

Digging Deeper

Zechariah

1 Plan, 8 Visions, 2 Oracles

Finding Hope & Direction in a Broken World

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Today's Lesson Plan

1. Introduction
2. 7:8-14 Willful Ignorance
3. C8 Restoration to Favor with God and the Gentile Nations

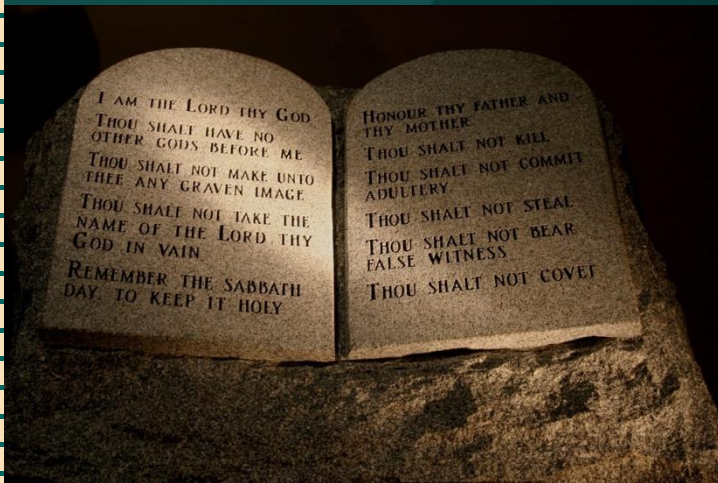
Introduction

- 1. What was the answer to the rhetorical question that was asked in C7:5+6?*
 - 2. What does that answer have to do with the question on the board?*
 - 3. What is the key ingredient that makes the difference?*
1. They were doing it for themselves, to feel better about themselves. They were not doing it to honor and glorify God.
 2. The previous answer illustrates the difference between worshiping God and meaningless ritualism; practicing a rote, dead liturgy by just going through the motions.
 3. A heart engaged in relationship.

Chapter 7:8-14

Willful Ignorance

The Command to Obey C7:9+10



How many commands were there?

1. *Dispense true justice* = do what is right, make fair decisions
2. *Practice kindness* = show faithful and tender love
3. *Practice compassion* = being good and merciful
4. *Do not oppress* = violate, defraud, or extort
Stranger = foreigners
Poor = weak, wretched, afflicted
5. *Do not devise* = think, plan, calculate, imagine, consider

The Command to Repent C7:10



Do they all apply to us?

6. *evil* = giving pain, distress, injury, unhappiness, misery

In your hearts = inner man, mind, will, understanding = plotting, planning, intent, forethought

Why the reminders?

Because they were repeating the same mistakes of their fathers.

How do they/we avoid repeating sins of their/our fathers?

By choosing to obey!

Willful Ignorance C7:11-14



How many ways was their choice displayed? V11+12

1. *“They refused...”*
2. *“They turned...”*
3. *“They stopped...”*
4. *“They made...”*

They willfully chose to ignore the instructions they were given by God through the Law and the Prophets.

*And God chose to respond how?
V12-14:*

1. Great wrath.
2. Refusing to listen to their cries.
3. Scattering them.
4. Desolating the land.

5 Critical Items:

- Our Hope is in the promises that blessings will follow obedience.
 - Our Direction is to obey His commands.
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- God's Power is revealed by His ability to consistently apply discipline whenever needed.

5 Critical Items

- God's Character is shown in His intolerance of evil.
 - The Relationship Cycle is Retribution.
-

Chapter 8

Restoration to Favor with God and the Gentile Nations

Restoration to Favor with God C8:1-8



Quiz Time! V1-8

Whose “will” will it take?

1. Who was jealous?
2. Who was doing something about being jealous?
3. Whose will was being applied?
4. Whose will could produce the desired results?
5. What were the results from the application of that will?
6. When will these results be achieved?

Restoration to Favor with God C8:9-13



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Quiz Time #2! V9-13

What was the source of their encouragement?

1. Who was to receive this encouragement?
2. Why did they need encouragement?
3. What was the basis for their receiving the encouragement?
4. What blessings were they to receive that would be encouraging?
5. When would these blessings be experienced?

Would God's promises revealed by the visions and reinforced by these messages be sufficient encouragement for them/us to obey God's instructions?

Restoration to Favor with God C8:14-17



God and man doing
good...

V14 Was God doing good?

V15 Will God be doing good?

“...again purposed... to do good”

What good? When?

V16+17 *Where have we seen these
before?*

Cf. C7:9+10 *Are they the same?*

One addition: Perjury

*Can we find other lists of what God
hates?*

*“Be doers of the word not
hearers only” James 1:22*

Restoration to Favor with the Gentile Nations C8:18-23

Quiz Time #3 V18-23

1. *What are the emotional components we find in these verses?*
2. *What response is being prompted?*
3. *Who are the ones emoting?*
4. *Why are they emoting?*
5. *Why are they entreating?*
6. *When will this happen?*

A Glimpse into the future...

Isaiah 2:2+3

2Now it will come about that

In the last days

The mountain of the house of the
LORD

Will be established as the chief of
the mountains,

And will be raised above the hills;

And all the nations will stream to it.

3And many peoples will come
and say,

“Come, let's go up to the
mountain of the LORD,

To the house of the God of Jacob;
So that He may teach us about His
ways,

And that we may walk in His
paths.”

For the law will go out from Zion
And the word of the LORD from
Jerusalem.

5 Critical Items

- Our Hope is in God being a doer of good, being a good and loving God.
 - Our Direction is to love what God loves and hate what God hates.
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- God's Power is revealed by His moving nations and the hearts of people.

5 Critical Items

- God's Character is shown in the fullness of His range of emotions; from wrathful anger to joyous delight.

- The Relationship Cycle is revealed in its fullness; all four stages, from Rebellion to Retribution to Repentance to Restoration.

Homework:

1. *Review your Class Notes,*
2. *Come prepared for next week's lesson,*
3. *Work on the Character of God Word Search,*
4. *Pray for your teachers, yourself, and your fellow students*

Thank You!

Hope to see you next week

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