

Zechariah 9:9-12 –Conqueror a Colt Brings Reason to Rejoice

Calvin, TSK, HebrewLexicon, Handfuls, Gill, Poole, Geneva, JFB, Clarke, Delitzsch, Trapp, Henry, Phillips, INT

Beloved in the Lord: Do you become nervous when the boss comes in the office door? Do your children scramble to do their chores before you get home? Do you take your feet off the gas when you see a police cruiser? You probably said “yes.” But when Christians see the Lord, they don’t panic - they rejoice. They know who he is, they know what he had done, and they know what he will do for them...so they do not fear... Instead, they rejoice! You will hear about this today. But remember the context of God’s assurances: Judah was fearful of the enemies around...fearful that she would never rebuild, so God had to give her reasons to have joy again!

Our headings are:

Christ’s Coming with salvation brings Joy

Christ’s Conquering the nations brings Joy

Christ’s Confirming his promises brings Joy

Our goals are: That having experienced the greatness and goodness of your King, and resting in his promises for the future, you will work under his authority to conquer the world.

Christ’s Coming with Salvation Brings Joy

9 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.

1. God called on his daughter to rejoice and shout. Rejoicing starts in the heart and then comes to the outside with a shout!

2. Why does God refer to his people as his daughter? “Daughter” is an endearing covenant(圣约) term. It is evidence of love. A man would do anything to protect his daughter. You saw what God did to the Syrians, Tyrians, Sidonians, and Philistines for hurting his child. God dearly loved his daughter and would protect her. This daughter is the church, not just Judah.

3. But why would God’s daughter celebrate?

a. Her King was coming. Her Father had given her to the King in marriage! She would be his Bride.

b. Her King was just (公正的). (Or, “His name is Justice.”) He marched to the cross for his people to meet the Father’s full demand!

Jeremiah 23:5 "Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. Isaiah 53:11 He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities.

c. Her just King brought salvation to her - salvation from sin, Satan, death, and hell.

Isaiah 62:11 Indeed the LORD has proclaimed To the end of the world: "Say to the daughter of Zion, Surely your salvation is coming; Behold, His reward is with Him, And His work before Him."

And her King was the only source of salvation, which makes it all the more special.

Jeremiah 3:23 Truly, in vain is salvation hoped for from the hills, And from the multitude of mountains; Truly, in the LORD our God Is the salvation of Israel.

Isaiah 63:5 I looked, but there was no one to help, And I wondered That there was no one to uphold; Therefore My own arm brought salvation for Me; And My own fury, it sustained Me.

Acts 4:12 Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

Think how excited children get when their father brings home a large pizza with good toppings or a box of donuts with sprinkles. But after those pizzas and donuts the memory would be gone. They would need more. But when Christ brings salvation to his people, it is a permanent salvation...and it is this knowledge that brings the greatest joy to your souls! God’s justice is highlighted in his daughter’s salvation.

4. While the daughter’s king would come with justice and salvation, he would be riding on a lowly donkey. This prophecy about Jesus was not new. Jacob prophesied that Judah’s son would be a humble king who would ride a colt and his clothes would be marred with blood!

Genesis 49:11 Binding his donkey to the vine, And his donkey’s colt to the choice vine, He washed his garments in wine, And his clothes in the blood of grapes.

One would have expected the King to come in a chariot, but not so with Jesus. He had to be humiliated (被羞辱) and poor for your sakes. He did this to make you rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your

sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

And this was clearly fulfilled.

Matthew 21:4 All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was **spoken by the prophet**, saying: 5 "Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, **Lowly, and sitting on a donkey**, A colt, the foal(小驹) of a donkey.'"

5. Lessons:

a. Rejoice because salvation has come. Shout praise to God!

Matthew 21:9 Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "**Hosanna to the Son of David!** 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' Hosanna in the highest!"

b. The world looks for salvation in the glamorous (独特的, 迷人的): glamorous religions, glamorous faces, glamorous science-but Jesus, was not glamorous. He did not go into Jerusalem on a chariot but **died on the rugged cross**, but he was **the only means of salvation**. So don't be fooled by the shiny church, by slick worship, or sly preachers! The stone the builders has become the cornerstone...Psalm 118.

Psalms 118:24 This is the day the LORD has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.

c. Make the introductions of the world to the Lord. Lead them to the Bridegroom. Make them rejoice as well.

Christ's Conquering the Nations Brings Joy

10 I will **cut off the chariot from Ephraim And the horse from Jerusalem**; The **battle bow shall be cut off**. He shall **speak peace to the nations**; His **dominion (主权, 治理) shall be 'from sea to sea, And from the River to the ends of the earth.'**

1. The daughter's Bridegroom—the King – will conquer the enemies. (Ephraim (another name for Israel) represented the northern 10 ½ tribes. Jerusalem represented the 1 ½ tribes in the south. So this refers to the whole church.

Isaiah 11:13 Also the envy of Ephraim shall depart, **And the adversaries(敌人, 对头) of Judah shall be cut off**; Ephraim shall not envy Judah, And Judah shall not harass Ephraim.

Micah 5:10 "And it shall be in that day," says the LORD, "That I will **cut off your horses** from your midst And **destroy your chariots**."

Those who trusted in chariots, horses, and bows would be disappointed. (Samaritans and Edomites)

Psalms 46:9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; **He breaks the bow** and **cuts the spear** in two; He **burns the chariot in the fire**.

