

**BOOK OF ZECHARIAH**  
**FROM MOURNING TO JOY-PART 1**  
**WHEN THE VIEW OF HISTORY WILL BE REVISED**  
**ZECHARIAH 8:18-23**

**Introduction**

If you will remember, we saw in chapter 7:1-7 how that Zechariah proclaimed to the people the message from the LORD that revealed how that their empty ritualism in their observance of their various fasts was meaningless to God. Also, the LORD pointed out that their sins and transgressions are what had brought about their suffering to begin with!

The LORD also gave them specific warning about certain sins which still seemed to be a problem for them. They needed to repent and return to the LORD if they were going to be partakers of His blessings rather than of His chastisement! (7:8-14)

Then in Chapter 8:1-17, the LORD allowed Zechariah to announce the divine blessing of faithful obedience to be realized (in part) during their lifetime and in full during the future Messianic Age or Millennial Kingdom. In the future Kingdom, God's people will rejoice with great joy and gladness!

So here the LORD reveals through Zechariah a picture of a time of great transformation (the Millennial Age) which comes after a large number of Jews have been brought to faith in the Messiah during the tribulation period through the proclamation of the 144,000 flaming Jewish evangelists (Revelation 7:4,9).

In this message before us in verses 18-23, we'll see the great changes that take place during the Messianic Age—**WHEN THE VIEW OF HISTORY WILL BE REVISED. (18-19)**

Zechariah introduces in **verse 18** another sequence break in the divine messages he received.

**Verse 19** declares that the four yearly fasts that commemorate the people's grievous disasters **would be transformed from days of mourning into days of rejoicing.**

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The preceding instructions for restoration have prepared the way for the Zechariah to address the initial question first presented by this small delegation.

**Zechariah 7:3** states the original question. The delegation mentioned only two of the fasts:

1. **The delegation mentioned the fast of the 5th month.**  
This was considered to be the blackest of all days—the fast commemorated the destruction and burning of both the City and Temple. *[2 Kings 25:8-10; Jeremiah 52:12-14]*
  
2. **The delegation also mentioned the fast of the 7th month.**  
This fast commemorated the assassination of governor Gedaliah. *[2 Kings 25:22-26; Jeremiah 41:1-3]*  
  
We see here in this final answer from the LORD how that THE WHOLE GAMUT OF FASTS are included!  
  
All of these fasts had been self-imposed in order to express the Nation's grief because of the various great calamities!
  
3. **The fast of the 4th month lamented the breaching of the walls and the opening of the city of Jerusalem to Nebuchadnezzar as a result of the severe famines within the walls during Zedekiah's 11th year.** *[2 Kings 25:3-4; Jeremiah 39:2-3; 52:6-7]*
  
4. **The fast of the 10th month mourned the beginning of the siege by Nebuchadnezzar in his ninth year.** *[2 Kings 25:1; Jeremiah 39:1, 52:4,6,7; Ezekiel 24:1-2]*

The LORD was about to transform every aspect of Judah's national existence.