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"This doctrine may be fitly applied to our age: for we see how Satan raises up great forces, we see how the whole world conspires against the Church, to prevent the increase or the progress of the kingdom of Christ. When we consider how great are the difficulties which meet us, we are ready to faint and to become wholly dejected.

Let us then remember that it is no new thing for enemies to surpass great mountains in elevation; but that the Lord can at length reduce them to a plain. This, then, our shield can cast down and lay prostrated whatever greatness the Devil may set up to terrify us:

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for as the Lord then reduces a great mountain to a plain, when Zerubbabel was able to do nothing, so at this day, however boldly may multiplied adversaries resist Christ in the work of building a spiritual temple to God the Father, yet all their efforts will be in vain."—John Calvin

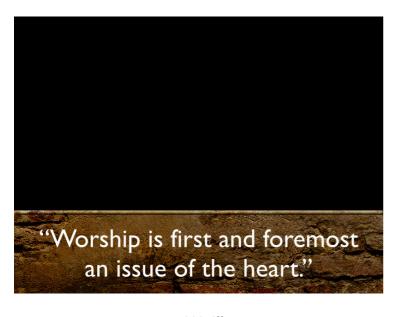
6Then he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel:
Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the LORD of hosts.
7Who are you, O great mountain?
Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain. And he shall bring forward the top stone amid shouts of 'Grace, grace to it!'"—Zechariah 4:6-7 ESV

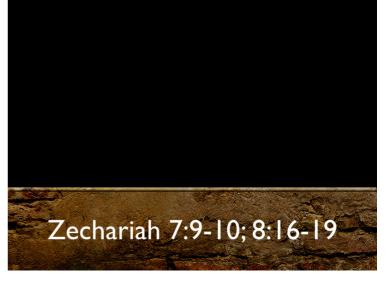
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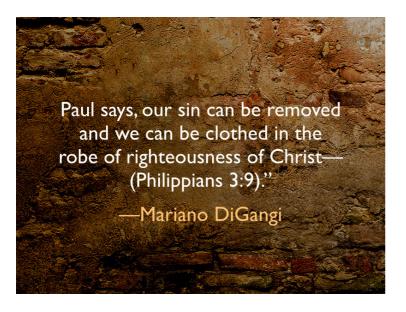


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"Surely this is a marvelous portrayal of the biblical doctrine of justification by faith. We who are stained by sin, accused by Satan, and incapable of rendering acceptable service to the holy God can, nevertheless, experience acquittal and acceptance.

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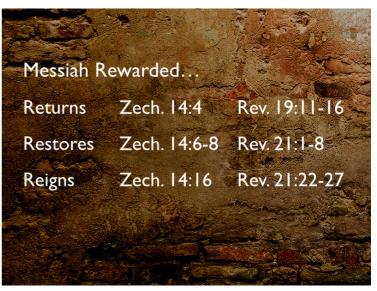
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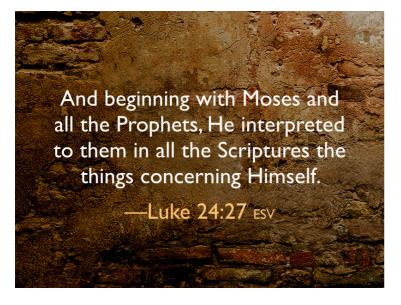


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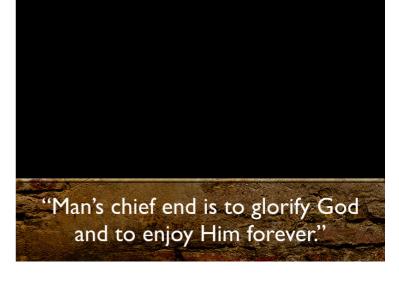




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19Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, <sup>20</sup>for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body... <sup>31</sup>So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

—I Corinthians 6:19-20; 10:31 ESV



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20But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup>who will transform our lowly body to be like His glorious body, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to Himself.

—Philippians 3:20-21 ESV