

Text: Zechariah 5:5-11

Title: Garbage Day.

Thesis: Zechariah foresees a day in which all iniquity and wickedness will be removed from the people of God that they may enjoy His blessed presence.

- I. Zechariah's Seventh Vision
 - A. The ephah = "their eye" or "their iniquity" in all the land.
 - B. The woman sitting inside the ephah = wickedness.
 - C. 2 women with the wings of storks = God's sovereign removal of wickedness from His people.
 - D. House and pedestal in Shinar = wickedness being removed from the people of God is set up in the unbelieving world as an object of worship.
 - E. Zechariah is seeing Israel's moral garbage day.
 1. The Law of God and its curse, seen in the last vision, have identified the garbage and now it is being collected in a receptacle to be removed from the people of God.
 2. The moral garbage must be removed if the Holy God is to dwell in the midst of His people.
 - F. Zechariah foresees a day in which all iniquity and wickedness will be removed from the people of God that they may enjoy His blessed presence.
- II. The fulfillment of the vision.
 - A. This day began at the first coming of Christ.
 1. Christ bore the sins of His people on the cross.
 2. Those who are in Christ by faith are in principle holy.
 - B. This day continues in the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the Church.
 1. The Holy Spirit is sanctifying the church through the removal of wickedness in our lives and in our midst.
 2. Those who are in Christ are being sanctified daily.
 3. Those who are not in Christ are being removed by church discipline to be part of a wickedness worshipping world.
 - C. This day concludes at the second coming of Christ.
 1. At Christ's return the church and each individual Christian will be made perfect in holiness.
 2. At Christ's return wicked unbelievers will be banished from the Lord's blessed presence forever.
- III. Applications:
 - A. In order to enjoy the presence and blessing of the Holy God your moral garbage must be removed.
 - B. You cannot remove your moral garbage on your own, but God in His mercy does this for you in the work of His Son and His Spirit. You need only to set out your garbage through confession of sin and He will remove it. (1JN 1:9)
 - C. Praise the Lord for removing your moral garbage and being cleansed by Him seek to live in holiness.
 - D. Be warned: If you will not be cleansed by the work of Christ and His Spirit you will be removed with the rest of the garbage and be cast out from the presence of the Lord and His people for all eternity.

Conclusion: In Zechariah 5:5-11 the prophet foresees a day in which all iniquity and wickedness will be removed from the people of God that they may enjoy His blessed presence. If your iniquity and wickedness is not removed in Christ then you will be banished from His blessed presence forever.