

Zechariah 11

Zechariah 11.1-3

Bad news about the destruction of Jerusalem at some point in the future

-**Why?** Because they would reject the Messiah when He came

V1 – What would happen to the cedars of Lebanon? They would be burned with fire

V2 – What other kinds of trees would be destroyed? Cypress and oaks

V3 –A prophecy about the fall of Jerusalem to the Romans in 70 A.D.

-**Which people were crying?** The shepherds

Zechariah 11.4-14 (Not an easy passage to understand)

V4 – To whom was God speaking? Zechariah

-**What did he tell Zechariah to do?** Play the role of a shepherd over the flock of God

V5 – What had the leaders of the people been doing? They did not have any real concern for the people of Israel

-No pity; they were buying and selling the people

V6 – What would God cause to happen? The leaders would be destroyed (God would not save them)

V7 – What kind of sheep did Zechariah become shepherd over? Sheep destined to be slaughtered

-**How many staffs did he have as a shepherd?** Two names: Favor (Grace) and Union – two characteristics that God's people said he had

V8 – Zechariah killed three bad shepherds in one month (evil shepherds over God's people)

V9 – Zechariah's attitude? He didn't want to be the shepherd anymore, because he was not appreciated

V10 – What else did Zechariah do? Cut up the staff called "favor" or "grace"; therefore, God's covenant with the Israelites would come to an end

V11 – People were watching Zechariah as he served as a shepherd

-**What did they realize?** That he was bringing them a message from God

V12 – Zechariah didn't especially want to be paid for serving as a shepherd

-**How much did they pay Zechariah?** Thirty pieces of silver (*Exodus 21.32*, the price of an injured slave)

-A Messianic application; price of the betrayal of Jesus by Judas

V13 – What did God tell Zechariah to do with the money? Throw all at the potter in the house of the Lord (temple)

-Magnificent “price” – This is satire

-It shows how little the people respected Zechariah and the Lord

-**Where did Judas throw the money from the betrayal?** *Matthew 27.10*: In the temple in Jerusalem

-So we know that Zechariah is talking about the Messiah and the reaction the people would have toward him

V 14 – **What else did Zechariah do?** Cut up the staff that said “Union”; in other words, there would be no more union among the Jews

Zechariah 11.15-17

V 15 – **What did God tell Zechariah to do?** Get the equipment of a foolish shepherd

V 16 –The foolish shepherd (the Roman Empire) appears to God

-*V 16* seems to be a good description of the Roman Empire

V 17 –Punishment would come upon the Romans, because of their treatment of the people of God

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