

We will now begin the ninth lecture on Minor Prophets. /Today we will begin with Zechariah chapter 12. /The title is, "Mourning."

/First, all surrounding nations come to invade Jerusalem. /Verses 1-3. /Second, the Lord watches over Judah, and the Lord destroys all the nations. /Verses 4-9. /Third, the people look upon the Lord and mourn. /Verses 10-14.

/Read verse 1. /This is the word of the LORD concerning Israel. The LORD, who stretches out the heavens, who lays the foundation of the earth, and who forms the spirit of man within him, declares:

/This was God's word of warning concerning Israel. /Israel symbolizes the church today. /Hence, this is God's warning for the church. /First, it teaches that God is the Creator God. /God did not only create all of creation, but he also created the spirit of man.

/Verses 2-3. /"I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as well as Jerusalem. On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves.

/The surrounding foreign nations would invade Jerusalem. /People from all directions will invade Jerusalem, thinking that Jerusalem is a weak city. /However, God will make the people drink from the cup that will make them drunk.

/Then Jerusalem will not be devoured by them, but God will protect them so that they are not besieged. /God would protect Jerusalem, and God protects the church today.

/God also said, "I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations." /God would allow Jerusalem to become an immovable rock, and he would judge the foreign nations.

/The people of Judah would become an immovable rock, and they would strike the foreign nations. /God's nation will always have victory, no matter how strong foreign nations may be. /The Lord's church will surely have victory.

/Verses 4-5. /On that day I will strike every horse with panic and its rider with madness," declares the LORD. "I will keep a watchful eye over the house of Judah, but I will blind all the horses of the nations. Then the leaders of Judah will say in their hearts, 'The people of Jerusalem are strong, because the LORD Almighty is their God.'

/When the nations attack Jerusalem, they would come on horses. /Then God will strike the horses of the foreign nations. /Then God would strike the armies of the foreign nations. /In this way, God will punish any worldly nations and authorities that persecute the church.

/The “leaders of Judah” refer to the leaders of the church today. /Hence, God helps the church when the church relies only on God. /We believers can defeat the world of unbelief with God’s power.

/Verse 6. /"On that day I will make the leaders of Judah like a firepot in a woodpile, like a flaming torch among sheaves. They will consume right and left all the surrounding peoples, but Jerusalem will remain intact in her place.

/Here it mentions a woodpile and a flaming torch. /All wood will burn before a flaming torch. /In this way, God would make the people of Judah like a flaming torch.

/Then God would burn the foreign peoples. /Today, God makes the church like a flaming torch and gives them power. /No matter how numerous persecutors may be, God punishes them all.

/Verse 7. /"The LORD will save the dwellings of Judah first, so that the honor of the house of David and of Jerusalem's inhabitants may not be greater than that of Judah.

/God would not allow Jerusalem to boast. /This is because God would first save Judah. /God would save the dwelling of Judah before Jerusalem.

/This shows God’s great grace. /God would also protect the inhabitants of Jerusalem. /This is written about in verse 8.

/Verse 8. /On that day the LORD will shield those who live in Jerusalem, so that the feeblest among them will be like David, and the house of David will be like God, like the Angel of the LORD going before them.

/God would protect the believers. /Here, it says that God would protect the feeble. /God gives grace to the weak. /Then the weak would later become strong and power believers like David. /Today, the believers in the New Testament period become powerful believers through Jesus Christ.

/Verse 10. /"And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.

/Here, the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem refer to believers today. /God would pour out a spirit a grace and supplication to believers. /This means that God would pour out his grace on us through Christ.

/God would answer us when we pray through Christ. /it says, “They will look on me, the one they have pierced.” /It also says, “they will mourn for him.” /This tells us that our Jesus would receive great pain and suffering on the cross. /Jesus received great sufferings

for us.

/Therefore, we must think about the sufferings of Jesus, and we too must mourn. /2
Corinthians 4:10. /We must always remember that Jesus received pain for us.

/Verse 11. /On that day the weeping in Jerusalem will be great, like the weeping of Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo.

/King Josiah died on the plain of Megiddo. /All of Israel wept for King Josiah. /2
Chronicles 35:22-25 /We too must think of and weep for Jesus who received sufferings in our place. /Believers must recognize their sins and weep. /We weep when we think about the sufferings that Jesus received. /Luke 6:21

/Verse 12. /The land will mourn, each clan by itself, with their wives by themselves: the clan of the house of David and their wives, the clan of the house of Nathan and their wives,

/It says, "The land will mourn, each clan by itself." /Here, people will mourn as they look upon Christ, and each clan will mourn on their own. /This means that each person will believe in Jesus Christ, repent, and mourn.

