

MESSAGE # 12: CENTER ALL OF LIFE ON THE WILL OF GOD

Biblical Passages: Zechariah 7-8

I. Synopsis of Message:

In these chapters we become aware of some things that threatened the success of the work given by God through the prophets. There were religious questions involving the new and old generations and there were protocol questions calling in doubt the necessity of the whole work. *These were disturbing items and could have set the people into two opposing camps---something that often happens even today---but God spoke to the people through the prophets and, on this occasion at least, they were willing to listen. What He said was simply this: "My will is the important thing...your preferences and ideas are much less important. Center yourselves on my will and the work will be done and the honor of the Lord established."*

II. Outline Points of the Message

A. Hear His Word (7:7 et al)

B. Apply it in fact (7:16-18)

C. Enjoy the Promises of the Kingdom (8)

III. Conclusion: This is an enormously realistic section of the Word for our day because it reminds us to stick to the revealed will of God and not be carried away with our own notions. Don't divide the assembly over the kind of hymns and choruses that will be used or whether the Sunday School should begin at 9 or 10 o'clock. Don't allow ideas and traditions (new and old things) to become the focus of our work. Keep the Word of God central and the revealed things that are His will in a proper place and build from there. The temple will never be built, in a figure, if we all have to agree on the color of the carpet in the walkway. *And while I rhapsodizing on this...it is a very important concept and the failure to observe it has caused more divisions, more grief, more ill will, than almost all of the other attacks of the enemy put together.*

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