



# ZECHARIAH

A NEW BEGINNING

**small**  
**groups**  
LIFE TOGETHER

# small groups

LIFE TOGETHER

Therefore tell the people:  
This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'Return to me,'  
declares the LORD Almighty, 'and I will return to you,'  
says the LORD Almighty.

**ZECHARIAH 1:3**

# STUDY ONE

## Joshua High Priest Zechariah 1:1-6, 3:1-10

### DISCUSSION STARTERS

What's the wildest outfit/style you've ever pulled off?

What struck you from Sunday's sermon?

### READ ZECHARIAH 1:1-6

1. What is God calling Israel to return from?
2. Where did their ancestors' actions lead them?
3. What is Zechariah's goal here in calling Israel?

## READ ZECHARIAH 3:1-10

4. What does the changing of Joshua's clothes demonstrate about what is to come?

5. What relevance does the idea of obedience have in this passage? Does obedience always have a cause-and-effect nature? (e.g. working in order to earn pay)

6. What does Verses 8-10 tell us about what is to come?

## TRANSFORMATION

7. What evil ways or practices might God be calling you out from? How can we be continually taking off the old and putting on the new in Christ? (Ephesians 4:17-24)

8. How can we rebuke our friends and loved ones from a place of love?

9. What does it mean for us to invite our neighbour to sit under our vine and fig tree? (Zechariah 3:10)

# STUDY TWO

## Zerubbabel the Builder Zechariah 4:1-14

### DISCUSSION STARTERS

Share when you might have had the experience of 'focusing on little things' resulting in big outcomes.

What struck you from Sunday's sermon?

### BACKGROUND

Zechariah 4 records a vision given to the prophet about Zerubbabel, the governor of Judah, who was leading the effort to rebuild the temple after the Babylonian exile. The people faced opposition and discouragement, but God assured them that the work would be completed - not by human strength, but by His Spirit. The passage also introduces the two olive trees, pointing to God's anointed servants.

### ENGAGING WITH THE ORIGINAL CONTEXT

#### 1. Read Zechariah 4:1-3

What does Zechariah see in this vision? How might a lampstand and olive trees be symbols of God's presence and provision?

## **2. Read Zechariah 4:4-7**

What does God's message to Zerubbabel ("Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit") mean in the context of rebuilding the temple? How would this have encouraged the people?

## **3. Read Zechariah 4:8-10**

Why does God emphasize that Zerubbabel will complete the work? What does this teach about God's faithfulness?

## **4. Read Zechariah 4:11-14**

Who might the two olive trees represent in the historical context? How did Zerubbabel and Joshua (the high priest) serve as God's anointed leaders?

# **TRACING FULFILMENT IN CHRIST**

## **1. Read John 2:19-21 and 1 Cor 3:16-17**

How does Jesus fulfil the role of Zerubbabel in building God's true temple?

## **2. Read Acts 1:8 and Ephesians 1:19-20**

How does "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit" apply to the Christian life and the spread of the gospel?

### **3. Read Luke 4:18 and Revelation 11:3-4**

How does Jesus fulfil the role of God's anointed leader, and how does this passage point to the church's witness?

### **4. Read Matthew 13:31-32**

How does God's work often start small, yet grow into something powerful? How do we see this in Jesus' ministry and the growth of the church?

## **TRANSFORMATION**

What challenges are you facing where you need to rely on God's Spirit rather than your own strength?

How can this passage encourage you when you feel your efforts for God's kingdom seem small or insignificant?

How does seeing Jesus as the ultimate temple builder change your perspective on God's work in your life?

# STUDY THREE

## The Two Visions Zechariah 5:1-11

### DISCUSSION STARTERS

What would 'perfect justice' look like if it played out in the world we live in?

What struck you from Sunday's sermon?

### BACKGROUND

Zechariah 5 contains two striking visions: the flying scroll (5:1-4) and the woman in the basket (5:5-11). These visions reveal God's judgment on sin and His plan to remove wickedness from the land. At this point in Zechariah's prophecy, the returning exiles were rebuilding Jerusalem, but God's concern was not only physical restoration—He also desired spiritual renewal.

### ENGAGING WITH THE ORIGINAL CONTEXT

#### Read Zechariah 5:1-4

1. What does the scroll represent, and why is it flying? (Consider its size and content.)



2. How does this vision emphasize God's judgment on sin, particularly dishonesty and false oaths?

3. What does it mean that the curse "enters the house" of the guilty? How does this contrast with God's blessing?

### **Read Zechariah 5:5-11**

4. What does the basket (ephah) symbolize, and why is wickedness personified as a woman?

5. Why is wickedness being carried away to the land of Shinar (Babylon)? What might this have meant to the people of Zechariah's time?

