

God's Optician

Getting our vision corrected in Zechariah 1-6



2:1-13 – Right thinking about
God's Kingdom

- 3rd vision is for them and the church today
 - Prophets weren't just writing for their day – also for us: 1 Peter 1:10-12
 - Jerusalem is also a picture of the church - Heb 12:22
- Chapter divides into 2 parts. v1-5 - Vision. v6-13 - Applications

1. **The Future of the Church will exceed your expectations v1-4**

- Man all set to measure walls. God stops him. God's plans won't be able to be measured
- Do we have small expectations when we look at the work of the church?
- Jesus Christ did not come and die for something small

2. **The Security of the Church is the Indestructible God v5**

- Jerusalem seemed vulnerable. But Zechariah sees from God's perspective
- A wall of fire protects Jerusalem – like Elisha saw in 2 Kings 6:17
- Church seems vulnerable, but God is our protection.
- Christian seems vulnerable – but Christ is our protection.
- v8 - God sends judgment in pursuit of glory against those who dared to touch his people

3. **The Success of the Church is the Presence of God v5**

- The glory of Jerusalem will be the presence of the Lord Almighty.
- This makes God's Kingdom glorious – not the people, not the buildings
- Will we pray that God will be present with us?

4. **Four Applications**

a) **Come and enjoy the freedom Christ brings v6-7**

- Not just for unconverted – for all Christians who chose stay trapped – sin, actions, attitudes, the priorities of the world around us.
- A call also to non-Christians – God will judge, Escape is possible.

b) **Be filled with joy and awe v10, 13**

- Being part of God's kingdom is to be part of something great – shout for joy
- To have Almighty God as your father should cause us to stand in awe

c) **Reach out with the Gospel v11**

- The church will grow – a comfort and a challenge
- God doesn't allow walls to be built, what walls do we put up?

d) **See with God's eyes**

- Jerusalem wasn't big, but God tells the people what it will be like
- The church isn't impressive, but God is making it into something majestic
- So we are not to lose hope!



Sabbath 10th February 08
n e w l i f e f e l l o w s h i p

S E R V I N G J E S U S C H R I S T T H E K I N G

www.newlifefellowship.ie - part of the reformed presbyterian church of ireland

Notices

Sab	Evening service at Mark & Judith's Prayer time	8pm
Tues	Mark goes to Nigeria! - Mark & Judith's	8pm
Sat 16th	Presbytery Youth Event Volley Ball Competition and a Ping Pong Tournament - Bready	8pm
Wed 27th	Irish Mission Update - Convoy	8pm

Denomination News

Robert Robb - Marathon Man!

Rev Robert Robb, minister in Limavady RP Church is planning to run 6 marathons in 6 days in the six counties of Northern Ireland in May. He is doing it to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society and Macmillan Cancer Support. Sponsorship forms are available.

GO Teams 2008

Application forms are available for Go teams 2008.

Trips to Jordan, Israel and Mt Sinai - 2008/9

Details on posters on table

Castlewellan holiday conference 2008 - Still some places

From 16th – 23rd August still spaces in the campsite and the castle. Do consider going to this conference, not only to learn more from the Word of God but to make new friends and have fellowship with others in the church. If you have any questions contact Edith McCollum 048 7034 3523.

Next Week: Zechariah 3

Opening Psalm: 71:1-6

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