The Promise of a Humble Saviour December 13, 2020

*Zechariah 9:9-10 Series: Christmas Promises*

We were grateful to those who filled our stockings at Christmas time. Why are we not grateful to God for filling our stockings with legs? – G.K. Chesterton

Intro: “Atheists Don’t Have No Songs”

1. Rejoice because a righteous King is coming.
2. “Rejoice” is a command for believers.

v. 9 *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!*

1. They didn’t think they had much to rejoice about.

Ezra 3:12 *But many of the priests and Levites and heads of fathers’ houses, old men who had seen the first house, wept with a loud voice when they saw the foundation of this house being laid, though many shouted aloud for joy …*

Zechariah 10:2 *For the household gods utter nonsense, and the diviners see lies; they tell false dreams and give empty consolation. Therefore the people wander like sheep; they are afflicted for lack of a shepherd.*

1. A righteous King is coming after a lot of unrighteous ones.

v. 9 *Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous …*

* The Bible commands believers to rejoice 163 times in Scripture. How can you rejoice when life is hard? What helps you rejoice?
* What are some sinful alternatives to rejoicing?
* What is there to rejoice about a righteous Ruler today? i.e. Why should this promise of Jesus’ righteous kingship make us glad?
1. Rejoice because the King will survive the revolt.
2. Why does the King have to be saved before he saves?

v. 9 *having salvation is he*

1. Why is the King humble and not triumphant?

v. 9 *humble*

Zechariah 7:10 *do not oppress the widow, the fatherless, the sojourner, or the poor*

Isaiah 53:7 *He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.*

1. Why is the King riding on a baby donkey?

v. 9 *mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey*

2 Samuel 16:2 *And the king said to Ziba, “Why have you brought these?” Ziba answered, “The donkeys are for the king's household to ride on …”*

Zechariah 12:10 *… when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.*

1. Jesus is the humble King who rides a borrowed baby donkey.

Matthew 21:4-5 *This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, “Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”*

* What did Zechariah mean by describing the King as humble?
* Why might it be troubling to hear that your King would come riding into town on a baby donkey?
* Why might Matthew (21:4-5) and John (12:14-15) not have mentioned *“having salvation”* from Zech. 9:9 or any of v. 10?
1. Rejoice because the King will bring peace to the world.
2. Hope for a people tired of chariots and horses.

v. 10 *I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem …*

v. 10 *the battle bow shall be cut off*

1. The King will announce peace to the nations not revenge.

v. 10 *he shall speak peace to the nations*

Romans 5:1 *Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

John 16:33 *I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”*

Ephesians 2:14 *For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility …*

1. The King will rule without rivals.

v. 10 *… his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.*

* Why would this promise of peace have been so precious to the people in Zechariah’s day?
* What does it mean to have “peace with God” in Romans 5:1?
* What does it mean to have “peace in [Jesus]” in John 16:33?
* How does Jesus make peace between believers (Eph. 2:14)?
* How can you experience peace when you’re feeling anxious?

Study ahead: Next week, we’ll study Micah 5:1-5.

Notes