

## Pierced By Friends

Zechariah 12:10

3/ 21/ 04

### Intro

At the time that Zechariah was writing this prophecy, Israel was discouraged by the mountain of obstacles they found in their way.

They had been sent back to Jerusalem with the purpose of God to rebuild the temple. They started well, and even laid the foundation, but when troubles came they lost their faith and the work was stopped.

The Lord is strengthening their faith here by giving them prophetic words of encouragement.

The verses we are studying this week speak of when Israel will find faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. They do not see Him as Lord and Savior today, but they will see him and they will believe.

### **These, then, are truths which God would apply in our lives as well as to Israel.**

#### **I. The Spirit of Grace Will Be Poured Out**

##### A. God pours out His Spirit

- Revival does not come from man, but from God.
- We do not save ourselves, nor can we revive ourselves. He pours out His Spirit.

**Joel 2:28-29, “It will come about after this that I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; and your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on the male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.”**

- With the Holy Spirit comes the love of God

**Romans 5:5, “the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”**

##### B. He is the Spirit of Grace

- When the Holy Spirit is poured out, it is He who works grace in our hearts.
- He is referring to pouring out grace within those who had rejected Him, who were mocking and spitting at him.
- The Holy Spirit brings a profound change within us so that there is a desire to live as he desires.

**Illus – When I was flying from Kinshasa to Brussels and there was a rude man in the same row.**

**Matthew 12:34, “For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart.”**

### C. And the Spirit of Supplication

- It is the Spirit of God within us that moves on our hearts, drawing us nearer to the Lord.
- The Holy Spirit moves on our hearts in prayer and even prays on our behalf...

**Romans 8:26-27, “In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.”**

## **II. The Spirit Opens Our Eyes**

### A. In selfishness there is also blindness

- The more people are involved with the world, the more blind they become.
- People like this cannot see how much they are hurting themselves or those who are closest to them – they are truly blind.

**Matthew 23:24-26, “You blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel! Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence. You blind Pharisees,**

**first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also.”**

- The Jews could not see that the One they were piercing was the same One who would save them.

**Illus – Vs 8-9, at the Battle or Armageddon, God will save the nation, and then he will save their soul.**

### B. With sight often comes sorrow

- When people’s eyes become opened, they often see the reality of what their sin has done.
- That is what the scriptures call, “godly sorrow.”

**2 Corinthians 7:10, “For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.”**

- When the Apostle Peter was giving that powerful speech to the Jews after Jesus’ resurrection, they were cut to the heart...

**Acts 2:23, 36-37 – Pierced in the heart.**

- **There will come a day when their eyes are opened and they “look on Me whom they have pierced” and will weep deeply.**

**Revelation 1:7, “BEHOLD, HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen.”**

C. But there is also joy

- Yes, they will grieve deeply, but He will then turn their mourning into dancing, their sorrow into joy... **When they realize how much they are loved by the Lord.**

**Isaiah 61:3, “To grant those who mourn in Zion, giving them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting. So they will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.”**

- **He loves them so much He even calls them friend.**
- **13:6 – “I was wounded in the house of *My friends.*”**

**Illus – Even as Judas was betraying Jesus he called him “friend.”**

### **III. And a Fountain Will Be Opened**

A. There is a fountain filled with blood

- Drawn from Immanuel’s veins, and sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.
- **By this fountain, sin and impurity will be removed.**
- **This also helps us see the importance of the two sacraments the Lord commanded us to keep – communion and baptism.**

**Illus – When they pierced Him, water and blood came rushing out of His body.**

**John 19: 31- 37 – Jesus on the cross**

B. So we might have a relationship with God

- It’s not only cleansing us from sin, but also a relationship with God Himself He desires.
- **God resists our pride, but blesses our desire for relationship.**

**Haggai 2:15-19 – from that day on, I will bless you.**

Conclusion

**When we consider Jesus on the cross, there is a mourning, but there is also the joy of our salvation.**