

# Zechariah 7

Chapter 7 of 14 · 14 Verses · Authorized King James Version

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## **Justice and Mercy, Not Fasting**

<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Darius, that the word of the LORD came unto Zechariah in the fourth day of the ninth month, even in Chisleu;

<sup>2</sup> When they had sent unto the house of God Sherezer and Regem-melech, and their men, to pray before the LORD,

<sup>3</sup> And to speak unto the priests which were in the house of the LORD of hosts, and to the prophets, saying, Should I weep in the fifth month, separating myself, as I have done these so many years?

<sup>4</sup> Then came the word of the LORD of hosts unto me, saying,

<sup>5</sup> Speak unto all the people of the land, and to the priests, saying, When ye fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh month, even those seventy years, did ye at all fast unto me, even to me?

<sup>6</sup> And when ye did eat, and when ye did drink, did not ye eat for yourselves, and drink for yourselves?

<sup>7</sup> Should ye not hear the words which the LORD hath cried by the former prophets, when Jerusalem was inhabited and in prosperity, and the cities thereof round about her, when men inhabited the south and the plain?

<sup>8</sup> And the word of the LORD came unto Zechariah, saying,

<sup>9</sup> Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother:

<sup>10</sup> And oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor; and let none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart.

**11** But they refused to hearken, and pulled away the shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear.

**12** Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the LORD of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from the LORD of hosts.

**13** Therefore it is come to pass, that as he cried, and they would not hear; so they cried, and I would not hear, saith the LORD of hosts:

**14** But I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations whom they knew not. Thus the land was desolate after them, that no man passed through nor returned: for they laid the pleasant land desolate.

## HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

### God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

### Judgment — מִשְׁפָּט (Mishpat)

Judgment, justice

The Hebrew **mishpat** (מִשְׁפָּט) means judgment or justice—God's righteous decisions and ordinances. God is the Judge of all the earth who 'shall do right' (Genesis 18:25), executing perfect justice.

### Law — תּוֹרָה (Torah)

Law, instruction

The Hebrew **Torah** (תּוֹרָה) means law or instruction—God's revealed will for His people. The Law includes moral, civil, and ceremonial commandments, revealing God's character and humanity's need for a Savior.

### Lord — יְהוָה / אֲדֹנָי (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יְהוָה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

**Priest** — כֹהֵן (Kohen)

Priest

The Hebrew **kohen** (כֹהֵן) denotes a priest—one who mediates between God and people through sacrifices and intercession. Aaron and his descendants served as Israel's priests, foreshadowing Christ the Great High Priest.

**Prophet** — נָבִיא (Navi)

Prophet, spokesman

The Hebrew **navi** (נָבִיא) means prophet—one who speaks God's word to the people. Prophets received divine revelation and declared God's message, often calling Israel to repentance and foretelling future events.

**Word** — דָּבָר (Davar)

Word, thing, matter

The Hebrew **davar** (דָּבָר) means word, thing, or matter—God's creative and authoritative speech. 'By the word of the LORD were the heavens made' (Psalm 33:6).

**CROSS REFERENCES**

**Zechariah 7:1** **Word:** Zechariah 1:1; Nehemiah 1:1

**Zechariah 7:2** **Prayer:** Zechariah 8:21; 1 Kings 13:6. **References Lord:** 1 Samuel 13:12; Jeremiah 26:19

**Zechariah 7:3** **References Lord:** Zechariah 8:19; Malachi 2:7

**Zechariah 7:5** **Parallel theme:** Zechariah 1:12; 7:3; 1 Corinthians 10:31

**Zechariah 7:6** **Parallel theme:** Hosea 8:13; 1 Corinthians 10:31

**Zechariah 7:7**

**References Lord:** Jeremiah 17:26; 32:44. **Parallel theme:** Jeremiah 7:5; 7:23

**Zechariah 7:9** **Grace:** Micah 6:8; Matthew 23:23. **Judgment:** Proverbs 21:3; Jeremiah 7:5; 21:12; Amos 5:24; Luke 11:42; John 7:51. **Parallel theme:** Jeremiah 7:23. **References Lord:** Zechariah 7:7

**Zechariah 7:10** **Evil:** Psalms 21:11; Proverbs 3:29; 6:18; Jeremiah 5:28. **Parallel theme:** Exodus 23:9; Psalms 72:4; 140:2; Isaiah 1:23; Jeremiah 18:18; 1 John 3:15

## **Zechariah 7:11**

**Parallel theme:** Zechariah 1:4; Nehemiah 9:29; Jeremiah 8:5; 35:15; Ezekiel 3:7; Hosea 4:16; Acts 7:57

## **Zechariah 7:12**

**Spirit:** Ezekiel 11:19; 36:26. **Judgment:** 2 Chronicles 36:16. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 6:10; Matthew 13:15; Mark 4:12; Acts 28:27. **References Lord:** Ezekiel 2:4

**Zechariah 7:13** **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 28:9; Isaiah 1:15; Jeremiah 14:12; James 4:3. **References Lord:** Jeremiah 11:11; Micah 3:4

**Zechariah 7:14** **Parallel theme:** Zechariah 2:6; Deuteronomy 4:27; 28:33; 28:64; Jeremiah 23:19; Zephaniah 3:6

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