

Study Aids
Discussion Questions
For “What’s the Message?” Lessons

Lesson 81

Questions:

Put yourself in the shoes of these exiles, if you can, and imagine the tension they experienced. In many ways it was just like the early settlers in America. They literally had to “fight the land” to get food to survive. And there were numerous obstacles of the human variety to their plan to rebuild Jerusalem. Now, what kind of reception would you have given to the preaching of Zechariah?

Would you been one of the few ready to accept his criticism and acknowledge that the judgment of the Lord was just and deserved? Would you have repented and changed your personal priorities by putting God first in your life? In view of the conflicting tensions mentioned above, would it have been a simple thing for you to make this change? Give some examples of how you would deal with these challenges.

Now, do you have tensions in your life today, and does it seem like the world you know is crumbling to pieces at times? Can you turn away from those dark moments and see a brighter future ahead? Can the words of Zechariah be pertinent and give you comfort? Are you confident and certain that in spite of what you might think you see with your eyes, God is still in control and is using events for His purpose? Do you see why we said the message of Zechariah was primarily one of comfort?

What major theme have we studied in this course that applies here? Go back to Lesson 25, the crossing of the Red Sea, to refresh your memory. Did the Children of Israel have to learn this lesson all over again? Do we really trust the promises of God?