God's Intentions For Zion

Tony Mauck · Revelation 21:10–27

INTRODUCTION

- Zion is where God dwells. Zion is where God's glory dwells.
- O Lord, I love the habitation of thy house and the place where thy glory dwells.

1 God Has Plans for Israel, Judah, and Jerusalem

Luke 2; Zechariah 12:7–10; John 4:24

- Old Testament texts were saying that God had plans, future plans, glorious plans, great plans for Israel, Judah, and Jerusalem.
- It will come about in that day that I will set about to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. That's what the book of Revelation is saying.
- So that they will look on me whom they have pierced, and they will mourn for him, as one who mourns for an only son.
- Jesus is dispelling that in John 4. When he says, God is a spirit, and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and truth.

2 Zion Is the Holy City

Isaiah 52:1; Isaiah 62:1–12; Isaiah 33:20

- O Jerusalem, the holy city. For the uncircumcised and the unclean will no more come into you.
- Whatever God's intentions were, ultimately for Zion, it will be said of that city, your God reigns.
- And they will call them the holy people, the redeemed of the Lord. And you will be called, sought out a city not forsaken.
- Despite all of the hardships that Christians have experienced on earth, all of the persecution and death that they've been dealt, no worries. The city is fine.
- It is an undisturbed habitation, a tent which shall not be folded. Its stakes shall never be pulled up.

3 Your Inclusion in the Holy City

1 Peter 4

- My kingdom is not of this world. What does that mean? Its origin is spiritual and heavenly. Thus, the city comes down out of heaven.
- Its reign is where? In the hearts of people, in their minds. We are under the king's control. And who can touch that? No one can touch that.
- The book of Revelation. It was written to Christians to encourage them. It's going to be okay. Despite the fact that your circumstances are a little miserable.
- You, your residence, your citizenship in this city is an encouraging thing.

4 Not Merely a Future Prospect, but a Reality Now

Hebrews 13:14; Isaiah 59:16–60:22

- The idea of inclusion in Zion and being a recipient of the blessings of Zion. It's not something that's just future, heaven only.
- Your inclusion in the city, it is not merely a future prospect. But it is a reality now.
- The Hebrew writer says, we have come to Mount Zion. He did not say, you will come to Mount Zion.
- But for here we do not have a lasting city. Zion is not permanent for us here. But we are seeking the city which is to come.

5 The Holy City Coming Down Out of Heaven

Revelation 21:10–27; Revelation 22:14–17

- This is not physical, geographical Jerusalem. This is Jerusalem coming down out of heaven.
- Though Christians have been through horrific experiences on the earth, everything is safe and secure in their relationship with God, because God and the Lamb dwell in the middle of this city.
- Its gates shall never be closed. That means right now what? The gates are open.
- You can't get into this city merely because you were born in the nation of Israel. You have to be reborn to enter this city.
- Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have right to the tree of life.

THE CHALLENGE

The only question that remains is are you a citizen of this city? Do you dwell in Zion? Where there are all the blessings that come from the Messiah's reign and the hope of eternal glory.

MY NOTES