

Return, Rebuild, Restore
Study Guide
Zechariah 1:7-21

This week we begin studying 8 visions to comfort and encourage God's people. The first two reveal to us that God is highly protective of honor. This means that God will use whatever means necessary to preserve what is noble, right and good. He does this for our benefit. At times He uses wrath and other times He uses mercy. How have you seen God be protective of honor in the world or even in your life?

Vision 1: The Man on the Red Horse

1. Read Zechariah 1:7-11. Notice that angelic powers are directed by God and working all over the world to fulfill His purposes. How does it make you feel to know that God and "innumerable angels" (Heb. 12:22) are at work? Do you think it's a good thing for all to be at "rest"? Why or why not.

2. Read Zechariah 1:12-15.

Discuss the concept that God is "exceedingly jealous" for Israel. How would you feel if you were married and someone else was flirting and spending time alone with your spouse? How do you think God feels when we give our affections away to other things or people? In what areas are you vulnerable right now to cause God to be "jealous" of you?

3. Read Zechariah 1:16-17.

Discuss the various words and concepts in this passage that describe the way God has mercy on us. Why do you think God is so merciful and that He "chooses" us? Discuss.

Vision 2: The Four Horns

Read Zechariah 1:18-21. The four horns most likely relate to the visions in Daniel 2 & 7 about four gentile kingdoms that will be crushed by God: Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome. Notice that God is highly protective of what is good, right, noble and honorable. As a result, those who oppose Him, end up losing. How can we in very practical ways join God in the quest for honor? Discuss.

Message Slides

Big Idea- God is highly protective of honor.

I. A Man Riding on a Red Horse (v. 7-17)

⁷On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, which is the month of Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to the prophet Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, son of Iddo, saying,

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1 Cor. 10:11

Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.

A. The Report (v. 8-11)

⁸“I saw in the night, and behold, a man riding on a red horse! He was standing among the myrtle trees in the glen, and behind him were red, sorrel, and white horses. ⁹Then I said, ‘What are these, my lord?’ The angel who talked with me said to me, ‘I will show you what they are.’¹⁰So the man who was standing among the myrtle trees answered, ‘These are they whom the Lord has sent to patrol the earth.’ ¹¹And they answered the angel of the Lord who was standing among the myrtle trees, and said, ‘We have patrolled the earth, and behold, all the earth remains at rest.’

Who is this Angel?

1:11- And they answered the angel of the Lord...

1:12 “...then the angel of the Lord said...”

2:3-“And, behold, the angel who talked with me...”

4:1- “And the angel who talked with me came again...”

4:5- “Then the angel who talked with me answered...”

5:5- “Then the angel who talked with me went forth...”

5:10- “Then I said to the angel who talked with me...”

6:4- “Then I answered and said unto the angel who talked with me...”

Zechariah 3:1, 3-4

“Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at the right hand to accuse him.....³Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. ⁴And the angel said to those who were standing before him, ‘**Remove the filthy garments from him.**’ And to him he said, ‘Behold, **I have taken your iniquity away** from you, and will clothe you with pure vestments.”

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B. The Problem (v. 12-15)

¹²Then the angel of the Lord said, 'O Lord of hosts, how long will you have no mercy on Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, against which you have been angry these seventy years?'¹³And the Lord answered gracious and comforting words to the angel who talked with me. ¹⁴So the angel who talked with me said to me, 'Cry out, Thus says the Lord of hosts: I am **exceedingly jealous** for Jerusalem and for Zion. ¹⁵And I am **exceedingly angry** with the nations that are at ease; for while I was angry but a little, they furthered the disaster.

C. The Promise (v. 16-17)

¹⁶Therefore, thus says the Lord, I have returned to Jerusalem with **mercy**; my house shall be built in it, declares the Lord of hosts, and the measuring line shall be stretched out over Jerusalem. ¹⁷Cry out again, Thus says the Lord of hosts: My cities shall again overflow with prosperity, and the Lord will again comfort Zion and again choose Jerusalem.'"

Big Idea- God is highly protective of honor.

II. The Four Horns (v. 18-21)

¹⁸And I lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, four horns! ¹⁹And I said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these?" And he said to me, "These are the horns that have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem." ²⁰Then the Lord showed me four craftsmen. ²¹And I said, "What are these coming to do?" He said, "These are the horns that scattered Judah, so that no one raised his head. And these have come to terrify them, to cast down the horns of the nations who lifted up their horns against the land of Judah to scatter it."

Daniel 2 image

**Big Idea- God is highly protective of honor...
...because honor is highly beneficial to us!**

Reflection

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1. In what areas of your life do you currently feel a pull away from God? Ask Him to show you what is behind this sentiment.
2. What would be a next step for you to draw near to God?