

Zechariah 9:9

The Triumphal Entry

Text: Zechariah 9:1-10

Introduction:

1. God had promised that the seed of woman would crush the head of the serpent and the enemy of man would be defeated (Genesis 3:15).
2. He showed that this victory would include blessedness for all through the seed of Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3).
3. This Victor would be a mediator (Job 19:23-27), a ruler (Genesis 49:10), a star (Numbers 24:17), a prophet (Deuteronomy 18:15-19), a priest (1 Samuel 2:35), and a king (1 Samuel 2:10) - ruling from the throne of David (1 Chronicles 17:11-14).
4. During the time of David, the "sweet psalmist of Israel" (2 Samuel 23:1) recorded many prophecies of Jesus in the Psalms.
5. In the writings of the prophets, much more detail about the coming Messiah was given.
6. Zechariah showed the humility and meekness of the Messiah...

I. THE BACKGROUND

(ZECHARIAH 9:1-7)

- A. Zechariah prophesied to the children of Israel after their return from Babylonian captivity.
- B. Along with Haggai, he encouraged them to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem.
- C. In the last chapters of his book, God revealed through Zechariah many things concerning Israel's future and the coming of the Messiah.
- D. One theme of those prophecies was the distinction between the world powers and the kingdom of God.
- E. The first seven verses of chapter nine deal with God's judgment upon Gentile nations.
- F. This passage is referred to as a "burden" because it announces judgment against the nations of the world.
- G. God proclaimed that He would bring down the nations of Syria, Phoenicia, and Philistia.
 1. All these nations had been conquered and were a part of the Persian Empire.
 2. Their destruction took place with the rise and conquest of Alexander the Great.
- H. Yet, there was hope for them - if they would turn to the Lord.
- I. Indeed, there was a remnant even of the Gentiles who became obedient to the Gospel of Christ (cf. Galatians 3:28; etc.).

II. THE PROPHECY

(ZECHARIAH 9:8-10)

- A. While the nations of the world were judged, God protected His own people.
- B. Though Alexander would gain power over Judah, the Jews would not lose their identity and God's promises would not be hindered.
- C. The kings of the world powers would "pass by" and "return" and "oppress."
- D. Zion's King would be of a wholly different nature.
 1. The "daughter of Zion" and "daughter of Jerusalem" refers to the faithful remnant in Judah.
 2. They were to rejoice and shout for their King was coming to them.
- E. He is just - righteous, lawful - both in His character and His rule.

Prophecy of Jesus

- F. He is lowly – humble – both in His character and His rule (demonstrated by His riding upon a colt, rather than a mighty horse).
- G. He has and brings salvation – a spiritual kingdom rather than a carnal one.
- H. His kingdom is one of peace, unity, and dominion over the entire earth.

III. THE FULFILLMENT (MATTHEW 21:1-11)

- A. This event marks the beginning of the last week of Jesus' time on Earth.
- B. The Plan (vs. 1-3)
 - 1. As they approached the city, Jesus instructed two of His disciples to make arrangements for His entry into the city.
 - 2. This shows that Jesus had already planned for His arrival in the city.
- C. The Prophecy (vs. 4-5)
 - 1. Not only had Jesus planned for His entry into Jerusalem, but God had foretold of this event many years before.
 - 2. Zechariah 9:9 is a prophecy of the deliverance of God's people from their enemies.
 - 3. However, it was actually looking forward to the deliverance of all men from their greatest enemy – sin.
- D. The Picture (vs. 6-9)
 - 1. This event demonstrated the humility of Jesus.
 - 2. Thus, it proved that the Son of God was meek and lowly.
 - 3. However, this event also demonstrated the royalty of Jesus.
 - 4. Finally, this event showed the deity of Jesus.
 - a. The people cried out, "Hosanna;" meaning, "Save now, I beseech thee!"
 - b. They declared that Jesus was blessed because He came in the name of (by the authority of) the Lord (cf. Psalm 118:24-26).
 - c. They declared that Jesus was the Son of David; thus, the Messiah.
 - d. They spoke of His kingdom as "the kingdom of our father David" (Mark 11:10).
 - e. They echoed the announcement of His birth, crying, "Peace in Heaven, and glory in the highest" (Luke 19:38).
- E. The Purpose (vs. 10-17)
 - 1. Ultimately, Jesus' coming into Jerusalem illustrated the true need of the people.
 - 2. They needed true, spiritual leadership to escape the corruption that had infested Judaism (vs. 10-13).
 - 3. They needed true healing from the spiritual disease of sin (vs. 14).
 - 4. They needed to return to a child-like faith and trust in God (vs. 15-17).
- F. The Power (vs. 18-22)
- G. Truly, Jesus is the Son of God and the King of kings!