6. How do these visions together show both judgment on sin and purification of God's people?

## **TRACING FULFILMENT IN CHRIST**

### **1. Read Galatians 3:13 and Colossians 2:13-14**

Zechariah's flying scroll represents God's law bringing judgment. How does Jesus take this judgment upon Himself at the cross?

**2. Read John 2:13-16 and 1 Corinthians 6:9-11**

Just as wickedness is removed in Zechariah's vision, how does Jesus cleanse His people and His house?

**3. Read Revelation 21:27 and 22:14-15**

The vision ends with wickedness being permanently removed. How does this foreshadow the final judgment and the new creation?

**4. Read Matthew 23:27-28 and 1 John 1:9**

Sin was hidden in the basket but then revealed and removed. How does this apply to the way Jesus exposes and cleanses sin?

## **TRANSFORMATION**

How does this passage challenge our view of sin and God's justice?

Are there areas in your life where sin is hidden rather than confessed?

How does Christ offer true cleansing?

How does the certainty of God's judgment and purification give us hope as we follow Jesus?

# STUDY FOUR

## Peace and Prosperity Zechariah 8:1-23

### DISCUSSION STARTERS

What is your best memory of 'feasting' with other people?

What struck you from Sunday's sermon?

### BACKGROUND

Zechariah 8 is a message of hope and restoration for God's people. After warnings of judgment earlier in the book, this chapter reassures the returned exiles that God will dwell among them, bring peace, and make Jerusalem a blessing to the nations. The chapter contains ten promises from God, each revealing His commitment to transform His people and their city.

While these promises were partially fulfilled in the restoration of Jerusalem after the exile, they find their ultimate fulfilment in Jesus Christ, who brings true peace and prosperity to God's people and makes the church a light to the nations.

### ENGAGING WITH THE ORIGINAL CONTEXT

#### Read Zechariah 8:1-8

1. What does it mean that God is "jealous" for Zion (v. 2)?

2. What promises does God make about returning to Jerusalem and dwelling among His people?

3. How would this vision of old men and children in the streets (v. 4-5) have encouraged the returning exiles?

**Read Zechariah 8:9-17**

4. Why does God remind the people of the hardships they previously faced (v. 9-10)?

5. What does God command them to do (v. 16-17), and how does this relate to their identity as His people?

**Read Zechariah 8:18-23**

6. How does the transformation of fasting into joyful feasting (v. 19) signify a change in the people's relationship with God?

7. What does the prophecy about the nations seeking the Lord (v. 20-23) suggest about God's plan beyond Israel?

## TRACING FULFILMENT IN CHRIST

### 1. Read John 1:14 and Revelation 21:3-4

Zechariah 8:3 promises that God will dwell in Jerusalem. How is this ultimately fulfilled in Jesus?

### 2. Read John 14:27 and Ephesians 2:14-16

How does Christ bring the lasting peace that Zechariah's vision anticipated?

### 3. Read Matthew 5:14-16 and Rev 21:22-26

Zechariah 8:23 envisions people from all nations seeking the Lord in Jerusalem. How does this foreshadow the role of the church?

### 4. Read Luke 5:33-35 and Revelation 19:6-9

How does Jesus transform sorrow into joy, as seen in Zechariah's promise about fasting turning to feasting?

## TRANSFORMATION

What does this passage teach about God's faithfulness to His promises?

How can we live as a people who reflect God's peace and righteousness today?

In what ways can we as church be a witness to the nations, as Zechariah prophesied?

How does this vision give us hope in times of uncertainty?

# STUDY FIVE

## Deliverance

### Zechariah 12:8–13:9

#### DISCUSSION STARTERS

What is the most intense thing you've ever cleaned?

What struck you from Sunday's sermon?

#### BACKGROUND

Zechariah 12–13 speaks of a future time when God will deliver His people, pouring out His Spirit, opening a fountain for cleansing, and refining them through trials. Central to this prophecy is the striking promise that Israel will mourn for the One they have pierced (12:10), pointing forward to Christ's crucifixion.

This passage reveals God's plan to bring salvation through the suffering of a pierced Saviour, cleanse His people, and refine them through trials. Its ultimate fulfilment is found in Jesus Christ, who brings true deliverance to all who trust in Him.