/When leaders first repent, those whom they lead will follow along and repent. /This means that each believer will give thanks for the grace of redemption and be deeply moved. /Each individual will repent of his sins and weep.

/Verse 14. /and all the rest of the clans and their wives.

/In this way, each clan will repent, and they will believe in Jesus and receive salvation.

/We will continue with chapter 13. /The title is, "One-Third." /First, idols and false prophets will be removed from the land. /Verses 1-6. /Second, the sheep will scatter when the shepherd is struck. /Verse 7. /Third, one-third will be refined. /Verses 8-9.

/Read verse 1. /"On that day a fountain will be opened to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and impurity.

/This means that Christ would come and wash away the sins and impurities of all chosen believers. /Jesus Christ would cleanse us of our impurities through the blood of His redemption.

/Verse 2. /"On that day, I will banish the names of the idols from the land, and they will be remembered no more," declares the LORD Almighty. "I will remove both the prophets and the spirit of impurity from the land.

/Believers would throw away all idols through faith in Jesus. /Then the sins of the false prophets will be revealed. /God would remove all false prophets through Jesus. /In this

way, we understand the truth through faith in Christ.

/Verse 3. /And if anyone still prophesies, his father and mother, to whom he was born, will say to him, 'You must die, because you have told lies in the LORD's name.' When he prophesies, his own parents will stab him.

/In the Old Testament times, when children falsely prophesied, their parents killed their children. /Deuteronomy 13:6-11 /We clearly understand the truth of redemption through Jesus Christ. /However, false prophets come in the name of God and tell lies.

/When parents spoke false prophesies, the child was to stab his parents. /Here, to “stab” means to win with God’s word. /It means to have victory through the truth.

/We must not tolerate lies, even if they come from our children. /No matter how close we may be with people, we must not tolerate them if they are parts of cults or believe in heresies. /We must always follow the truth.

/Verse 4. /"On that day every prophet will be ashamed of his prophetic vision. He will not put on a prophet's garment of hair in order to deceive.

/When Jesus’ redemption is revealed, no one will be able to deceive others. /All lies were revealed through Jesus’ coming. /Then people were no longer able to prophesy lies. /It also says, “He will not put on a prophet’s garment of hair in order to deceive.”

/This means that people wore clothes to deceive others. /This is sheep’s clothing. /Matthew 7:15 /In this way, those who speak lies will no longer be able to deceive others. /This is because the truth was clearly revealed through Jesus.

/Verse 5. /He will say, 'I am not a prophet. I am a farmer; the land has been my livelihood since my youth.'

/Everyone is like a prophet in the New Testament period. /The New Testament times do not need prophets like the people did in the Old Testament times. /In the New Testament times, each believer is a priest, king, and prophet.

/We can directly go before God and pray. /Here it says, “I am a farmer.” /This means that believers can pray to God while they do other works.

/Verse 6. /If someone asks him, 'What are these wounds on your body?' he will answer, 'The wounds I was given at the house of my friends.'

/This means that idolaters will repent and return. /In the past, people served idols and wounded their own bodies with swords. /Here, “the house of my friends” refer to wicked friends. /1 Corinthians 15:33, 34

/This means that they were deceived by their wicked friends and were wounded. /They

wounded themselves with the sword while serving idols. /We must cut out bad friends.

/Verse 7. /"Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, against the man who is close to me!" declares the LORD Almighty. "Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered, and I will turn my hand against the little ones.

/God said that he would strike the shepherd. /The "shepherd" here refers to Christ. /This means that God would allow Jesus to be nailed to the cross. /The "little ones" here refer to believers.

/God takes care of believers. /Our Jesus received sufferings. /The disciples all ran away when Jesus received sufferings. /This prophecy came true. /Matthew 26:31 /John 16:32

/Verses 8-9. /In the whole land," declares the LORD, "two-thirds will be struck down and perish; yet one-third will be left in it. This third I will bring into the fire; I will refine them like silver and test them like gold. They will call on my name and I will answer them; I will say, 'They are my people,' and they will say, 'The LORD is our God.'"

/Here, there are the numbers, two-thirds, one-third, and a third. /This refers to three different kinds. /First, it is the spiritual believer. /They are true believers. /Second, it is the corrupted believer. /The corrupted believer believes, but they do not live by God's word.

