

The Coming Day of the Lord

Zechariah 14:1-9

1 Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee

2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

3 Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

5 And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the Lord my God shall come, and all the saints with thee.

The final chapter of Zechariah provides details of the second coming of Jesus provided no where else in scripture. It is a fitting culmination for the whole book as it describes the final restoration of the nation of Israel due to the return of the Messiah. Jesus delivers His people from their enemies in dramatic fashion, then establishes His kingdom of righteousness on the earth. Honest interpretation demands a literal future fulfillment of these events which all the Jews had been anticipating at Christ's first coming.

THE BIG IDEA

What is the main truth The Lord showed you in this passage?

Part 1—The Nations Gathered

Read Zechariah 14:1-2; Revelation 16:12-16

- 1) The beginning of Israel's deliverance comes with the destruction and siege of its beloved capital, Jerusalem. According to this passage why do the nations attack this city?
- 2) How are the nations motivated and convinced to attack Jerusalem according to Revelation 16?
- 3) According to these passages how do you think God can use the evil choices of men?

Part 2—Jesus Returns to the Earth

Read Zechariah 14:3-5; Acts 1:6-12

- 1) What dramatic events accompany the return of the Lord (Jesus) to the earth according to this passage?
- 2) How does the account of Jesus' ascension in Acts 1 point to a literal fulfillment of Zechariah 14?
- 3) How can the reality of Jesus' return motivate you today?

Part 3—A Day of Darkness and Light

Read Zechariah 14:6-7; Matthew 24:27-30

- 1) According to Matthew 24 how will the daylight of the coming of the Son of Man be different than any other typical day?
- 2) According to Zechariah 14:7 why will this day be unique to all other days?
- 3) Do you think that the day of the Lord's return will go unnoticed by anyone? How might that be significant?

Part 4—The Water of Life

Read Zechariah 14:8-9; John 4:7-14

- 1) Today Israel is a dry arid climate with a rainy season during the winter months. How will this new river be a blessing?
- 2) In John 4 Jesus uses the illustration of "living water" to convey the spiritual truth of salvation. How might this future literal river also picture spiritual salvation and renewal?
- 3) How has the living water from Jesus affected your life?