

January 30, 2011
"God will Bring Showers of Blessings"
Zechariah 10

I. God will bring SHOWERS of Blessing – forget the idols, PRAY to HIM –

1. God brings rain, crops, growth in the church and any kind of real success –

Ask the LORD for rain in the time of the latter rain. The LORD will make flashing clouds; He will give them showers of rain, Grass in the field for everyone. (Zechariah 10:1 NKJ)

2. Therefore, we need to forget the idols, diviners and all speakers of Satanic lies –

For the idols speak delusion; The diviners envision lies, And tell false dreams; They comfort in vain. Therefore the people wend their way like sheep; They are in trouble because there is no shepherd. (Zechariah 10:2 NKJ)

A. This would include all false religion –

B. This would include ungodly and secular / atheist voices –

Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; (Psalm 1:1 NKJ) (see also Psalm 14:1)

3. Therefore we need to pray and prepare ourselves to receive God's blessings – Hosea 10:12; Psalm 84:11

II. God will raise up REAL LEADERS – forget the false shepherds, goatherds and he-goats –

"My anger is kindled against the shepherds, And I will punish the goatherds. For the LORD of hosts will visit His flock, The house of Judah, And will make them as His royal horse in the battle. (Zechariah 10:3 NKJ)

1. Shepherds – those called to this position but who used it for their own selfish gain.
2. Goatherds – not called but bullies among the flock.
3. Also, consider "goats" are the ungodly, those under Christ's judgment – Matthew 25:31-33 & :41

"And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. (Matthew 25:33 NKJ)

"Then He will also say to those on the left hand, Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: (Matthew 25:41 NKJ) The goatherds cater to the GOATS -2 Timothy 4:3-4

III. These Blessings come: From him, from HIM, from HIM

– From him comes the cornerstone, From him the tent peg, From him the battle bow, From him every ruler together. (Zechariah 10:4 NKJ)

1. From him = Judah

A. The Messiah would come from Judah –

Judah is a lion's whelp; From the prey, my son, you have gone up. He bows down, he lies down as a lion; And as a lion, who shall rouse him? ¹⁰The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; And to Him shall be the obedience of the people. (Genesis 49:9-10 NKJ)

B. From HIM = Jesus is He that Messiah / the Lion –

But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals." (Revelation 5:5 NKJ)

2. Yet FROM HIM ultimately means from God, from Jesus Christ Who is God and the Son of God -

A. Christ is the Cornerstone-

The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. (Psalm 118:22 NKJ)

Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, A tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; Whoever believes will not act hastily. (Isaiah 28:16 NKJ)

B. Christ is our integrity, our tent peg, He holds us together in this sin-filled world, through which we are passing –

For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come. (Hebrews 13:14 NKJ)

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, (Philippians 3:20 NKJ)

C. God is chief of the battle bow –

For by You I can run against a troop, By my God I can leap over a wall. (Psalm 18:29 NKJ)...

It is God who arms me with strength, And makes my way perfect. (Psalm 18:32 NKJ)...

He teaches my hands to make war, So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze. (Psalm 18:34 NKJ)

D. From Him – from God are righteous leaders –

In Jesus' day He defeated the scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees and made even a wishy-washy man like Simon into a bold Rock He renamed Peter – He also provided / provides – Ephesians 4:11-12

But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men.³⁰ "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree.³¹ "Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.³² "And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him." (Acts 5:29-32 NKJ)

IV. God's shower of blessings includes salvation – :6

1. He will strengthen and save them –

"I will strengthen the house of Judah, And I will save the house of Joseph.

2. He will bring them back to Himself / into a right relationship -

" I will bring them back,"

A. The key to this bringing back – God's "mercy"

Because I have mercy on them.

B. The full nature of this bringing back -

They shall be as though I had not cast them aside; for I am the LORD their God,

C. The blessing of this bringing back – answered prayer

And I will hear them. (Zechariah 10:6 NKJ)

V. Plus, the manifold BLESSING's connected to this salvation –

1. Again STRENGTH –

Those of Ephraim shall be like a mighty man, (Zechariah 10:7a NKJ)

2. Joy -

And their heart shall rejoice as if with wine. Yes, their children shall see it and be glad; Their heart shall rejoice in the LORD. (Zechariah 10:7b NKJ)

A. It is a sweet drunken "joy" without the hangover!

B. It is an infectious joy – their children catch it!

C. It is the "joy" of the LORD

D.

3. They are shepherded by the LORD –

I will whistle for them and gather them, For I will redeem them; And they shall increase as they once increased. (Zechariah 10:8 NKJ)

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. (John 10:27 NKJ)

VI. God blesses His people by calling them to spread these BLESSINGS, even around the world –

"I will sow them among the peoples, And they shall remember Me in far countries; They shall live, together with their children, And they shall return. (Zechariah 10:9 NKJ)

Consider even before Christ came God had people spread to help the spread of the Gospel –

Acts 14:1 Now it happened in Iconium that they went together to the synagogue of the Jews, and so spoke that a great multitude both of the Jews and of the Greeks believed. (Act 14:1 NKJ)

These people were brought back to God –

I will also bring them back from the land of Egypt, And gather them from Assyria. I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon, Until no more room is found for them. (Zechariah 10:10 NKJ)

VII. God will remove all seeming barriers and give all needed strength –

He shall pass through the sea with affliction, And strike the waves of the sea: All the depths of the River shall dry up. Then the pride of Assyria shall be brought down, And the scepter of Egypt shall depart.¹² "So I will strengthen them in the LORD, And they shall walk up and down in His name," Says the LORD. (Zechariah 10:11-12 NKJ)

Here we have references:

1. To crossing the Red Sea

2. To crossing the Jordan

3. To victory over the Assyrian army

• *He gives them / us strength –*

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. (Ephesians 6:10 NKJ)

• *He enables us to walk for His glory –Ephesians 5:2; 8; 15*