

## The 12 Minor Prophets

“Do you get second chances? Yes, secured by the Shepherd of the Sheep”

### Zechariah 12-13

Sunday, April 7, 2013

## INTRODUCTION

### Who was Zechariah?

- A Priest

### When did he Prophesy?

- Around 520BC

### What is the main theme?

- After the initial return to Jerusalem, about 20 years later, there were many social and political hardships for the people in Judah as they sought to reestablish their identity.
- Zechariah deals with their struggles, discouragement, and sin by reminding the people that God is ever-present, demanded their obedience, and would establish His kingdom presence with His people once again.

### What is the aim?

- To cause the people of God to return to Him, hope in Him, by delivering the prophetic message of His presence and future kingdom.

### What is the overarching question?

- Do you get second chances?

## A. Secured by the Shepherd “on that day”

1. When is “on that day”?
  - a) When Christ comes?
  - b) At Pentecost?
  - c) When Christ returns?
2. Who is “Israel”?
  - a) Northern and southern kingdoms had been divided (with the north basically wiped out)
  - b) Jerusalem had been preserved and polluted along the way
  - c) Speaks mostly of there being a day when God brings restoration and unification to His people

## B. Secured by Victory (12:1-9)

1. The Creator will be Victor (12:1)
  - a) Made all there is
  - b) Especially men
2. Jerusalem restored (12:2-8)
  - a) Conquering thru Jerusalem
  - b) Restoring victory to Judah
  - c) Protecting from enemies
  - d) Promoting unification
3. Enemies removed (12:9)
  - a) This is the broad scope of the battle of Armageddon

- b) Many wars have been fought, and peace made, but this battle will be a complete, historically vindicating battle where all of God's enemies, by nations and peoples, will be completely defeated, and His people completely secured

### C. Secured through Suffering (12:10-13:9)

1. The Pierced One (12:10-14)
  - a) Pours grace and mercy
    - (1) This is how victory is secured...through the seeming defeat of the "pierced one" (Luke 19:37)
    - (2) **Isaiah 53:4-6** Provokes mourning
2. The Purifying One (13:1-6)
  - a) Cleansing (water imagery)
    - (1) Fountain
      - (a) **Jeremiah 2:13; 17:13**
      - (b) Cleansing & satisfaction
    - (2) Cleansing follows the mourning (repentance) in the previous chapter
  - b) Destroyed idols
    - (1) Anything in God's place in your affections
    - (2) *Idolatry happens when we turn a good thing into an ultimate thing.* - Tim Keller
  - c) Removed false prophets
3. The Restoring One (13:7-9)
  - a) Shepherd struck
  - b) People scattered

- c) Remnant restored
  - (1) The fact that Israel still exists is evidence of God's promises being true
  - (2) There will be a national cleansing and revival, and a remnant of Jews will be saved in that city
  - (3) Gentile believers will be made a blessed part of the greater, spiritual Israel
  - (4) **1 Peter 1:3-12**

### Application

#### A. What's your view of the end times?

1. The point is to long for Christ's return
2. The point is to view the end times to gain present encouragement in trials
  - a) Memorize Scripture
  - b) Talk about it over coffee...build it into your lingo
  - c) Ask yourself questions

#### B. Is Christ satisfying to you?

1. What do you long for more than Christ's return? Really?
2. Do you trust now that He will say He knows you then?
  - a) Are you repentant of following other gods?
  - b) Is there evidence He's cleansed you?
  - c) Have your idols been destroyed?
  - d) Do you have a love for truth?
  - e) Do you increasingly long for restoration?