

Saved to Bless Others!

August 14, 2016

Oakbrook Community Church

Zechariah 8:1-23

Pastor Mark W. Turner

Premise: Because God has promised to bless us abundantly we should be a blessing to others

God has promised to bless His people richly 1-17

- a. God's promised blessings don't depend upon us, but God
 - Yahweh (Lord of Hosts) - self-existent, redemptive, covenant keeping God who is able to accomplish what He covenants
 - Repetition of "I will", "I am", "I have" = surety of His decrees
- b. God's promised blessings require a response of holy activity for the Lord
 1. Be strong in building the Lord's house
 - Let your hands be strong 9,13; Fear Not 13, 15
 - God calls His people to be faithful in His provided strength
 2. Be holy in all your conduct
 - 'to call ourselves Christians & live unholy makes a mockery of God'
 - God wants to dwell with His holy people who have joy & gladness

God's blessed people should be a blessing to others

- a. We bless others by showing them a merciful God & His provision
 - Beauty is attractive: national parks, art gallery
 - Does your life reflect the beauty of God's holiness and joy?
- b. Christ is the One, He is God with us
 - By our life & words, we take them to God's provided "Jew" 23
 - Jesus is Immanuel – God with us. Mt 1:23

To Think About & Discuss:

- How important is the doctrine that salvation comes totally from God as opposed to it being a "joint venture"?
- So how would you describe a "holy" person? How does that contrast with the world's view of holiness?
- To what extent does a believer have to "have it all together" in order to be involved in pointing others to Christ? How is that freeing?
- How can Hosea 14 be used as a prayer to return to God?
- Read Hebrews 12:3-29. What does this teach us about God chastening His people? About His people witnessing about Christ?
- Why do so few take 'believers' by the sleeve and desire to join with them in the things of God? What should we do? How to respond?

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