



## *Devotion for February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022*

### *Zechariah 12:1-13:9*

**In the chapters assigned today from Zechariah we get an interesting picture of how God cares for His people.** As you read these verses they can seem a bit intense. All kinds of talk about striking down, of stones crushing, flames and devouring. But in verse 5 we begin to see a reference to how God will work good through all this:

*"The inhabitants of Jerusalem have strength through the Lord of hosts, their God." ([Zechariah 12:5](#))*

The chapter ends with a poignant picture of the sacrifice of Jesus, and the salvation we receive through it. The harsh reality is there is going to be pain and suffering in this world, but that's exactly why God sent a Savior.

As we continue on to chapter 13, though, we are reminded that unfortunately we don't always give God the place of importance He deserves in our lives. It's easy to hear idolatry and think about the Old Testament, of golden calves, of false prophets attempting to call down fire, and many other acts against God. It can feel far removed from our experience today.

But even if we are not worshiping someone other than God we still may end up putting things before Him. In general, the busyness of life is the greatest barrier we may experience. It's so easy to get sucked in to moving other things higher on the to-do list. But each day we are forgiven and we get to try again.

I encourage you to find ways this week to prioritize God and pray that you would find it easy to do so.

*God's blessings,  
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