

## God's Victory Will Come (Zechariah 9)

### I. God Will Send Judgment (9:1-8)

#### A. God Will Judge His Enemies (1-2)

1. Hadrach (under Persian Rule) and Damascus (Syrian) will come under judgment
  - a. Persia, Syria, Phoenicia (Tyre & Sidon), Philistia (Gaza, Ekron) were nations causing Israel the most trouble.
  - b. God used Alexander the Great to bring judgment
    - i. Even secular rulers are under His authority
    - ii. Alexander's route followed the exact path the judgment is here foretold.
      - "The judgment proceeds to work its way south along the invasion route toward one Persian possession after another, from Damascus to Hamath, then to Tyre along the Phoenician coast, and then down to the cities of Philistia – Ashkelon, Gaza, Ekron, and Ashdod." – Richard Phillips, Zechariah, Reformed Expository Commentary, 199.
2. God will Deal with enemies as His People look to Him
  - a. His People cry out for deliverance and justice
  - b. His people look in faith as they undergo persecution

#### B. God Will Judge Tyre (3-4)

1. Tyre Trusts in Their Own Power (3)
  - a. Tyre built herself a fortress
    - i. Tyre was a city on an island ½ mile off the coast. It had 150ft tall walls and was virtually impregnable.
    - ii. Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had besieged the city in the early 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C. – The city held out for 13 years and was never conquered.
    - iii. Shalmanassar of Assyria besieged the city for 5 years earlier and had failed to conquer it.
  - b. Tyre had grown extremely rich because of their stability and location
    - i. She piled up silver like dust
    - ii. She piled up gold like the mire of the streets
2. Tyre Will Be Destroyed in Judgment (4)
  - a. Her wealth will Be Cast into the Sea
  - b. She will be consumed by fire
  - c. Alexander did just that
    - i. *"Alexander built a massive causeway from the shore to the island, using stones, wood, and the rubble from the old city to create a land bridge a half-mile long. The city that had seemed impregnable fell to the young conqueror"*

*in just seven months, fulfilling this prophecy. Her wealth was taken and the city consumed by fire.” – Ibid, 200.*

ii. This also fulfilled an early prophecy in Ezekiel 26:12-14 concerning Tyre – *“They will break down your walls and destroy your pleasant houses. Your stones and timber and soil they will cast into the midst of the waters...I will make you a bare rock. You shall be a place for the spreading of nets. You shall never be rebuilt, for I am the Lord; I have spoken, declares the Lord God.”* – Never has it been rebuilt, and Alexander’s causeway remains to this day.

#### C. God will Judge Philistia

1. The Philistine Cities Are Terrified (5a)
  - a. Three Philistine cities will be afraid because of Tyre.
2. The Philistines will Be Removed (5b-6)
  - a. The cities will be uninhabited
  - b. The cities will suffer under God’s judgment
3. The Philistines will be Converted to God (7)
  - a. God will remove the blood from their mouth
  - b. God will remove the detestable things from their teeth
    - These have to do with putting an end to idolatry
    - Eating sacrifices to idols
    - Eating other defiled foods of idol worship
  - c. God will convert them to the faith
    - they will become part of the remnant
    - they will become like a clan in Judah
    - Ekron will be like a Jebusite
      - i. Jebusites inhabited Jerusalem before it was Jerusalem. David conquered the city and converted the people

#### D. God Will Protect His People (8)

1. God will camp around His House
2. Because of an Army that passes by and returns
  - a. Alexander conquered cities down the coast of the Mediterranean all the way to Egypt and came back to Jerusalem. Yet, he did not attack the city.
3. God watched over His People

#### II. God Will Send His King (9-10)

##### A. Rejoice in the King’s Coming (9a)

1. God’s people should be certain that He is coming
2. God’s people can rejoice in the certainty

##### B. The King Will Deliver The People (9b-10)

1. The King brings Justice and Salvation
  - a. Justice in the Law / Salvation in Grace
    - Judgment and forgiveness
  - b. He comes humbly instead of with pomp

- Foretells Jesus coming into Jerusalem

2. The King Brings Peace

- a. There will be no more need of chariots and horses
- b. There will be no more need of war bows
- c. There will be peace to all nations
  - Peace with God (Rom. 5:1)

3. The King will Reign Over the Earth

- a. He will rule from sea to sea
- b. He will rule to the ends of the earth
- c. He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords

III. God Will Send Restoration (11-12)

A. Freedom and Restoration Will Come

- 1. Prisoners will be free by the blood of the covenant

B. Return to God and Find Restoration

- 1. Return to the stronghold (God)
- 2. God will restore double to those who return

IV. God Will Send Out His People (13-17)

A. God Will Use His People to Fight (13-14)

- 1. God will bend Judah as a bow
- 2. God will use Ephraim as the arrow
- 3. God will use the people against the Greeks
- 4. God will use them as a warriors sword
- 5. God's judgment will go forth as lightning

B. God will fill His People with Victory (15-16a)

- 1. God will defend them
- 2. They will be victorious
- 3. They will rejoice in their victory
- 4. God will save them

C. God will make His People a Perfect Treasure (16b-17)

- 1. His flock will be jewels in his crown
- 2. His flock will be beautiful in his sight
- 3. His flock will flourish