# LESSON 8

*You are restored for Glory (Zech 8)*

God gave us a glimpse of the restored Jerusalem in the vision of the measuring line in Zech 2. God's vision for Jerusalem is elaborated in greater detail in Zech 8.

**UNDERSTANDING**

1. Read Zech 2:4,5, 11. List what you can observe about Jerusalem in these 3 verses.

   a. A city without _____

   b. _____ will be a wall of _____

   c. Many _____ will be _____

   d. (They) will become _____

   e. I will _____ among _____

2. Compare your answer to Question 1e with Zech 8:3. (Note: God will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem). The result of which is Zech 8:3-5.

   a. What are the attributes of Jerusalem? (v3)

   b. What is life going to be like in Jerusalem? (v 4,5)

3. Compare your answer to Question 1d with Zech 8:7-8. (Note: They shall be my people).

   a. Who does "they" refer to? (v 7, 8)

   b. God was going to treat them in faithfulness and righteousness (v8). What does this entail practically? (v11-15)

      i. v12 _____

      ii. v13 _____

      iii. v14-15 _____

4. Compare your answer to Question 1c to Zech 8:20-23. This is a prophecy of the gospel going out to all the world. This prophecy is being fulfilled in our days till the end time which Zechariah did not live to see. What are some of the amazing phenomena you notice?

   a. v20 _____

   b. v21 _____

   c. v22 _____
   (note the word "powerful nations")

   d. v23 _____



**REFLECTING**

5. Question 3 of Week 7 tells us of the events that the fast of the fifth and seventh months commemorates. Israel also fasted on the 4th and 10th months. Refer to Jer 52:6 and Jer 52:4. Note that the fast of the 4th month is to remember that the wall of Jerusalem was broken in the midst of a dire famine, the result of the siege of Jerusalem in the 10th month of the previous year.
   But the message from God in 8:19 was to remember henceforth that the fast of these months as *"joyful and glad occasions and happy festivals for Judah"* .
   What do you think is the reason for this strange change of tone in remembering these tragic events of the past?

6. Return to Zech 8:23 and take note of the amazing number of people coming to the Lord. The World Christian Encyclopedia says that there are 13,511 languages in the world. There are an estimated 100,00 Messianic Jews worldwide today. If ten from every language were to take hold of one Jew, what is the total number of people coming to seek the Lord?

   10 x 13,511 x 100,0000 = _____

This is a ridiculously big number! Of course, this is not meant to be taken literally, because it is physically impossible for ten from every language to take hold of one Jew by the hem of his robe. But the idea is that the multitude coming to God with the Jews will be an astounding number. More significant, it will be a fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham… *"in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed" Gen 12:3b.*

**APPLYING**

Zech 8 is a chapter full of hope. In Zech 7:5, God questioned the motive for their fasting but in Zech 8:19, the expression of the fast will henceforth change radically. As you may have discovered in Question 5, the tragic events from 70 years ago will no longer be remembered with hopelessness. God is restoring Jerusalem gloriously. He has turned their mourning into dancing, their sorrow into joy. God has saved them.

7. You may have experienced bad times in the past but you can now remember them without the pain. Why?

8. If God's vision in v 20-23 is being fulfilled, what is the role of Christians and the church in contributing towards it?

We pray in the Lord's Prayer, "Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" The church that prays this earnestly can not but be involved in mission and be praying for the salvation of the Jews through Christ Jesus.

**LOOKING FORWARD**

Zech 9-14 is a new section in the book of Zechariah. It is quite different from Zech 1-8. We will observe some amazing prophecies of the Messiah who was to come.