

SALEM HEIGHTS

THRIVING

IN THE WORD . IN PRAYER . IN FELLOWSHIP

HOPE IS THE EAGER ANTICIPATION AND CONFIDENT EXPECTATION
OF A FUTURE GUARANTEED BY GOD.

There is a day mentioned repeatedly in the Bible that we should be anticipating with eagerness. It is called “the day of the Lord.” It is a major theme of this chapter (14:1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 20, & 21). The day of the Lord is not a 24-hour day, but that future period of time when the Lord will bring judgment to the wicked and salvation to His faithful. The New Testament makes clear that the hallmark of this day will be the second coming of Jesus Christ to earth. He will destroy the nations that are on the verge of destroying Israel, and establish His millennial reign over all the earth from Jerusalem. Remember, the mount of olives was the place that Jesus stood on this earth. He went out with his disciples on the Mount of Olives and as they watched him, he was taken up out of their sight into the heavens. An angel standing there said to them, “This Jesus who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:11). Geologists have long known that one of the greatest faults in the earth's surface runs right through the Mount of Olives. The mountain shall be split in half, and then . . . when Israel has seen its Messiah and mourned for the one whom it pierced, and have recognized with great mourning that it had turned its back upon the one sent of God. We then read (Zechariah 14:8-9 CSB) “On that day, living water will flow out from Jerusalem, half of it toward the eastern sea and the other half toward the western sea, in summer and winter alike. On that day the LORD will become King over the whole earth — the LORD alone, and his name alone.”

— Pastor Justin

Modified from sermons by Stephen Cole and Ray Stedman.

Zechariah 12:10, 14:1-21

¹⁰“And I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and of pleading, so that they will look at Me whom they pierced; and they will mourn for Him, like one mourning for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn.

God Will Battle Jerusalem’s Enemies

14 Behold, a day is coming for the LORD when the spoils *taken from* you will be divided among you. ²For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city will be taken, the houses plundered, the women raped, and half of the city exiled, but the rest of the people will not be eliminated from the city. ³Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle. ⁴On that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west *forming* a very large valley. Half of the mountain will move toward the north, and the other half toward the south. ⁵And you will flee by the valley of My mountains, for the valley of

the mountains will reach to Azel; yes, you will flee just as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD, my God, will come, *and* all the holy ones with Him! ⁶ On that day there will be no light; the luminaries will die out. ⁷ For it will be a unique day which is known to the LORD, neither day nor night, but it will come about that at the time of evening there will be light. ⁸ And on that day living waters will flow out of Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and the other half toward the western sea; it will be in summer as well as in winter.

God Will Be King over All

⁹ And the LORD will be King over all the earth; on that day the LORD will be *the only* one, and His name *the only* one. ¹⁰ All the land will change into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem; but Jerusalem will rise and remain on its site from Benjamin's Gate as far as the place of the First Gate to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king's wine presses. ¹¹ *People* will live in it, and there will no longer be a curse, for Jerusalem will live in security. ¹² Now this will be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the peoples who have gone to war against Jerusalem; their flesh will rot while they stand on their feet, and their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongue will rot in their mouth. ¹³ And it will come about on that day that a great panic from the LORD will fall on them; and they will seize one another's hand, and the hand of one will be raised against the hand of another. ¹⁴ Judah also will fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the surrounding nations will be gathered, gold, silver, and garments in great abundance. ¹⁵ And just like this plague, there will be a plague on the horse, the mule, the camel, the donkey, and all the cattle that will be in those camps. ¹⁶ Then it will come about that any who are left of all the nations that came against Jerusalem will go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of armies, and to celebrate the Feast of Booths. ¹⁷ And it will be that whichever of the families of the earth does not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of armies, there will be no rain on them. ¹⁸ And if the family of Egypt does not go up or enter, then no *rain will fall* on them; it will be the plague with which the LORD strikes the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Booths. ¹⁹ This will be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Booths. ²⁰ On that day there will be *inscribed* on the bells of the horses, "HOLY TO THE LORD." And the cooking pots in the LORD's house will be like the bowls before the altar. ²¹ Every cooking pot in Jerusalem and in Judah will be holy to the LORD of armies; and all who sacrifice will come and take of them and boil in them. And there will no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD of armies on that day.

1. What do you see about hope in this passage?

2. What does it teach us about God?

3. What does it teach us about man?

4. What should we do in light of this passage?