



Series: The Minor Prophets

**Lesson: 52. Zechariah, pt. 8 – The WHY
of Worship**

Passage: Zech. 7

- The _____ Problem (vv1–7)
 - The question about _____
 - The fast in the fifth month commemorated the destruction of the _____ (cf. 2 Kings 25:8–10).
 - ‘Weeping and abstaining’ (‘mourning and fasting’) could be memorials and signs of _____ (cf. Dan. 9:3).
 - God’s answer to them
 - The fast in the seventh month commemorated the assassination of Gedaliah (cf. Jer. 41).
 - God questions their _____ for fasting.
 - They have the same problem as their ancestors.

Zech. 1:6 – But did not My words and My statutes, which I commanded My servants the prophets, overtake your fathers? Then they repented and said, ‘As the Lord of hosts purposed to do to us in accordance with our ways and our deeds, so He has dealt with us.’

- **How God _____ the Last Time (vv8–14)**
 - The character of _____ hearts
 - If they learned what those rituals were supposed to teach, they would show it by their _____ and reflection of God's _____.
 - God had been preaching about the priorities of *mishpat* and *chesed* all along.

*Ps. 89:14 – Righteousness and **justice** are the foundation of Your throne; **Lovingkindness** and truth go before You.*

*Hos. 12:6 – Therefore, return to your God,
Observe **kindness** and **justice**,
And wait for your God continually.*

*Mic. 6:8 – He has told you, O man, what is good;
And what does the Lord require of you
But to do **justice**, to love **kindness**,
And to walk humbly with your God?*

- God wants _____ more than sacrifice.

*1 Sam. 15:22–23 – Samuel said,
“Has the Lord as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices
As in obeying the voice of the Lord?
Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,
And to heed than the fat of rams.*

²³For rebellion is as the sin of divination,

*And insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry.
Because you have rejected the word of the Lord,
He has also rejected you from being king.”*

*Hos. 6:6 – For I delight in loyalty rather than sacrifice,
And in the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings. (qtd. in Matt. 9:13)*

*Mic. 6:6–8 – With what shall I come to the Lord
And bow myself before the God on high?
Shall I come to Him with burnt offerings,
With yearling calves?
⁷Does the Lord take delight in thousands of rams,
In ten thousand rivers of oil?
Shall I present my firstborn for my rebellious acts,
The fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?
⁸He has told you, O man, what is good;
And what does the Lord require of you
But to do justice, to love kindness,
And to walk humbly with your God?*

(cf. Is. 1:10–17; 58:1–7; Amos 5:21–27)

- Ignoring those warnings brought _____.
 - They ignored God’s warnings, so He ignored their calls for help when the judgment finally came.
 - Things are no longer prosperous as a reflection of that judgment.

- Only those who ‘diligently obey’ will see this come about!

What Do We Do with This Text?

1. Beware of the danger of _____ worship.

Blanks: Heart, fasting, temple, motive, Responded, repentant, obedience, character, righteousness, wrath, hypocritical