



Better Days Are Coming

Lesson Scripture: Zechariah 8:1-8, 11-17

Key Verses: [God said,] "I will save my people . . . I will bring them back to live in Jerusalem; they will be my people, and I will be . . . their God." (Zechariah 8:7, 8a)

► Activity 1 ◀

Complete the Message: What God Will Do!

Below is a message related to today's lesson. To *decode* (figure out) the message, on each line below write the letter that is found where the two numbers provided under the line *intersect* (meet). The first number represents the row where the letter is found, and the second number represents the column where the letter is found. (For example, 5-2=F.)

	1	2	3	4
1	B	T	O	H
2	C	L	W	R
3	P	V	E	A
4	S	M	Q	N
5	D	F	I	Z

1-1 2-2 3-3 4-1 4-1

1-2 1-4 3-3

3-1 3-3 1-3 3-1 2-2 3-3

Answer: God will _____ of Jerusalem!

► Activity 2 ◀

Lesson 11



A “Promises of God” Acrostic

An *acrostic* [uh-cross-tick] is a puzzle that uses letters in different words to make one key word or phrase. Complete the acrostic puzzle by plugging into the puzzle the bold/capitalized words found in the box below. Those words are parts of statements related to today’s lesson.

GOD WILL BE RIGHTEOUS	SAVE HIS PEOPLE
CHILDREN WILL PLAY	FAITHFUL
LORD ALMIGHTY	WILL BE MARVELOUS
BE THEIR GOD	BRING THEM BACK

_ _ _ _ _ **P** _ _ _ _ _
 _ **R** _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
 _ _ _ _ _ **O** _ _ _
 _ _ _ _ _ **M** _ _ _ _ _
 _ _ _ **I** _ _ _ _ _
 _ _ _ _ _ **S** _ _ _ _ _
 _ _ _ _ _ **E** _ _ _ _ _
 _ _ _ _ _ **S** _ _ _ _ _

Answer Key

Answers: A=2; B=5; C=6; D=3; E=1; F=4; (1) So the king and Haman went to Queen Esther's banquet. (2) The king again asked, "Queen Esther, what is your petition? It will be given you." (3) "If it pleases you, grant me my life ... And spare my people—this is my request." (4) "For I and my people have been sold to be destroyed, killed and annihilated." (5) But Haman, realizing that the king had already decided his fate, stayed behind to beg Queen Esther for his life. (6) The king said, "Impale him on it!"

Answers: (1) b; (2) a; (3) c; (4) a; (5) b; (6) a, b, c; (7) a, b, c

Answers: (1) W; (2) I; (3) S; (4) E; (5) J; (6) U; (7) S; (8) T; (9) I; (10) C; (11) E

Completed Message: Solomon made a wise decision that showed God's justice!

Answers: (1) city; (2) obeys; (3) trust; (4) righteous; (5) justice; (6) remnant; (7) deceitful

NO ISSER PPO
REMNANT K + +
+ LUFTIECED
RIGHTEOUS +
+ + + TM + + + +
+ GS + + + + +
+ OJUSTICE +
D + + RHUMBLE
NOITCERROC

Decoded Words: bless, the, people

Completed Message: God will bless the people of Jerusalem!

WILL **PLAY**
BRING THEM BACK
MARVELO**US**
LORD AL**M**IGHTY
FAITHFUL
RIGHTEO**S**
BE THE**I**R GOD
SAVE **HIS** PEOPLE

Activity 1

J	E	R	E	M	I	A	H		R	E	M	I	N	D	E	D
	T	H	E		P	E	O	P	L	E		T	H	A	T	
		G	O	D		R	E	Q	U	I	R	E	S			
		J	U	S	T	I	C	E			A	N	D			
		R	E	W	A	R	D	S		G	O	O	D	.		

- **Decoded Message:** Jeremiah reminded the people that God requires justice and rewards good.

- **Activity 1**

• **Answers:** A=2; B=5; C=1; D=6; E=4; F=7; G=3; (1) "This is what the LORD
 • says: Do what is just and right." (2) "Because they have forsaken the
 • covenant of the LORD their God and have worshiped and served other
 • gods." (3) "Rescue from the hand of the oppressor the one who has been
 • robbed." (4) "For if you are careful to carry out these commands, then
 • kings who sit on David's throne will come through the gates of this pal-
 • ace." (5) "Do no wrong or violence to the foreigner, the fatherless or the
 • widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place." (6) Do not weep
 • for the dead king or mourn his loss; rather, weep bitterly for him who is
 • exiled. (7) "But if you do not obey these commands, declares the LORD, I
 • swear by myself that this palace will become a ruin."

- **Revealed Message:** God requires a covenant with His people that is based on justice!

Activity 1

			I						
		A	S						
			R				L		
			A			G	O	D	
			E				V		
C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N		
	I						D		
	S								

- **Complete Sentence:** God loved Israel as His children!

- **Answers:** (1) Israel; (2) Egypt; (3) Baals; (4) incense; (5) exalt; (6) heart;
- (7) compassion; (8) love; (9) justice; (10) Lord; summaries will vary.