

Marinating in God's Word: Zechariah 3, 1 Peter 2:4-6

Ask about a favorite book of the Bible, and you're not likely to someone cite the Minor Prophets. And yet we hear God's word through them too. Thus we are focusing this summer on a portion of the Bible we tend not to know very well.

For further reflection on your own or in a small group, consider these questions:

- Zechariah prophesied after the exile, when the people were rebuilding life in Jerusalem. This section of his prophecy is "right brained" - full of imagery, almost dream-like. The scripture communicates truth in both "left brained" and "right brained" ways. What kind of truth comes in each? Has God ever spoken to you through a dream or a symbol? What happened?
- The Joshua in this vision was the first high priest after the exile. Given the images in Zechariah 3, what do you suppose was Joshua's problem?
- Who else is present in this vision? What actions do they take? In what ways are these characters present and acting in your life?
- Satan literally means "accuser", and he was ready to do just that when the Lord interrupted (v.1-2). How have you experienced Satan's accusations?
- In the Old Testament era only the High Priest entered God's presence, but now through Jesus, all have welcome before God. Indeed, Peter refers to us as a "holy priesthood". What do each of those words mean for you? What would it mean for you to be "holy"? A "priest"? How does Zechariah's vision portray the Lord's way with you as his priest?

Next week we will focus on Zephaniah.