

## ZECHARIAH

### Message # 3 Chapters 7-12

The "Industry" Challenges: Get to Work now for today and tomorrow!

#### I. Introduction

The Judaic remnant is reminded that when it has the majority of things in its favor it is not a time of ease but a time for a determined attempt to honor the call of God. The Lord is the Master and He has brought about the situation and He has given His people a challenge to renew its spiritual status in building His house and implementing His teaching. They have, however, been slow about getting on with it. and this is part of the relevance of this message: the people who have been favored of the Lord should be diligent and active at His direction.

The prophetic visions of chapters 1-6 have demonstrated both God's care and desire for His people. Nothing has been overlooked but the response has been slow...need I say it again.

#### II. An emergent problem and the resolution: chapters 7-8

- A. The hold of tradition, 7:1-14, a developed "fast" in the pattern of Levitical ideas ---not Levitical commands,
  - 1. The question: Should we? or....
  - 2. The answer...notice the ." fast" discussion in 7:5. The worship and will of God is the key in all aspects of life. The thrust is that one should be active in the will of God, not a servant to "tradition".
  
- B. The Burdens (I will try to define this more specifically in this context: The term is set as a text divider at this point and it is drawn from the verb meaning to "lift up" It is not so much a weight but more like a sign or a placard announcing an event. It does not increase our labor but does call for attention.) Zechariah 9-11
  - 1. The burden of the Oppressor 9-11
    - a. Enemies without 9:1-8
    - b. Divine Defense: 9:9-10:12
    - c. Enemies within 11:1-17 (poor shepherds, etc)