



WHAT IS truth?

- Truth = *emet* Justice = *mishpat*
- Truth = reality at its deepest level
- Truthful = not lying
- It is the divine spiritual underpinnings of something that makes it truth
- Human religious institutions descend into replacing truth with doctrines and customs...beliefs

THE 1ST TRUTH TO THE 1ST DOCTRINE

- Genesis 3:1 – 6
- God said not to eat the fruit
- Eve said not to touch the fruit (or eat it)
- Genesis 2:16 – 17 is truth
- This is what Church doctrines and Jewish traditions do
- Zech. 8:16 – 17
God says to set aside manmade traditions and return to truth
- Truth is in the Torah and the Prophets



FIND YOUR OWN TRUTH



- Has the Holy Spirit given us permission to hear, find, or hold our own truth?
- True truth defines true morality
- Basic principle of good and evil is to love
- 10 Commandments tell us how to love
- Law of Moses gives us 600 case examples of good and evil behavior

“..in
your
gates..”



- ***Mishpat shalom*** is not properly characterized with “peaceful justice”
- It means true justice that produces a divinely given well-being for the community
- 3rd foundational principle is to not form evil thoughts
- 4th foundational principle is to not perjure

FROM FASTING TO FEASTING



- Martin Luther on Zech. 8:18
“... keep My commandments... such fasts (will) be over and come to an end...”
- Words of vs. 18 begin a new oracle
- 4 fasting days by the Judeans:
4th month, 5th, 7th, and 10th month
- 2Kings 25 siege of Jerusalem, armies break through the walls of the city, Temple burned
- All 4 were manmade fasts



- God does not command Bethel to end their fasts
- When Judah finally lets go of their manmade customs and traditions that truth and well-being will come
- ***Amim*** = peoples (plural)
- Most likely means Israelites and others who have made some cultural or faith identification with Israel

THE CITY & TOWN STRUCTURE



- “Inhabitants” that come to Jerusalem probably means the leaders
- Cities used to mean politically independent towns with kings, but came to mean a city with its surrounding towns
- “Appease the face of YHWH” means to submit to His absolute authority

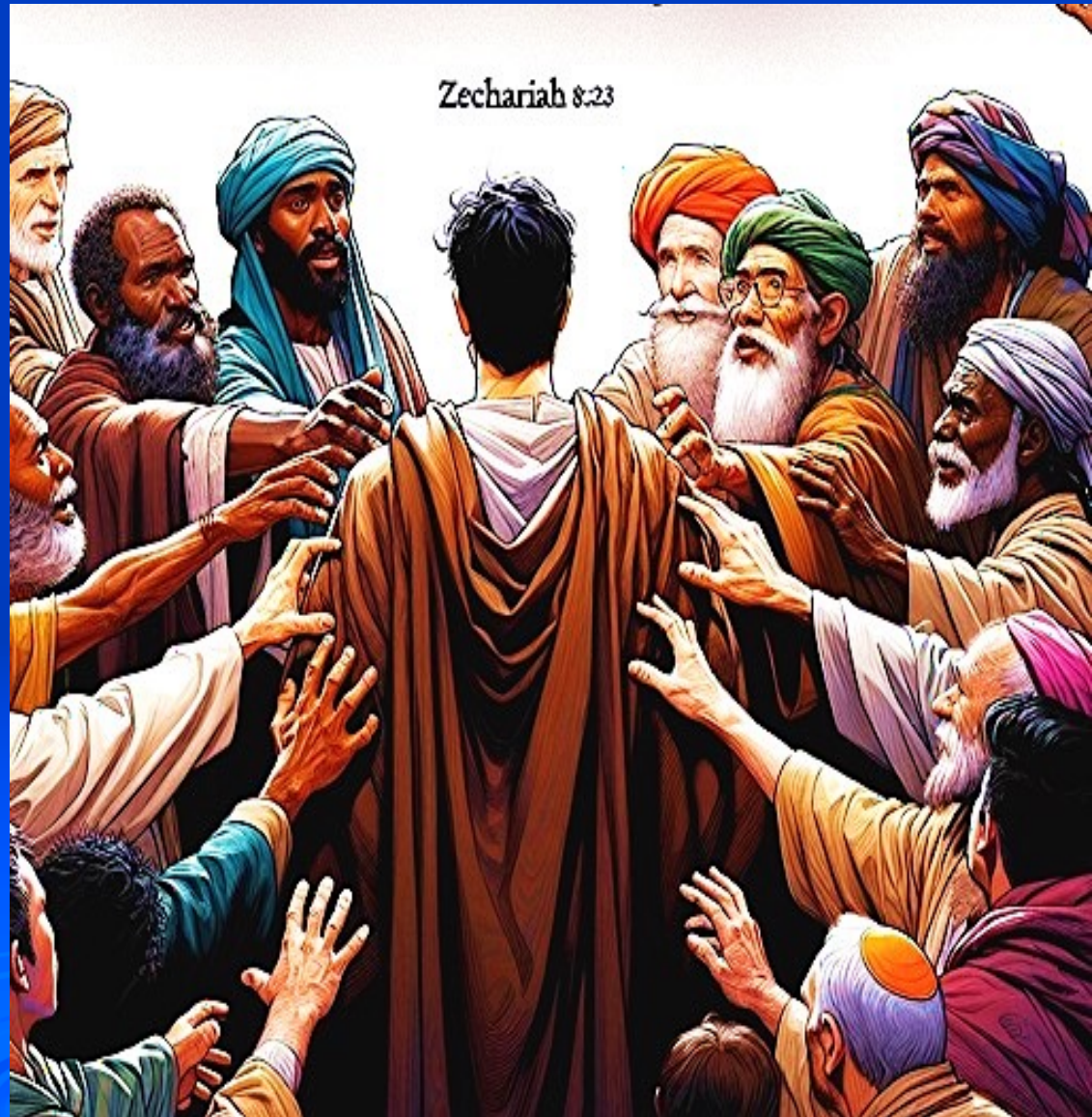
*"Come, let's go up
to the mountain..."*



- *Halak* = must, at once, urgently
- The inhabitants are those who recognize YHWH authority
- An expanding scope over time
- Micah 4:2 same thought
- Primarily talking about the End Times
- Worshippers of God that do not know His ways
- Leaders have discouraged them from knowing info from Prophets and the Torah

“We want to go
with you!!”

- “When that time comes” = “in that day”
- 10 denotes whole and complete
- To grab hold of the cloak means to follow, to have loyalty
- Elohim envisions God as the chief administrator
- No English word can describe both uses of “elohim” in the Bible



JERUSALEM

An aerial photograph of Jerusalem, Israel, showing a dense urban landscape with a prominent golden dome in the center. The city is built on a hillside, and the background shows a clear blue sky.

FUTURE WORLD CAPITAL

- Zechariah's prophecy widens from only those living with Judah to global/universal
- The delegation from Bethel learns that there is to be feasting ahead, and not mourning
- It's the Jews that will be the linking force between God and the gentile world