2. The daughter's Bridegroom will speak peace to the nations; this is how the nations will be conquered. (Debbir shalom – words of peace) This was fulfilled in Jesus. (Future tense.) After Jesus went as the sacrificial lamb to the cross he then **started conquering**...through his church.

Ephesians 2:17 And He **came and preached peace to you who were afar off** and to **those who were near**.

3. The daughter's Bridegroom will have dominion from "sea to sea" through words of peace—the ministry of reconciliation 和好.

Psalms 72:8 He shall have **dominion also from sea to sea**, And from the River to the ends of the earth.

Palm branches will be waved in earnest when this work of conquering the nations is completed. You only saw at token when Jesus entered Jerusalem to be crucified.

Revelation 7:9 After these things I looked, and behold, **a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues**, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

4. Lessons:

a. Don't force or manipulate (操纵) people into believing in Jesus. There is no compulsion (强迫) to believing in Christ. You are never to use the sword as other religions have done. The Holy Spirit simply works in the hearts of the people when the Gospel is preached.

b. Expect the spread of the Gospel throughout the earth. Don't be intimidated (被威胁) by the enemy by how big he is. Don't be complacent (自满的) as the church is right now. Work in faith, not in fear or with carelessness!

c. Invest your time, talent, and tithes into the spread of the Gospel! It is your best investment!

Christ's Confirming of his promise brings joy

11 "As for **you also**, Because of **the blood of your covenant**, I will **set your prisoners free** from the waterless pit.

1. How did this bride get into a relationship with God the Father and then get adopted as his daughter? A blood covenant!

2. Jesus, the ordinary looking King did an extraordinary thing. He shed his blood for those who were trapped in sin, freed them, and brought them into a covenant relationship with him. (The Samaritans and Edomites were lost!)

a. This redemption was pictured in Egypt when the Jews were freed from death and slavery on account of the

Passover (逾越节) blood (which pictured Christ's blood) and was painted on their doorposts and sprinkled on them for their protection. (They were baptized. 受洗)

Exodus 24:8 And Moses took the blood, **sprinkled it on the people**, and said, "This is the blood of the covenant which the LORD has made with you according to all these words."

b. This work of Christ – that he would be the covenant sacrifice – was prophesied by Daniel.

Daniel 9:27 Then **he shall confirm a covenant** with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall **bring an end to sacrifice and offering**...

c. That full covenant sacrifice was confirmed after it happened.

Hebrews 9:14 how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit **offered Himself without spot to God**, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? **15** And for this reason He is the **Mediator of the new covenant** (新约的中保), by **means of death**, for the redemption (赎买) of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance (产业). **16** For where there is a testament (遗命, 约), there must also of necessity be the death of the testator (留遗命的人, 立约之人).

Hebrews 13:20 Now may the **God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead**, that great **Shepherd of the sheep**, through the **blood of the everlasting covenant**,

3. Yes, there was freedom from Babylonian and Grecian captivity被掳, but there was a **much greater freedom**. There was a **rescue from spiritual captivity** - rescue from a waterless pit. What is a pit without water? A "pit without water" was a dungeon (地牢) ...the grave, another name for hell - Tartarus (地狱). The bride was rescued from hell!

Isaiah 51:14 The captive exile hastens, that he may be loosed, That **he should not die in the pit...** The one who is raised from the dungeon **would love the Light**...the Light of the World...and embrace him forever.

Isaiah 60:1 Arise, shine; **For your light has come!** And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. **But Jesus had to be raised from his dungeon first** – so you could be raised. And instead of being prisoners in hell, God's church would be prisoners of hope! This was like the engagement ring...the promise of salvation and spread of the kingdom.

4. Lessons:

a. You have been sprinkled with water of the covenant (blood is no longer necessary) and have become part of the bride. (Jesus' blood completed the symbols of the Old Testament!) If you are a believer but have not been baptized, you ought to be...this is what joins you to the bride. Being part of the bride of Christ is the ultimate joy!

b. The basis of your hope (salvation) is the resurrection (复活) of Jesus. Those who promote Jesus as merely a moral example to follow deny the whole purpose of the Scriptures and will die in their sins – and cause others to die in their sins.

There is no salvation in following a Judeo-Christian ethic (道德体系, 伦理)! It doesn't matter what Gretta Vosper says!

c. Shouldn't you want to scream out to those in darkness that there is a Light up above?

Conclusion:

The church must rejoice in her salvation. Yes, Jesus was an ordinary looking king who came Jerusalem on a donkey, but he did an extraordinary thing. He **fulfilled the demands of God's justice (kept the covenant)**, and now **conquers the enemies by his powerful word, making them part of his bride.**

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ:

1. As the bride of Christ, are you wielding the Sword of the Spirit – the Word of God – to capture the hearts of men, women, boys, and girls everywhere? Are you shouting this message loudly and clearly?

2. If sometimes you become lazy and complacent, or if you start to hoard (积攒) your time for yourself,

ask God to help you to look back to the cross and see what the Lord did for you. When you remember the sweetness and joy of your salvation, you will be motivated to **work harder for your Lord and for the lost.**

Finally: If you are not a Christian, either of 2 things will happen: You will get salvation in Jesus or you will get condemnation定罪 in Jesus. If you want condemnation, do nothing. Live however you want. You will go to hell. But if you want salvation, ask God to save you because Jesus Christ earned salvation for sinners.