/Then third, it is the unbeliever. /However, it says, "one-third will be left." /The "one-third" refer to true believers. /God will refine the believers and make them like gold. /Daniel 11:33-35

/Here it says, "I will bring into the fire," which means that God will refine believers with trials that are like fire. /Thus, God would make us believers like gold. 1 Peter 1:7; Job 23:10.

/Therefore, we believers must wholly rely on God in the midst of hardships, and we must call on the name of the Lord. /God will be our God.

/We will continue with Zechariah chapter 14. /The title is, "The Lord's Coming."
/First, Jerusalem will be plundered and the nations will be destroyed. /Verses 1-4. /Second, Christ's coming. /Verses 4-11. /Third, disaster for the enemies. /Verses 12-15. /Fourth, the remaining people celebrate the Feast of the Tabernacles. /Verses 16-19. /Fifth, the Lord's name is lifted on high, and the people serve the Lord. /Verses 20-21.

/Read verse 1. /A day of the LORD is coming when your plunder will be divided among you.

/Verse 2. /I will gather all the nations to Jerusalem to fight against it; the city will be captured, the houses ransacked, and the women raped. Half of the city will go into exile, but the rest of the people will not be taken from the city.

/This means that Judah would be plundered by their enemies, and they would receive great hardships. /Jerusalem would be plundered, and the city would go into exile. /This also symbolizes the great disaster that would take place right before the Lord's return in the Last Days.

/It says, "the rest of the people will not be taken from the city." /This means that we believers will not be destroyed even in the midst of hardships. /God would save the remaining believers.

/Verse 3. /Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations, as he fights in the day of battle.

/God would strike the surrounding nations. /This means that God would judge the nation of the antichrist.

/Verse 4. /On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south.

/Here it says that the Mount of Olives will be split from two from east to west. /This means that God would abolish the law of the Old Testament through the coming of Jesus. /This means that God would abolish the rituals of the law in the Old Testament.

/Jesus fulfilled the meaning and truth of the law. /Jesu completed the law. /The law of giving offerings to God with sheep and oxen were abolished through Jesus. /The formalities of rituals were abolished. /However, we must keep the truth that lies within the law. /Matthew 27:51

/Verse 5. /You will flee by my mountain valley, for it will extend to Azel. You will flee 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.

/It says, "You will flee by my mountain valley." /"Azel" is the far region of the Mount of Olives. /This means that the gospel of Jesus would be preached to the ends of the earth. / Matthew 24:14

/Verses 6-7. /On that day there will be no light, no cold or frost. It will be a unique day, without daytime or nighttime-- a day known to the LORD. When evening comes, there will be light.

/All light and glory would disappear in the day of hardships. /God would judge the enemies on that day. /Then he would save the believers.

/Verse 8. /On that day living water will flow out from Jerusalem, half to the eastern sea and half to the western sea, in summer and in winter.

/Here, the “living water” indicates the works of life. /Living water flowed out from Jerusalem. /Living water flowed from God’s temple. /This means that the works of life takes place wherever God is.

/It also says, “half to the eastern sea and half to the western sea.” /This means that the gospel would flow to all parts of the world. /The oceans like the Dead Sea would revive and come to life. /In this way, works of life would take place by God’s grace.

/Verse 9. /The LORD will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one LORD, and his name the only name.

/Our God alone will be king over the whole earth.

/Verse 10. /The whole land, from Geba to Rimmon, south of Jerusalem, will become like the Arabah. But Jerusalem will be raised up and remain in its place, from the Benjamin Gate to the site of the First Gate, to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the royal winepresses.

/This means that the kingdom of Christ would be established through Jesus’ return. /Our Jesus is the King of kings, and He reigns over the world. /Jesus is the Head of the church.

/The Lord judges this sinful world. /The Lord will take us to eternal heaven after the Millennial Kingdom comes to an end. /It says, “Jerusalem will be raised up.” /This means that the church is above all of creation. /Isaiah 2:2.

/Verse 12. /This is the plague with which the LORD will strike all the nations that fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh will rot while they are still standing on their feet, their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongues will rot in their mouths.

/This means that God would judge the enemies that persecute the church. /Then the flesh of the enemies would rot, their eyes would rot, and their tongues would rot. /Those who interrupt God’s salvation movement will be judged in such ways.

/Verse 13. /On that day men will be stricken by the LORD with great panic. Each man will seize the hand of another, and they will attack each other.