#### ENGAGING WITH THE ORIGINAL CONTEXT

##### Read Zechariah 12:8–9

1. How does God promise to defend His people? What does this reveal about His commitment to them?

2. How would this message have encouraged those returning from exile, facing threats from surrounding nations?

**Read Zechariah 12:10-14**

3. What does it mean that the people will “look on me, the one they have pierced”?

4. Why is mourning such a significant response in this passage? What kind of repentance is being described?

5. How does this mourning lead to God’s grace rather than judgment?

**Read Zechariah 13:1-6**

6. What does the fountain in 13:1 represent? Why is cleansing from sin essential for God’s people?

7. How does this passage describe the removal of false prophets and idols? Why is this necessary for true worship?

**Read Zechariah 13:7-9**

8. What does it mean that God’s Shepherd will be struck (13:7)? Who do you think this Shepherd is?

9. What is the purpose of refining God’s people through fire (13:8-9)? How does this fit with God’s plan for them?

## TRACING FULFILMENT IN CHRIST

### 1. Read John 19:34-37 and Revelation 1:7

How is Jesus' crucifixion the fulfilment of Zechariah 12:10?

Why is mourning for sin a necessary part of true faith in Christ?

### 2. Read 1 John 1:7-9 and Titus 3:5-7

How does Christ's blood cleanse us from sin, as Zechariah 13:1 promised?

### 3. Read Matthew 26:31 and John 10:11-18

Jesus quotes Zechariah 13:7 before His arrest. How does this passage show that His suffering was part of God's plan?

### 4. Read 1 Peter 1:6-7 and James 1:2-4

How does Zechariah 13:9's image of refining through fire connect with how God strengthens our faith through trials?

## TRANSFORMATION

How does this passage deepen your understanding of Christ's sacrifice?

What does true repentance and mourning for sin look like in your life?

How does knowing that Christ cleanses us from sin give us confidence before God?

In what ways has God used trials to refine your faith? How can you trust Him through challenges?



# STUDY SIX

## The Day of the Lord Zechariah 14:1-21

### DISCUSSION STARTERS

What are you looking forward to right now? Why?

What struck you from Sunday's sermon?

### BACKGROUND

Zechariah 14 presents a powerful vision of the "Day of the Lord," a time of judgment, deliverance, and the ultimate reign of God over all the earth. This chapter describes a dramatic sequence of events: a battle for Jerusalem, the Lord's intervention, the transformation of the land, the establishment of God's kingdom, and the universal worship of the Lord.

While some elements of this prophecy were partially fulfilled in Israel's history, its ultimate fulfilment is found in Jesus Christ, His second coming, and the final renewal of all things.

### ENGAGING WITH THE ORIGINAL CONTEXT

#### Read Zechariah 14:1-5

1. What events are described at the beginning of this chapter? How does this battle fit into Zechariah's broader themes?

2. What does it mean that the Lord will stand on the Mount of Olives and split it in two?

3. How would this message have given hope to the people of Zechariah's time?

**Read Zechariah 14:6-11**

4. What changes happen in nature after the Lord intervenes? (Consider the unusual day and the living waters flowing from Jerusalem.)

5. How does this vision of peace and security contrast with the previous turmoil?

**Read Zechariah 14:12-15**

6. How does God bring judgment on the enemies of His people?

7. What does this section reveal about God's justice and His power over the nations?

**Read Zechariah 14:16-21**

8. What is the significance of all nations coming to worship the Lord?

9. Why does the passage end with holiness in even the most ordinary aspects of life?

## TRACING FULFILMENT IN CHRIST

### 1. Read Acts 1:9-12 and Matthew 24:3 (Zechariah 14:4)

Zechariah 14:4 describes the Lord standing on the Mount of Olives. How does this connect with Jesus' ascension and His promised return?

### 2. Read John 7:37-39 and Revelation 22:1-2

Zechariah 14:8 describes living water flowing from Jerusalem. How is this fulfilled in Jesus and the Holy Spirit?

### 3. Read Philippians 2:9-11 and Revelation 19:11-16

How does Zechariah 14's vision of all nations worshiping God connect with Christ's ultimate rule?

### 4. Read Revelation 21:1-5 and Romans 8:19-21

How do the transformed land and universal holiness in Zechariah 14:9-21 point to the new heavens and new earth?

## TRANSFORMATION

How does this vision of God's final victory give you confidence in His sovereignty?

In what ways can you live now with the expectation of Christ's return?

How does the promise of God's holiness filling everything challenge you to live a life devoted to Him?

How does knowing that Jesus will reign over all the earth encourage you in your faith?

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