

Small Group Questions – Aug 14/22

Read Zechariah 9:9-17

1. After returning to Jerusalem from their exile in Babylon, some of the ancient Jews have not heard any recent messianic promise since the time of the early prophets until Zechariah utters prophetic news of a coming King for the first time. In chapter 6 of Zechariah, an astonishing development to this Messiah-figure came along when He was given priestly-levitical dimensions (cf. Zechariah 6:9-15), a departure from His original royal Davidic portrayal. How would the ancient Jews have heard this new development concerning their Messiah being both Priest and King?
2. The donkey was a symbol of royal peace for the ancient Jews. What did the image of the Davidic King riding into the capital city of Jerusalem on a donkey signify?
3. Verse 13 portrays the divided kingdoms of Judah and Israel being brought together in the hands of God as His instrument of justice and warfare against the empires of the earth. As far as this relates to the Church, in what ways does God continue to unite and bring together divided Christians around the world and across denominations and traditions?
4. Verses 14-15 portray the highlights of Israel's founding history when they first became a nation under God. In v. 15, God's people are described as a bowl used to collect the blood of the sacrifices for the forgiveness of sins. As far as this relates to the Church, in what ways does God use Christians as His instrument of forgiveness, mercy, and reconciliation in the world?