

## *Israel: Rescued & Refined* Zechariah 12-13

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

“May they be secure who love you!

Peace be within your walls

and security within your towers!”

For my brothers and companions’ sake

I will say, “Peace be within you!”

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,

I will seek your good.

Psalm 122:6-9

### I. The Lord who Rescues

## II. The Lord who Refines

### **Into the Bible**

Zechariah 12:10 speaks of a future time when Israel will look upon Him whom they have pierced and mourn for their sin. This is a pretty specific reference to Christ's suffering and death on the cross. How many other specific Old Testament passages can you think of that give specific detail as prophecies about Christ's death and resurrection? Here are a couple of places to look—Isaiah 53, Psalm 22, Psalm 34:20.

Has God replaced his relationship with the Jews as his chosen people with his relationship to the Church? In Romans 9 & 10 Paul writes of his desperate desire for the salvation of his people, the Jews. (Romans 10:1-3) The good news for Paul is that there is a revival promised in the future. Zechariah promises this in 12:10. More details are given in Revelation 7:4-8 and 11:1-13.

## **Application**

The identification of God as both the Creator and sustainer of the universe is common throughout the Psalms, probably most notably in Psalm 104. In Isaiah 48:12-13, God himself speaks through the prophet identifying himself in these same terms. What do these passages tell us about God's ability to keep his promises to Israel? How does the New Testament continue this theme in Colossians 1:15-20?

## **For Families**

Talk with your children about the God who created everything.