

The Day of the Lord #5
A Glimpse of Glory

Word

Scripture Reference

Zephaniah 3:9–13

Discussion Questions

1. If you were allowed to see a glimpse of the future, what would you wish to see, and why would you want to see it?
2. God allows those who have trusted in Him to get a glimpse of the future from His Word because He loves us and wants us to look forward to His glory even in the midst of all the problems and sins around us. Read Zephaniah 3:9-13. This passage gives us four glimpses of God's glory. First is a glimpse of God's complete restoration (v. 9-10). Restoration means to bring something back to its original condition, back to when it was new or even better than before. In the day of the Lord, how will God renew the defiled lips of the people (v. 9-10)? What will be the results of purified lips in terms of our worship? Discuss how a renewed heart affects the lips of a person.
3. As part of God's restoration of His people, believers will also experience living in a restored place—the new heaven and the new earth (Revelation 21-22). God has been redeeming the world since man sinned. He will restore this world fully back to what He intended it to be. When we come to church, it is a call to the restoration and complete transformation of our lives. Discuss how you understand the statement, "The church is not a showroom where it is about one's image. It is God's service center where the broken can be restored." How can a person be restored to the right condition of Christlikeness? What are the areas in your life that need to be fixed? Is it your thought pattern, attitude, or actions? Discuss.
4. The second glimpse of His glory that God wants us to see is that the guilty are no longer ashamed (v. 11). The feeling of shame comes from the feeling of guilt. What reason is given in the passage of why the guilty will no longer feel ashamed? How does Satan use shame to make Christians feel ineligible to serve God (or to be in His presence), which often leads them to leave the

church? How should the fact that we are sinners saved by God's grace encourage us to make things right with Him? If you have sincerely confessed your sins, do you think God will still condemn you? And if Jesus' blood has washed your sins away as the Bible says, does it mean you now have a "license" to sin? Explain your answer and discuss with the group.

5. Sin has its consequences, but what saves us from being condemned by the sin we committed? When you hear a testimony of a "bad" person restored by God, how do you feel?
6. The third glimpse of His glory that God wants us to see is that the meek wins at the end (v. 12). Discuss why God is opposed to the proud and will remove them in the day of the Lord? What does meekness of attitude mean? Why does lack of meekness keep a person from being saved? How did Moses demonstrate the attitude of meekness (Numbers 20)? Examine yourself and see if you exhibit the attitude of meekness in accepting God's will in your life.
7. The fourth glimpse of God's glory is the peace and security in a cleansed heart (v. 13). In our glorified bodies, we will no longer be capable of sinning and we will live in peace. Discuss how lack of peace and security affect our well-being. Share how God's forgiveness allows you to live in peace and makes you stand as a person who is restored and not condemned.

Walk

God has given us a foretaste of glory where there is complete restoration, where the guilty is no longer ashamed, where the meek wins in the end, and where there is peace and security because of a cleansed heart. With all the problems in the world, our country in particular, do you anticipate with great hope what the future holds for you? How does knowing about God's promises for those who are meek and for those who put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation encourage you in your situation right now? Are you a work in progress? Is Christlikeness being seen or practiced in your life?

Worship & Prayer

Father, how amazing it is that in the midst of such darkness in this world I'm living, You provide a ray of hope in the person of Jesus Christ, who alone makes it possible for us to experience Your glory. Forgive me for sometimes questioning your goodness, for seeing only the bad things in this world and missing the glimpses of glory you show daily. Thank You for Your assurance that my faith in Jesus Christ frees me from guilt and shame forever, allows me to live in victory over sin, and gives me confidence in the future You have in store for me—a future of perfect peace, restoration, and transformation. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.