua's **Rejected** at **Command to** Restoration First Covenantal Symbolic Second Repent Coronation Visions Messages Advent Advent 1:1-6 1:7-6:8 6:9-15 7-8 9-11 12 - 14"The word of the "Then I looked "The word of "The word of "The burden of "The burden of the LORD came to up-and there the LORD the LORD the word of the word of the LORD" before me" came to me" LORD" (NASB) Zechariah" came to me" (NASB) **Predictions Pictures Problems** Israel's Israel's Israel' s Fasting **Fortune Future** While Building the Temple After Building the Temple 520-518 BC (1:1; 7:1) 480-470 BC (9:13?) Jerusalem

7:1–8:23 Fasts in Zechariah 657			
Text	Month/D ay	Fast Commemorates:	Scripture
8:19d	10/10	Nebuchadnezzar Began Jerusalem Siege (15 January 588)	Jer. 39:1; 52:4; 2 Kings 25:1
8:19a	4/9	Jerusalem Destroyed (18 July 586)	Jer. 39:2; 52:6; 2 Kings 25:3
7:3, 5 8:19b	5/10	Jerusalem & Temple Burned (15-18 August 586)	Jer. 52:12-13; 2 Kings 25:8
7:5 8:19c	7/3	Gedaliah Slain (9 October 586)	Jer. 41:1-3 2 Kings 25:25-26

Adapted from a Dallas Theological Seminary Class Handout

Zechariah 8

"Then another message came to me from the LORD of Heaven's Armies: 'This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: My love for Mount Zion is passionate and strong; I am consumed with passion for Jerusalem!" (Zech 8:1-2 NLT).

Key Verse

"This is what the LORD says, 'I will return to Zion and dwell in Jerusalem. Then Jerusalem will be called The City of Truth, and the mountain of the LORD Almighty will be called The Holy Mountain'" (Zechariah 8:3).



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Jews will be sought out

"This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: In those days ten men from different nations and languages of the world will clutch at the sleeve of one Jew. And they will say, 'Please let us walk with you, for we have heard that God is with you" (Zech. 8:23 NLT).

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"All Israel will be saved" (Rom. 11:25-27)

²⁵I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part <u>until</u> the full number of the Gentiles has come in.
²⁶And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written:

"The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. ²⁷And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins."



NTS

Zech-a-Cry-Ah

= Key Word

14

Zechariah 9



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Messiah

Zechariah

Zechariah Kingdom Statement

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Judah must rebuild the temple (6:9-15) for blessing in the Messiah's kingdom.

Zechariah

Meaning of Zechariah's vision
 Examination with measuring line
 Satan and the Branch
 Seven lampstands of gold
 Interpreting the flying scroll
 Act of crowning Joshua
 Hearts become like flint
 Security comes to Jerusalem

9 Return of the Messiah
10 Ephraim and Judah restored
11 Teaching about wicked shepherds
12 Understanding whom they pierced
13 Refining of God's remnant
14 New kingdom ushered in



Barry Huddleston, The Acrostic Summarized Bible (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1992)

Damascus Sidon O O Tyre O Aram

Hamath 👩

Israel

Judgments

Zechariah 9:1-4 NLT

"This is the message from the LORD against the land of Aram and the city of Damascus, for the eyes of humanity, including all the tribes of Israel, are on the LORD. ²Doom is certain for Hamath, near Damascus, and for the cities of Tyre and Sidon, though they are so clever. ³Tyre has built a strong fortress and has made silver and gold as plentiful as dust in the streets! ⁴But now the LORD will strip away Tyre's possessions and hurl its fortifications into the sea, and it will be burned to the ground."



Rebuild Temple for Messiah

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Zech. 9:9

Triumphal Entry

Zechariah 10

"Ask the LORD for rain in the spring, for he makes the storm clouds. And he will send showers of rain so every field becomes a lush pasture. ²Household gods give worthless advice, fortunetellers predict only lies, and interpreters of dreams pronounce falsehoods that give no comfort. So my people are wandering like lost sheep; they are attacked because they have no shepherd" (Zech 10:1-2 NLT).

Zechariah 11

Sidon Sidon Tyre Bashan Israel

Judgments

Zechariah 11:1-3 NLT

"Open your doors, Lebanon, so that fire may devour your cedar forests. ²Weep, you cypress trees, for all the ruined cedars; the most majestic ones have fallen. Weep, you oaks of Bashan, for the thick forests have been cut down. ³Listen to the wailing of the shepherds, for their rich pastures are destroyed. Hear the young lions roaring, for their thickets in the Jordan Valley are ruined."

Zechariah 12

"This message concerning the fate of Israel came from the LORD: 'This message is from the LORD, who stretched out the heavens, laid the foundations of the earth, and formed the human spirit. ²I will make Jerusalem like an intoxicating drink that makes the nearby nations stagger when they send their armies to besiege Jerusalem and Judah'" (Zech 12:1-2 NLT).



Rebuild Temple for Messiah

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The Repentance of Israel

"Then I will pour out a spirit of grace and prayer on the family of David and on the people of Jerusalem. They will look on me whom they have pierced and mourn for him as for an only son. They will grieve bitterly for him as for a firstborn son who has died" (Zech. 12:10 NLT).
Tribulation Results

"They will look on the one they have pierced..." (Zech. 12:1-10; esp. v. 10)



"The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins" (Isa. 59:20)

"The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from David" (Rom. 11:26b)

"And so all Israel will be saved" (Rom. 11:26a)



"Look! He comes with the clouds of heaven. And everyone will see him even those who pierced him. And all the nations of the world will mourn for him. Yes! Amen!"





