

A Vision of Comfort for God's People

June 26, 2016

Oakbrook Community Church

Zechariah 1:7-17

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Word of the Lord given specifically **7**

Exactly 5 months after Haggai 1:14-15. God's Word given when needed.

Symbols of the Vision

- **Myrtle** small, evergreen, fragrant when crushed
- **Glen** valley, ravine — low state of people at time of vision
- **Man on red horse** pre-incarnate Christ Gen 16:13; 18:17; Josh 5:13-15
- **Horses** Red=war; white=victory; sorrel=mixture of judgment & mercy

What Does This Mean?

- **Christ encourages us with His powerful presence**

Christ stands with His people in the midst of their trials!

Similar to Rev 1:12-13 - Jesus stands in the midst of His churches!

Remember Hebrews 11 — live by faith, you may not see results now

God is with His people in trials — Daniel 3:24-25

Christ is with His own, He calls us to return to Him (Zec 1:3)

- **Christ encourages us with His prayer for us**

Tough question: v9 told about Christ's faithful presence

BEFORE he can respond: the angel of the LORD asks (prays) v12

Christ, Himself asks the tough question: 'how long, O Lord?'

McCheyne: "If I could hear Christ praying for me in the next room, I would not fear a million enemies. Yet distance makes no difference. He is praying for me."

But He is: Romans 8:31-34 Christ Jesus... who indeed is interceding for us!

- **Christ encourages us with His promises for our good**

Gracious & comforting words — what we need to hear!

- A. Christ has a jealous love for His people
- B. Christ has a fierce anger toward those that oppress His people
- C. Christ has compassion and promises for His people

To Think About & Discuss:

- How can we put our faith ahead of our feelings when we suffer at the hands of wicked people?
- How does Peter instruct us to stand strong: 1 Peter 5:6-11?
- Should we desire God's punishment upon the wicked? How do we apply imprecatory Psalms 10, 69, 109, 137 in light of Rom 12:17-21?

Use the verses below to remind yourself of God's Promises:

God's Promises to the Believer

- Promise of Eternal Life Heb 9:15; 1 John 2:24-25
- I am a child of God John 1:12-13; Rom 8:14,16-17; Gal 4:6-7
- I have access to God Rom 5:2; Eph 2:8; 3:11-12
- I can call God my Father because I am adopted Rom 8:15
- I am loved by God Jn 15:9-10; Rm 5:8; Eph 2:4-5, 3:17-19; 1 Jn 3:1; 4:19; Rev 1:5
- I have been chosen by God Jn 15:16; Eph 1:4; 1 Pet 2:9-10
- He created me with a good purpose to fulfill Eph 2:10
- I am accepted Eph 1:6
- He cares for me when I am weak Heb 4:15-16; 1 Pet 5:7
- I am forgiven Rom 8:33-34; Col 2:13-14
- I am free from condemnation Rom 8:1
- I am a new creature in Christ. I have been transformed 2 Cor 5:17
- God will strengthen me to do all I need to do Phil 4:13
- I have peace with God because of Christ, not my emotions Rom 5:1
- God will not leave me or forsake me Heb 13:5-6
- I am heir of God and joint-heir with Christ Rom 8:17
- I have an inheritance in heaven Jn 14:2-3; Phil 3:20; Col 1:12
- I am able to overcome 2 Cor 12:9; 1 Jn 4:4; Jude 24
- Christ righteousness is mine (imputed) Rom 4:23-25; Col 1:21-22; 3:3-4
- I have an advocate. God is working in me 1 Jn 2:1-2 Phil 1:6
- God has given me a living hope 1 Pet 1:3-5
- God will protect me to the end John 10:27-29; 2 Tim 4:18; Heb 10:23
- I can have full assurance of faith Luk 12:32; Heb 10:22; 1 Jn 5:13
- I am complete in Christ Col 2:10
- Nothing can separate me from God's love Rom 8:35-39