The Unwalled City

Scripture:

Zechariah 2:3-5

Zechariah 2:3-5 (NKJV) And there was the angel who talked with me, going out; and another angel was coming out to meet him, {4} who said to him, "Run, speak to this young man, saying: 'Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls, because of the multitude of men and livestock in it. {5} 'For I,' says the LORD, 'will be a wall of fire all around her, and I will be the glory in her midst."

Introduction

Jerusalem is portrayed here as a city without walls. It could be totally open and defenseless because God was a wall of fire around about. Because of its openness tremendous blessing is bestowed upon it.

I. Implications of an unwalled city

Zechariah 2:4 (NKJV) who said to him, "Run, speak to this young man, saying: 'Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls, because of the multitude of men and livestock in it.

<u>Micah 4:3-4 (NKJV</u>) He shall judge between many peoples, And rebuke strong nations afar off; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war any more. {4} But everyone shall sit under his vine and under his fig tree, And no one shall make them afraid; For the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken

- A. No enemy outside is strong enough to threaten
- B. Defense is not needed
- C. Filled to capacity / bursting at the seams -- implies a great blessing

II. Looking inside your walls

<u>1 Corinthians 2:3 (NKJV)</u> I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling.

<u>2 Corinthians 12:9b, 10b (NKJV</u>) And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. {10} Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

<u>2 Timothy 3:10-11 (NIV)</u> You, however know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, vaith, patience, love, endurance, {11} persecutions, sufferings -- what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. A. What you have to defend

- 1. Past relationship failures
- 2. Past rejections
- 3. Past failures
- 4. Hurts and pains you dare not show
- B. The benefits of risking
 - 1. Discovering the wall of fire about
 - 2. Seeing God become our rescuer

III. Tearing down the walls

<u>2 Corinthians 3:5 (NKJV)</u> Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God,

Isaiah 25:12 (NKJV) The fortress of the high fort of your walls He will bring down, lay low, And bring to the ground, down to the dust.

<u>Revelation 3:20 (NKJV)</u> "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

- A. Opening up for healing
- B. Transparency

C. Vulnerability