

March 20, 2011
"The Glory of Christ's Second Coming"
Zechariah 14

The celebration of our Lord's Supper is primarily about His death on the cross paying the penalty for our sins. Yet, as we remember what He has done for us, we are also looking forward to His second coming -

For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. (1 Corinthians 11:26 NKJ)

1. Zechariah 14 speaks about Jesus' second coming –

1. It is the day of the LORD, a day of victory for God's people – Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, And your spoil will be divided in your midst. (Zechariah 14:1 NKJ)

2. It is preceded by difficult times –

For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; The city shall be taken, The houses rifled, And the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city. (Zechariah 14:2 NKJ)

"Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation," spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place " (whoever reads, let him understand),¹⁶ "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.¹⁷ "Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house.¹⁸ "And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes.¹⁹ "But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!²⁰ "And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.²¹ "For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.²² "And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened. (Matthew 24:15-22 NKJ)

It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. (Revelation 13:7 NKJ)

3. Yet, the LORD will come and fight for His people –

Then the LORD will go forth And fight against those nations, As He fights in the day of battle.⁴ And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of

Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, Making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south.⁵ Then you shall flee through My mountain valley, For the mountain valley shall reach to Azal. Yes, you shall flee As you fled from the earthquake In the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Thus the LORD my God will come, And all the saints with You. (Zechariah 14:3-5 NKJ)

Note the GREAT ESCAPE God plans for His people, like crossing the Red Sea and yet He parts a mountain!

II. He speaks of the blessings of salvation –

1. No need for the sun or stars - :6-7

It shall come to pass in that day That there will be no light; The lights will diminish.⁷ It shall be one day Which is known to the LORD-- Neither day nor night. But at evening time it shall happen That it will be light. (Zechariah 14:6-7)

The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light. (Revelation 21:23 NKJ)

2. A glorious river –:8

⁸ And in that day it shall be That living waters shall flow from Jerusalem, Half of them toward the eastern sea And half of them toward the western sea; In both summer and winter it shall occur. (Zechariah 14:8)

And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.² In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. (Revelation 22:1-2 NKJ)

3. Our Lord will reign forever -:9

⁹ And the LORD shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be-- "The LORD is one," And His name one. (Zechariah 14:9)

Then the kingdom and dominion, And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.' (Daniel 7:27 NKJ)

4. *Exaltation of God's people / permanent peace –:10-11*

¹⁰ All the land shall be turned into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. *Jerusalem* shall be raised up and inhabited in her place from Benjamin's Gate to the place of the First Gate and the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananeel to the king's winepresses. ¹¹ *The people* shall dwell in it; And no longer shall there be utter destruction, But Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited. (Zechariah 14:10-11 NKJ)

Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. ² Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God. ⁴ "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." ⁵ Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." (Revelation 21:1-5 NKJ)

III. *Yet He also speaks of the condemnation of the wicked*
- :12-15

1. *Dissolving flesh - :12*

And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, Their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, And their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths. (Zechariah 14:12 NKJ)

2. *Panic & fighting among themselves - :13*

It shall come to pass in that day *That* a great panic from the LORD will be among them. Everyone will seize the hand of his neighbor, And raise his hand against his neighbor's hand; (Zechariah 14:13 NKJ)

3. *Spoils go to God's people -:14*

Judah also will fight at Jerusalem. And the wealth of all the surrounding nations Shall be gathered together: Gold, silver, and apparel in great abundance. (Zechariah 14:14 NKJ)

4. *Nothing is spared - :15*

Such also shall be the plague On the horse *and* the mule, On the camel and the donkey, And on all the cattle that will be in those camps. So *shall* this plague *be*. (Zechariah 14:15 NKJ)

IV. *ALL who remain will bow to and serve the will of God*

And it shall come to pass *that* everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. ¹⁷ And it shall be *that* whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain. ¹⁸ If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they *shall have no rain*; they shall receive the plague with which the LORD strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. ¹⁹ This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. (Zechariah 14:16-19 NKJ)

1. *Nations / Gentiles will worship God*
2. *They will celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles (the celebration of Harvest) God's BLESSING!*

V. *All will be HOLY, there will be no more Canaanite, no more sin –*

1. *Everything will be dedicated to God / Holy –*
In that day "HOLINESS TO THE LORD " shall be *engraved* on the bells of the horses. The pots in the LORD'S house shall be like the bowls before the altar. ²¹ Yes, every pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be holiness to the LORD of hosts. Everyone who sacrifices shall come and take them and cook in them. In that day

2. *No unholy person will enter God's House*
there shall no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts. (Zechariah 14:20-21 NKJ)

Application –

Looking forward to these things, not knowing how SOON His coming may be, let us seek to serve God NOW!