God's Intentions For Zion

Tony Mauck · Hebrews 12:22–24

INTRODUCTION

- Well, I've been singing that song for a long time. And it means more to me now than it ever has.
- This morning I want to talk to you about this subject that we have mentioned in a couple of the songs that we have sung today. Zion.

1 Zion Is Called the City of David

2 Samuel 5:7

- Where is the first reference to Zion in the scripture? It's 2 Samuel chapter 5 and verse 7.
- Zion was in the southern part of the city, the pinnacle of the city, and it is called the city of David. It is the location of Solomon's temple.

2 Zion Represents God's Relationship With His People

Psalm 48; Psalm 132:13–16; Psalm 125:1–2

- Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, his holy mountain.
- Zion comes to represent God's relationship with his people.
- For the Lord has chosen Zion. He has desired it for his habitation. God dwells among his people.
- The whole idea of Zion gets spiritualized. It's a very short step. It gets spiritualized as you go along throughout Scripture.

3 Isaiah Talks About a Glorious Future for Zion

Isaiah 2:2–4; Isaiah 49:14–16; Acts 2

- What he's saying all the way throughout the book is that God's got plans for Zion.
- For the law will go forth from Zion. And the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
- This glorious future begins to unfold at the day of Pentecost.
- A highway of holiness will be there, and fools will not wander therein. In other words, you don't accidentally get on this highway. It is the result of choice and decision.
- Even these may forget, but I will not forget you. I have inscribed you on the palm of my hands. Your walls are continually before me.

4 God Had Spiritual Intentions for Zion

Psalm 2:6

- So God has this future plan for Zion that the nation of Israel, the physical nation of Israel never fulfilled. God had spiritual intentions for Zion.
- But as for me, I've installed my king upon Zion, my holy mountain. A reference to the Messiah.
- He rides into the city of Jerusalem as its king, fulfilling this prophecy.

- Israel never met this ideal as a nation.

5 The Lord's People Are Zion

Hebrews 12; Romans 8:37; Revelation 21

- You don't get into this kingdom without acknowledging that Jesus is the king.
- You have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God. The heavenly Jerusalem and the myriads of angels and to the blood of Jesus that's better than the blood of Abel.
- Here we see the full spiritualizing of the concept. The Lord's people are Zion.
- They're the new Jerusalem. They're the spiritual Israel of God. The heavenly Jerusalem.

6 Do Not Think This Is Insignificant

Ephesians 4:1; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 15

- Do not think that this is insignificant what we're doing here. As we gather for worship and bring our hymns of praise to the throne of God.
- We have come to Mount Zion to the city of the living God. That is who we are. We must never minimize this.
- Do not measure her based on any size or any worldly standard of measurement that determines success.
- It's about people who have submitted to the reign of the king.
- We are to be Zion dwellers. We're to be a people of integrity, a people of righteousness, a people who swear to their own hurt and do not change.

THE CHALLENGE

Do you serve God or don't you? Are you a part of God's glorious intentions for Zion?

MY NOTES