

- III. Conclusion: In these highly symbolic passages the prophet has shown God's people that this is not a game. Truth, integrity, and energy are all required and if we are involved in the worldly displays we may miss the opportunity of serving. The imagery depicts God removing what is pagan and counter productive to His work...but it will be up to the people to see this is done practically and the unnecessary stuff is taken away.

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MESSAGE # 7: THE CHARACTER OF DIVINE DELIVERANCE

Biblical Passages: Zechariah 9

I. Synopsis of the Message

We will come back to chapters 7-8 but will note that the book of Zechariah is divided into three essential parts 1-6, 7-8, 9-13. The first of these concentrates on the temple building, the second on the immediate historical problems, while the third looks to the future. Israel must know the first part well and must believe the third part in order to keep up the impulse for the work in the time of the second part. So I am plunging into the future with the prophet and understand that this material also is given to encourage holiness and commitment to the present task.

We have already seen something of the power and gracious background for the fulfilling of the Lord's work. It is notable in this book that the work to be done would have a great future and would supply blessings to many people. But it could only be done in trust and one aspect of that trust was God's own delivering power. Chapter 9 gives a brilliant example of this---and invites trust in the Divine program that will make the work increasingly solid and answer the big question... "What if..."

II. Outline Points:

- A. Deliverance is by a Person (9:9, 17) The actual hope of Israel was not in themselves or their attainments or in the ability for their monarchy to promulgate itself...but in a Person who would come: The Messiah in the Messianic context of 9:9