

Join us in being on mission with God!

**OUR VISION**

To continually mature and grow as a united body of Jesus-imitators who live out God's greatest commandment to "Love" by exalting God and serving one another, and His greatest commission to "Go" by reaching into and shaping our local, regional, and global communities.

## "The Last Earthly Kingdom"

**A promise of victory for those who trust God**

*Zechariah Chapter 14*

### Getting Started

*After an introductory time, discuss the following questions in your group or class.*

Jews have suffered at the hands of many people. Israel was destroyed by the Assyrians and the Babylonians. Hitler tried to eradicate Jews from Europe. Today many Arab leaders openly call for the extermination of the Jews.

But God will always prove faithful to those who are his (whether they are Jews or Gentiles). There is one final rescue of a restored Jewish nation that will occur at the end of human history. It demonstrates that God will keep his promises to his children. He does not always deliver us *from* trouble, but he can deliver us *out of* any trouble.

### Looking at God's Last Stand

1. Before God delivers Israel in the last days, he will allow his people to suffer because of their sins. How will Jerusalem suffer according to verses 1-3?

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2. How does God use the consequences that come with indifference to him or neglect of him to teach his children painful lessons?

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3. In verses 3-5 God provides a way out for the inhabitants of Jerusalem who survive the destruction by other nations. What will God do for them?

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4. Once the city is emptied of God's people in verse 5, what will God do next? (See the last half of verse 5.)

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(6) Leaders as a firepot = \_\_\_\_\_

God delivered his people through the Red Sea with a flood. Here he uses another natural means.

4. How will the forces of the cosmos change in those days? (See verses 6-7.)

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5. Jerusalem is normally a city where people have to dig wells or cisterns to survive. How will it be different when the Lord is there? (See verse 8.)

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### Zechariah 14—Key Verses

<sup>3</sup> Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations, as he fights in the day of battle.

<sup>4</sup> On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south.

<sup>8</sup> On that day living water will flow out from Jerusalem, half to the eastern sea and half to the western sea, in summer and in winter. <sup>9</sup> The LORD will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one LORD, and his name the only name.

<sup>11</sup> It will be inhabited; never again will it be destroyed. Jerusalem will be secure.

<sup>14</sup> Judah too will fight at Jerusalem. The wealth of all the surrounding nations will be collected-- great quantities of gold and silver and clothing. <sup>15</sup> A similar plague will strike the horses and mules, the camels and donkeys, and all the animals in those camps. <sup>16</sup> Then the survivors from all the nations that have attacked Jerusalem will go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, and to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.

<sup>17</sup> If any of the peoples of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, they will have no rain.

<sup>20</sup> On that day HOLY TO THE LORD will be inscribed on the bells of the horses, and the cooking pots in the LORD's house will be like the sacred bowls in front of the altar. <sup>21</sup> Every pot in Jerusalem and Judah will be holy to the LORD Almighty, and all who come to sacrifice will take some of the pots and cook in them. And on that day there will no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD Almighty.

6. How does the rule of God in verse 9 differ from that seen any time before in human history?

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7. In verses 10-11, God makes a promise about the city of Jerusalem. What does God pledge to do?

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8. Verses 12-13 picture God's retribution on the nations that have attacked his people. What will happen to them physically? What will happen to their alliances? What will happen to their animals? (See verse 15.)

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9. Verse 14 describes a transfer of wealth? How is this like Exodus 12:35-36?

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10. Verse 16 describes what many of the defeated foes of Israel will do annually during the reign of the Lord on the earth. What ceremony will they engage in?

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11. Not everyone God spares will comply with the command to join in worship. What will be the consequence for those who refuse to obey? (See verses 17-19.)

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12. How do verses 20-21 picture the zeal for God that will exist in Jerusalem in these days?

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### Getting Personal

1. Sometimes we assume that hardship means God is indifferent to us or powerless to intervene. What does this chapter remind us about God when we experience suffering?

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2. People who arrogantly oppose Christ and his kingdom assume they will prevail with immunity. What are some of the ways God will cause his foes to suffer according to this prophecy?

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3. Verse 9 and following describe what we call the millennial kingdom (1,000 year reign) of Christ on the earth. In what different ways will people respond to God as the king of the world? What do you learn about human nature?

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