

Zechariah: Jerusalem, the Jews, and World Peace

↪ **Zechariah 1:7-17**; Zechariah has in one night, 8 visions (some see it as 10); this is the first of them. This vision is the chief one not only in the sense that it is first, but also in that the rest of the visions are just further explanations of this first one.

☑ **There are several items we have to be clear on to understand this vision and the rest of the visions of Zechariah.**

1. We have to understand Jerusalem. This city is a conundrum. It shouldn't have held the prominence it has held throughout the centuries unless there is a God, and the Bible is true. It isn't and has never been on a thoroughfare as many of the great cities of history have been. It's not on a river or even a body of water. It has no natural resources. Historically it's always been quite small. Its name means peace and yet it has rarely known peace. It is being set as the fulcrum for all the end time events, **Zechariah 12:3**. It is God's Hometown and city of the Great King, and the world will be ruled from there, **Ezekiel 5:5; Psalms 133:13-14**.

2. We have to understand the Jews. God has chosen the Jews to be His people. He had to have a people, for what reason?

- 1) To declare the truth about who God really is, **Deuteronomy 6:4, Isaiah 43:21**.
- 2) To bring His Savior into the world, **Genesis 12:3; John 4:22**.
- 3) To be priests among men, **Exodus 19:5-6**.
- 4) To transmit and preserve the Scriptures, **Romans 3:1**.
- 5) To show His character.

3. This angelic recon has brought back the news that the world is at peace and at rest.

- ✓ World Peace? There can't be peace when people are in rebellion against God, **Psalms 122:6-8. Zechariah 1:15** "I'm very displeased with the nations that are at peace." It was the peace of indifference, of rebellion, and of smugness. There is a coming world ruler who will usher in a time of peace unlike the world has seen, but it won't be Christ, but Antichrist whose false peace will turn into global war and destruction.

Peace we have today isn't the right kind of peace: Peace of injustice, inhumanity, and indifference. The one seated on the horse is the Son of God; He has another title, Prince of Peace.
