



Peace and Justice Reign

March Quarter
Lesson 11

OPENING QUESTIONS

What would you look for if your possessions were devastated in a powerful storm or an unbelievable situation? Do you pray and trust God right away, or do you turn to God later? What are ways God blesses people even when all hope is lost?



- **Zechariah 8:1 Then another message came to me from the LORD of Heaven's Armies:**
- **2 " This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: My love for Mount Zion is passionate and strong; I am consumed with passion for Jerusalem!**
- **3 And now the LORD says: I am returning to Mount Zion, and I will live in Jerusalem. Then Jerusalem will be called the Faithful City; the mountain of the LORD of Heaven's Armies will be called the Holy Mountain.**

Zechariah 8:1-3



- **4 This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: Once again old men and women will walk Jerusalem's streets with their canes and will sit together in the city squares.**
- **5 And the streets of the city will be filled with boys and girls at play.**
- **6 This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: All this may seem impossible to you now, a small remnant of God's people. But is it impossible for me? says the LORD of Heaven's Armies.**

Zechariah 8:4-6



- **7 This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: You can be sure that I will rescue my people from the east and from the west.**
- **8 I will bring them home again to live safely in Jerusalem. They will be my people, and I will be faithful and just toward them as their God.**

Zechariah 8:7-8



- **11 But now I will not treat the remnant of my people as I treated them before, says the LORD of Heaven's Armies.**
- **12 For I am planting seeds of peace and prosperity among you. The grapevines will be heavy with fruit. The earth will produce its crops, and the heavens will release the dew. Once more I will cause the remnant in Judah and Israel to inherit these blessings.**
- **13 Among the other nations, Judah and Israel became symbols of a cursed nation. But no longer! Now I will rescue you and make you both a symbol and a source of blessing. So don't be afraid. Be strong, and get on with rebuilding the Temple!**

Zechariah 8:11-13



- **14 For this is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: I was determined to punish you when your ancestors angered me, and I did not change my mind, says the LORD of Heaven's Armies.**
- **15 But now I am determined to bless Jerusalem and the people of Judah. So don't be afraid.**
- **16 But this is what you must do: Tell the truth to each other. Render verdicts in your courts that are just and that lead to peace.**
- **17 Don't scheme against each other. Stop your love of telling lies that you swear are the truth. I hate all these things, says the LORD."**

Zechariah 8:14-17

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The Lord has previously told the Israelites that His name is Jealousy (Exodus 34:14), which He reaffirms here. Yet, in our culture today, jealousy is usually spoken of as a negative emotion that should be avoided. Is there such a thing as healthy or holy jealousy?



APPLICATION FOR ACTIVATION

God is with us, and He is in control. That is the chill-pill that we all need: to know that God is with us. We are in a covenant with the faithful God who can never break a promise. He will cause the sun to shine on us again and the dew to water our efforts. He will heal us from our sicknesses and save us from the schemes of the enemy. However, He asks us to trust Him with our very lives and obey His every word. How different would our lives be if we trusted Him in everything?

- Take some time, this week, to think and write about an area where you can give God more trust. Share your desire with someone close to you so they can help encourage and remind you.