The Results Of Refusing To Hearken!
(Zac.1:1-6 & 7:8-14 Text V.11)

Intro: We find in this ch. the importance of Particular and Punctual obedience to God. And the importance of Listening, Learning, Leaning to God. *In the word of God The word hearken, hearkened, hearkeneth, or hearkening is used some 234 times.* *I believe that informs us that God is interested in having our attention! (Re.13:9) If any man have an ear, let him hear.*

1. The word *harken* means; To listen; to lend the ear. to hear, be attentive, heed, incline (of ears), attend (of ears), hearken, pay attention, listen.
2. What we need to understand is partial obedience is still disobedience, here is the text that proves it. God want us to completely surrender to Him!
3. Notice to the Sinner; if the lost person does not completely surrender to God concerning salvation he will never be saved! If the sinner continually rejects God and lives after the flesh there will come a time when God will reject them! (Eph.2:1-9) describes the state the sinner is in there will come a day of reckoning. (Ro.14:12) *So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.*
4. I still believe God will turn some over to a Reprobate if they reject Him to many times! (Jer 6:30) Reprobate silver shall men call them, because the LORD hath rejected them. (Ro 1:28) And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; (2Ti 3:8) Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith. (Tit 1:16) They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate. Sinner friend you reject God’s Man, God’s Message, God’s Means of salvation and friend you are in danger of God rejecting you! (Pro.1:22-33)
5. Notice to the Saved; if we that are saved do not completely surrender to God concerning submission we will never have fullness of joy. (1Sam.15:23) For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king. A saved person will not lose their salvation but they will reap what they sow! (Ga 6:7) Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.
6. 22% of resolutions involve health and fitness, 18% career, 15% personal growth and interests, 11% personal finance, 11% time management and organization, 8% family and relationships, 6% education and training, 5% home improvement and real estate, 3% recreation and leisure. We began a New Year by saying, “I’m going loose weight,” yet March rolls around and the diet books are sitting on the shelf unread and we are ten pounds heavier. We say, “I’m going to start exercising” and by May, the stair stepper and Nordi-Trac is in the closet gathering dust.” We say we are going to reduce debt, but by June we are worried about how we are going to pay for the diet books and exercise machines we bought on our credit cards. I am not against resolutions, but I say we ought to make some spiritual “resolutions” or “Commitments” or Covenants” and keep them! Or there is going to be some RESULTS!

I. Consider a Calculated Reprimand! (Ch.1:1-4)

1. We see that this prophecy opens with a reprimand from God. God is identifying the areas that wrong in the nation. I believe there is some important practical truth
A. Notice the Declaration from God! (V.1)

B. Notice the Displeasure of God. (V.2)

1. Here we see the indication from God that the sins of the fathers were visiting the sons. We see the fathers are reaping what they had sowed! The conduct of this generation had provoked God to sore displeasure!

2. God through the prophet Zechariah is telling this generation that if the sin and evil doings of those fathers had been dealt with what made them think he would not deal with their sin!

3. We find in (1 Cor.10:1-11) Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; 2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; 3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat; 4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. 5 But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. 6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. 7 Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. 8 Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. 9 Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. 10 Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. 11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

C. Notice the Demand of God. (V.3-4a)

1. The demand of God was for them to “turn” (V.3) and for them to “Turn ye now” this is an Imperative verb a command! It is in the present tense it is an Immediate command.

D. Notice the Defiance of the people. (V.4b)

1. The ideal being conveyed here is the people simply paid no attention to what God said. It meant noting to them they simply thought God would not do anything to them!

2. This was a voluntary action “they did not hear, nor hearken unto me...” it was not that they could not hear but they did not hear. They knew what was right they just did not do it.

II. Consider a Call to Remembrance. (Ch.1:5-6)

1. The Lord wanted them to remember some things in (V.5 & 6) here the Lord is reminding them of the principle of reaping and sowing! (Ga 6:7) Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

A. Notice He reminds them of the Past. (V.5)

1. He asks “Your fathers, where are they” They are not in the land of the living; they perished by the sword of the Chaldeans, or died in captivity.

2. He also them “…and the prophets, do they live for ever?” the reference here most believe is to the false prophets that told them the captivity would not come. It also could be a reference to the true prophets who warned them. Either way or both is very appropriate.
3. The record of God’s judgments in the past serves as a fitting reminder that sin does not go unpunished.

B. Notice he reminds them of the Precepts. (V.6)
   1. He reminds them of their Paths. “Like as the LORD of hosts thought to do unto us, according to our ways...”
   2. He reminds them of their Practices. “...and according to our doings, so hath he dealt with us.” (Heb.2:1-4)

Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. 2 For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; 3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; 4 God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

III. Consider a Compelling to Repent! (Ch.7:8-10)
1. Friend the bible says in (Lu 13:3) I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. (Lu 13:5) I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

A. Notice true Repentance is a Change! (V.9-10)
   1. The bible says in (2Co. 5:17) Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

B. Notice true Repentance is Complete! (V.8-10)

IV. Consider a Callous Rejection. (Ch.7:11-12)
1. There is only two ways to respond to God’s word YES or NO! There are no maybes! There is no neutrality! You either do what His word says or you don’t!
2. Notice they did four things;
   A. Notice their Refusal! (V.11a)
   B. Notice their Resistance! (V.11b) “...and pulled away the shoulder...”
      1. They pulled in the opposite direction, they not only refused to hear they pulled and fought against the word.
   C. Notice their Rebellion. (V.12)

V. Consider a Certain Result! (V.13-14)
1. We may not want to think about it but friend there is a result of every action we take! (Gal.6:7-8) Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. 8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.
2. We will look at three sure things that happen as a Result Of Refusing To Hearken:
   A. Notice Denied Prayers. (V.13)
      1. Notice what the bible says in (Prov 28:9) He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.
      2. Here we see divinely declared that there is a time when God will have enough, and man will face his own doing! Notice what the bible says in (Pro. 1:24-31) "Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out My hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at nought all My counsel, and would none of My reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction
cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon Me, but I will not answer; they shall seek Me early, but they shall not find Me: for that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord: They would none of My counsel: they despised all My reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices."

B. Notice the Dispersion of the People. (V.14a)
1. Notice the statement “But I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations whom they knew not.” Notice how He will do this He will do it with a “whirlwind” This speaks of the severity of God’s Judgment!

C. Notice the Desolation of the Place! (V.14b)
Close: We had better realize that there is a result in refusing to hearken to what God says! If you’re here this morning and you are a Lost Sinner, and you refuse to hearken to God’s call of salvation you will die and go to HELL! You will cry to God but He will not hear you! You will be separated from your family and the people you know forever! And you will be in a desolate place! Then for those that are that are Saved, and you refuse to hear, and hearken to God. You will pray and God will not hear maybe in one of those desperate times in life, and God will not hear! You will watch the blessing of God depart from your life family and friends depart! And you will live in a desolate place when you could have lived in a pleasant place! SO WHAT WILL IT BE HAPPY NEW YEAR? OF SAME AS ANY OTHER YEAR?