/The wicked will hold hands and persecute the church. /However, they will eventually strike and kill one another. /Hence, the wicked will kill themselves. /Judges 7:22 /1 Samuel 14:20

/Verse 14. /Judah too will fight at Jerusalem. The wealth of all the surrounding nations will be collected-- great quantities of gold and silver and clothing.

/Judah and Jerusalem will have the final victory. /The wealth of the surrounding nations would be collected. /This means that God would pour out blessings upon his people.

/Verse 15. /A similar plague will strike the horses and mules, the camels and donkeys, and all the animals in those camps.

/All the wealth that the people gathered when they left God would be destroyed in one morning. /We must rely only on God.

/Verse 16. /Then the survivors from all the nations that have attacked Jerusalem will go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, and to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.

/It says, “the survivors from all the nations.” /This refers to the chosen believers. /There were chosen believers in the foreign nations. /They would repent and return, and they would worship God. /They would celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.

/“The Feast of Tabernacles” was a season of celebration of the time when the Israelites left Egypt and lived in tents. /Today, it means that we must think of the hardships of the past and give thanks for the present times.

/We must throw away complacent hearts. /We must not be indulged in this world. /We must be strangers in this world. /Therefore, we must hope in heaven and live in faith.

/Verse 17. /If any of the peoples of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, they will have no rain.

/The “rain” here symbolizes God’s grace. /God would not give grace to those who did not keep the Feast of Tabernacles. /This means that God does not pour out showers of grace on those who do not live in faith.

/We do not sent up tents and celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles like the people did in the Old Testament times. /We must hold on to the spiritual meaning. /Therefore, we must get rid of complacent hearts, /we must live as strangers in this world, /we must hope in heaven, /and we must live in faith.

/Verse 18. /If the Egyptian people do not go up and take part, they will have no rain. The LORD will bring on them the plague he inflicts on the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.

/There would be disaster on those who did not celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles. /Then there would be no rain. /This means that God would not bless them.

/God gives grace to those who live with faith. /God would pour out showers of grace. /However, God does not give grace to those who disobey his commands.

/Verse 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 Tabernacles.

/It says that those who do not celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles, whether they are from Egypt or from other nations, would receive punishments. /Thus, God would not pour out showers of grace on them.

/Verse 20. /On that day HOLY TO THE LORD will be inscribed on the bells of the horses, and the cooking pots in the LORD's house will be like the sacred bowls in front of the altar.

/It says, "On that day HOLY TO THE LORD will be inscribed on the bells of the horses." /It also says, "the cooking pots in the LORD's house will be like the sacred bowls in front of the altar." This means that all will become holy. /It will become a nation of peace.

/It will be a holy nation. /This would ultimately take place in the Millennial Kingdom after Jesus' return. /In the Millennial Kingdom, God would throw the devil into the Abyss. /There will be no sins in that time. /There will only be holy people.

/Then "HOLY TO THE LORD" will be inscribed even on the bells of the horses. /This means that everything will become completely holy. /In the Millennial Kingdom, Jesus is King and we are the small kings. /At that time, we will reign over this world in our resurrected bodies.

/We will rule over the world in our holy bodies. /Then we will enter eternal heaven after the Millennial Kingdom comes to an end.

/Here it says that the cooking pots in the Lord's house will be like the sacred bowls in front of the altar. /All believers will become holy. /They will all become holy.

/Verse 21. /Every pot in Jerusalem and Judah will be holy to the LORD Almighty, and all who come to sacrifice will take some of the pots and cook in them. And on that day there will no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD Almighty.

/It says, "Every pot in Jerusalem and Judah will be holy to the LORD Almighty." /There will no longer be Canaanites. /The Canaanites stood against God. /They were unbelievers.

/Unbelievers cannot enter God's kingdom. /The peoples that stand against God cannot enter God's kingdom. /Only those who believe can enter God's kingdom. /Only those who repent of their sins can enter God's kingdom.

/Unbelievers and filthy people cannot enter God's kingdom. /Then there it will say, "HOLY TO THE LORD." /These words were originally engraved on plates of pure gold that were attached to turbans that Old Testament priests wore.

/The words, "HOLY TO THE LORD," were written on turbans that priests wore on their heads. /Exodus 28:36 /In this way, there is no distinction between holy things and things

of God in his kingdom. /Therefore, everything is holy. /Revelation 22:15

/It will be filled with God's glory. /It will be filled with God's holiness. /We believers will also become holy people. /We must have this hope as we live with faith in this world.

/Here we will conclude the lecture on the book of Zechariah. We will conclude the ninth lecture on Minor Prophets. /Thank you.