

Zechariah: Your Kingdom Come

As we move into the autumn months, the preaching emphasis will focus on the Old Testament book Zechariah. Zechariah writes approximately 520 before the time of Christ, yet his message still resonates today. The prophet's chief concern is the kingdom of God. Throughout the fourteen chapters of Zechariah, the prophets joyfully and profoundly announces that God's kingdom is coming through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus. The book of Zechariah offers stunning portraits of our Savior. Jesus serves as the interpreting Messenger throughout the first six chapters. Zechariah calls Jesus a "Shoot" (3:8; 6:12), "Servant" (3:8), and "Stone" (3:9). In his last six chapters, though, the prophet describes Jesus in much more compelling ways. Jesus is righteous and humble (9:9). The blood of the covenant sets prisoners free (9:11). He is the Church's Cornerstone, Tent Peg, and Battle Bow (10:4). Then in a dramatic twist Christ is detested (11:8), sold for thirty pieces of silver (11:12), struck so His sheep scatter (13:7), and finally pierced and killed (12:10). In the end, however, God's kingdom comes---finally and permanently in beauty (14:9, 16, 17).

Zechariah is a prophet to God's people as they are returning from exile in Babylon for seventy years. The people of Judah want to rebuild their lives, the city of Jerusalem and the Temple. But not so fast! Their efforts stall for seventeen years! As they seek to rebuild, they still forget about God. They become discouraged. Jesus tells Zechariah to proclaim that God is still at work. His Kingdom will come, in ways far exceeding their expectations. So too, in the midst of a Pandemic, people are trying to rebuild their lives. Where is God in all of this? He is still at work, bringing about His kingdom. The sermon series is as follows:

- August 23: First Things First (Zechariah 1:1-6)
- August 30 It's Tool Time (Zechariah 1:18-21)
- September 6 Silencing Satan (Zechariah 3: 1-10)
- September 13 Who Will Take the Garbage Out? (Zechariah 5: 5-11)
- September 20 First Secure Your Own Oxygen Mask (Zechariah 8: 20-23)
- September 27 The Redeemer's Refinery (Zechariah 13: 1-2)
- October 4 Expectations Meet Reality (Zechariah 9:9-10)
- October 11 Covenant Blood (Zechariah 9: 11-12)
- October 18 God is Dead! (Zechariah 12:10-14)
- October 25 All Things New! (Zechariah 14: 8-11)

I invite you to read along in Zechariah, ahead of time, preparing your hearts for what the Holy Spirit has to say through Zechariah. Invite your friends and family to watch these sermons as they will also be posted on Facebook and YouTube.

May God's Kingdom come, to us and through us! To God be the glory!