A Dispensational Timeline

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Zechariah 13

"On that day a fountain will be opened for the dynasty of David and for the people of Jerusalem, a fountain to cleanse them from all their sins and impurity" (Zech 13:1 NLT).

Moon and Back Graphics James Feeler, photo "And on that day,' says the LORD of Heaven's Armies, 'I will erase idol worship throughout the land, so that even the names of the idols will be forgotten. I will remove from the land both the false prophets and the spirit of impurity that came with them'" (Zech 13:2 NLT).

"Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, the man who is my partner,' says the LORD of Heaven's Armies. 'Strike down the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered, and I will turn against the lambs. ⁸Twothirds of the people in the land will be cut off and die,' says the LORD. 'But one-third will be left in the land" (Zech 13:7-8 NLT).



"I will bring that group through the fire and make them pure. I will refine them like silver and purify them like gold. They will call on my name, and I will answer them. I will say, 'These are my people,' and they will say, 'The LORD is our God'" (Zech 13:9 NLT).

Zechariah 14



"Watch, for the day of the LORD is coming when your possessions will be plundered right in front of you!" (Zech. 14:1).





"I will gather all the nations to fight against Jerusalem. The city will be taken, the houses looted, and the women raped. Half the population will be taken into captivity, and the rest will be left among the ruins of the city" (Zech. 14:2 NLT).

A Dispensational Timeline

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Christ's Return

"Then the LORD will go out to fight against those nations, as he has fought in times past"

(Zech. 14:3 NLT).



"On that day, his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives east of Jerusalem" (Zech. 14:4).



"On that day, his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives east of Jerusalem..." (Zech. 14:4a).

"...And the Mount of Olives will split apart, making a wide valley running from east to west. Half the mountain will move toward the north and half toward the south" (Zech. 14:4b NLT).



"You will flee through this valley, for it will reach across to Azal. Yes, you will flee as you did from the earthquake in the days of King Uzziah of Judah. Then the LORD my God will come, and all his holy ones with him" (Zech. 14:5 NLT).



"On that day the sources of light will no longer shine, ⁷yet there will be continuous day! Only the LORD knows how this could happen. There will be no normal day and night, for at evening time it will still be light" (Zech. 14:6-7 NLT).

Living Water!

"On that day life-giving waters will flow out from Jerusalem, half toward the Dead Sea and half toward the Mediterranean, flowing continuously in both summer and winter" (Zech. 14:8 NLT).



"And the LORD will be king over all the earth. On that day there will be one LORD his name alone will be worshiped" (Zech. 14:9 NLT).

Jerusalem Repopulated

¹⁰ All the land from Geba, north of Judah, to **Rimmon, south of** Jerusalem, will become one vast plain. But Jerusalem will be raised up in its original place and will be inhabited all the way from the **Benjamin Gate over to** the site of the old gate, then to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king's winepresses. ¹¹ And Jerusalem will be filled, safe at last, never again to be cursed and destroyed" (Zech. 14:10-11 NLT).



"And the LORD will send a plague on all the nations that fought against Jerusalem. Their people will become like walking corpses, their flesh rotting away. Their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongues will rot in their mouths" (Zech. 14:12 NLT).



"On that day they will be terrified, stricken by the LORD with great panic. They will fight their neighbors hand to hand. ¹⁴Judah, too, will be fighting at Jerusalem. The wealth of all the neighboring nations will be captured—great quantities of gold and silver and fine clothing" (Zech. 14:13-14 NLT).

"This same plague will strike the horses, mules, camels, donkeys, and all the other animals in the enemy camps" (Zech. 14:15 NLT).

A Dispensational Timeline

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Millennial Worship

"In the end, the enemies of Jerusalem who survive the plague will go up to Jerusalem each year to worship the King... and to celebrate the Festival of Shelters. ¹⁷Any nation in the world that refuses to come to Jerusalem to worship the King... will have no rain. ¹⁸If the people of Egypt refuse to attend the festival, the LORD will punish them with the same plague that he sends on the other nations who refuse to go. ¹⁹Egypt and the other nations will all be punished if they don't go to celebrate the Festival of Shelters"

(Zech. 14:16-19 NLT).

Millennial Holiness





²⁰ "On that day even the harness bells of the horses will be inscribed with these words: Holy to the LORD. And the cooking pots in the Temple of the LORD will be as sacred as the basins used beside the altar.

²¹ In fact, every cooking pot in Jerusalem and Judah will be holy to the LORD... All who come to worship will be free to use any of these pots to boil their sacrifices. And on that day there will no longer be traders [Heb. Canaanites] in the Temple of the LORD of Heaven's Armies."

(Zech. 14:20-21 NLT)



Zechariah Summary Statement

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Zechariah prepares Judah for the Messiah by encouraging the nation to respond to its privileged covenant position among the nations by rebuilding the temple in light of future blessings when the Messiah rules in the kingdom.



We also will rule with Israel after Christ's return.



Do you need encouragement

Main Idea

The way to fight discouragement is to... see who you are and where you are going.

I. See your privileged position (Zech 1–6).



II. See your glorious future (Zech 7–14).



Questions to Ponder

How can you better understand your exalted position in Christ?

How can you better serve Christ now in light of your rule with him at his return?

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