

Zechariah chapters 7 & 8

What Does God Want From Me?

V1-3

Two years have passed since the visions of chapters 1-6

The fast of the 10th month – remembering the beginning of the siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar (Kings 25:1, Jer 39:1)

The Fast of the 4th month – remembering a severe famine during the siege of Jerusalem and the breaching of the city wall (2 Kings 25:3-4, Jer 52:6-7)

The fast of the 5th month – remembering the destruction of Jerusalem (2 Kings 25:8-10, Jer 52:12)

The fast of the 7th month – remembering the murder of Gedaliah, Governor of Judah (2 Kings 25:25)

Now these men have a question, v3, should they continue to observe these fasts?

V4-7

“Are you doing this for *Me?*” – think about it now... for *Me?*

Do you hold these fasts wanting to worship Me... to honour me... to remember me... to remember what I spoke through My prophets and to return again to My ways?

V18-14

God wants a people who demonstrate a true heart-felt faith...

V13 - I called out to them and they would not listen... now, if they call out to me, I will not listen.

God will not meet with unrepentant hearts...
God will not meet with those who refuse to change...

Chapter 8-10 statements beginning, "Thus says the Lord of Hosts"

V2 God will take up the churches cause

V3 God's presence in the church

V4-5 peace and harmony in the church

V6 It's not impossible!

V7-8 scattered people will return to a
covenant relationship with God

V9-13 Your fortunes will be reversed

Chapter 8-10 statements beginning, "Thus says the Lord of Hosts"

V 14-17 as surely as I've punished you, I shall
do you good – you must do the same

V18-19 your fasts of mourning will become
feasts of rejoicing

V20-22 crowds will come to the church

V23 many from all nations will join the church
because they can see that God is with us.