### Zechariah

## Chapter 12

1The matter of the Word of Jehovah over IsraEl:  
  
 ‘Thus says Jehovah,  
 The One who stretched out the skies,  
 Who laid the foundations of the earth,  
 And from Himself, shaped the breath of mankind:  
  
 2‘{Look!} I’ve appointed JeruSalem’s thresholds  
 To be shaken by the people roundabout them.  
 So, into Judea, they’ll come,  
 And they’ll surround JeruSalem.  
  
 3‘In that day, I’ll appoint JeruSalem  
 To be a stone that’s trampled by the nations.  
 For, all nations of the earth will [attack] her;  
 And those who trample upon her  
 Will mock and poke fun at her.  
  
 4‘And in that day,’ says Jehovah the Almighty;  
 ‘I will strike [Judah’s] horses with wonder  
 And drive their riders to ranting.  
  
 ‘On the house of Judah, I’ll then raise My eyes,  
 And I’ll strike all their horses with blindness.  
 5But the generals of Judah will say in their hearts:  
  
 ‘JeruSalem’s [people will always be safe]  
 Under Jehovah, their Almighty God.’  
  
 6‘But then, I’ll make Judah’s generals  
 Like burning coals amidst wood  
 And as flaming torches in stubble.  
 For they’ll devour everyone who’s around them  
 (Both those on their right and those on their left).  
  
 ‘Yet, JeruSalem will be lived in again  
 As it had been before.  
 7Then the Lord will save Judah’s tents  
 As he did back in the beginning.  
 But they won’t have any reason to boast  
 Over the house of [King] David,  
 Or to think themselves better than Judah.  
  
 8‘So the Lord will be the shield in that day  
 For those who live in JeruSalem.  
 And in that day, even the least  
 Will be like David among them.  
  
 ‘And the house of David will then come to be  
 Like the Temple of God…  
 As the angel that’s standing before them.  
  
 9‘And in that day, I’ll lift away all the nations  
 That marched against JeruSalem.  
 10Then, upon the house of King David,  
 And on JeruSalem’s people,  
 I’ll pour the spirit of mercy and care.  
  
 ‘So they’ll turn to Me and beat on their chests  
 Like those who beat on their chests  
 Over the death of a loved one,  
 Because they’ve been disrespectful to Me.  
 And they’ll mourn with the grief  
 Of someone who’s lost his first-born.  
  
 11‘Yes, on that day in JeruSalem,  
 They’ll all be beating their chests  
 As though they’d lost groves [of fruit trees].  
 12And the land will beat on its chest  
 For each of the tribes [by its name]…  
 The house of the tribe of David  
 As well as all of its women…  
 The house of the tribe of Nathan  
 As well as all of its women…  
 13The house of the tribe of Levi  
 As well as all of its women…  
 The house of SimeOn’s tribe  
 As well as all of its women…  
 14And the houses of the rest of the tribes  
 As well as all of their women.’