



“The Blessings of Messiah’s Rule”

Zechariah 10:1-12

Introduction:

I. THE SHEPHERD PROVIDES FOR HIS PEOPLE (10:1-2)

A. He gives the necessary resources. (vs. 1)

“Ask rain from the LORD at the time of the spring rain - the LORD who makes the storm clouds; and He will give them showers of rain, vegetation in the field to each man.” (Jeremiah 14:22; Isaiah 55:10-11)

B. He gives spiritual leadership. (vs. 2)

“For the teraphim speak iniquity, and the diviners see lying visions and tell false dreams; they comfort in vain.” (Jeremiah 23:30-32)

“Therefore the people wander like sheep, they are afflicted, because there is no shepherd.” (Isaiah 54:6; Mark 6:34)

II. THE SHEPHERD PURIFIES HIS PEOPLE (10:3-5)

A. He punishes for their own good. (vs. 3)

“My anger is kindled against the shepherds,” (Ezekiel 34:1-10)

“and I will punish the male goats;”

“for the LORD of hosts has visited His flock, the house of Judah, and will make them like His majestic horse in battle.” (Genesis 49:10)

B. He guarantees their success. (vs. 4-5)

“From them will come the cornerstone, from them the tent peg, from them the bow of battle, from them every ruler, all of them together.”

“They will be as mighty men, treading down the enemy in the mire of the streets in battle; and they will fight, for the LORD will be with them; and the riders on horses will be put to shame.” (Joshua 1:5; Jeremiah 1:8; 15:20)

III. THE SHEPHERD EMPOWERS HIS PEOPLE (10:6-12)

A. He leads them to victory. (vs. 6-7)

“I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph,” (c.f. 8:13)

“and I will bring them back, because I have had compassion on them; and they will be as though I had not rejected them, for I am the LORD their God and I will answer them.”

“Ephraim will be like a mighty man, and their heart will be glad as if from wine;” (c.f. 9:13; Psalm 104:15)

“indeed, their children will see it and be glad, their heart will rejoice in the LORD.”

B. He assures their regathering. (vs. 8-12)

“I will whistle for them to gather them together, for I have redeemed them; and they will be as numerous as they were before.” (Judges 5:16; I Peter 1:18-19; Exodus 1:19-20)

“When I scatter them among the peoples, they will remember Me in far countries, and they with their children will live and come back.”

“I will bring them back from the land of Egypt and gather them from Assyria; and I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon until no room can be found for them.”

“And they will pass through the sea of distress and He will strike the waves in the sea, so that all the depths of the Nile will dry up; and the pride of Assyria will be brought down and the scepter of Egypt will depart.”

“And I will strengthen them in the LORD, and in His name they will walk,” declares the LORD.

Conclusion:

- 1) Messiah will gather Israel to Himself in the Land of Israel at the end of the age.
- 2) God will judge leaders who mistreat His people.
- 3) Christ is the cornerstone of our faith and a glorious, mighty King.

Food for Thought:

- 1) Who are the shepherds and he-goats of verse 3?
- 2) Explain the figures used to describe the Messiah and His work throughout this chapter.
- 3) How does/will the Lord regather His people, Israel? In what sense is Israel alive today?
- 4) Explain the last prediction of this chapter (vs. 12). Who must tell this generation the way of life?