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We continue steadfastly in prayer, and in the
ministry of the word.

Acts 6: 4 ASV

Zion

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- A citadel with a minoret towers above the fortress wall of the once Canaanite city, captured by king David in 1003 B.C., located on a southeast hill of what is today called Jerusalem. King David took the stronghold of Zion which translates fortress (II Samuel 5: 7 ASV). After capture, it was called the city of David.
- The Ark of Jehovah came to the city of David. Brought in and set it in place, in the midst of the tent David pitched for it. David offered burnt-offerings and peace offerings before Jehovah

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(II Samuel 6: 16-17 ASV). Michal the daughter of Saul looked out the window, and saw king David leaping and dancing before Jehovah; and despised him in her heart.

- The Ark of Jehovah signified Zion as the city of God. Make glad the city of God, holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High (Psalm 46: 4 ASV). Blow the trumpet in Zion, sound an alarm in my holy mountain; let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: the day of Jehovah cometh, for it is nigh at hand (Joel 2: 1 ASV). Thus saith Jehovah: I

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am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and Jerusalem shall be called the city of Truth; and the mountain of Jehovah of hosts, the holy mountain (Zechariah 8: 3 ASV). Sing praises to Jehovah, who dwelleth in Zion (Psalm 9: 11 ASV). Jehovah hath chosen Zion; He hath desired it for his habitation. This is my resting-place for ever: Here will I dwell; For I have desired it (Psalm 132: 13-14 ASV). Send thee help from the sanctuary, and strengthen thee out of Zion (Psalm 20: 2 ASV).

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- King Solomon expanded Jerusalem north to include Mt. Moriah. In 958 B.C. at the dedication of the Temple on this new site, the Ark of the covenant was taken out of the city of David. Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, all the heads of the tribes, princes of the fathers' houses of the children of Israel, in Jerusalem, to bring up the Ark of Jehovah out of the city of David, which is Zion (1 Kings 8: 1 ASV). The Temple mount too came to be called Zion. Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount

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Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King (Psalm 48: 2 ASV). [Jehovah] chose the tribe of Judah, [for] the mount Zion which He loved. He built His sanctuary like the heights, like the earth which He hath established for ever (Psalm 78: 68-69 ASV). Mount Zion now lay far north of the city of David. Yet Jehovah came to loathe Zion. Hast Thou utterly rejected Judah? Hath Thy soul loathed Zion? Why hast Thou smitten us, and there is no healing for us? We looked for peace, but no good came; and for a

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time of healing, and, behold, dismay! We acknowledge, O Jehovah, our wickedness, and the iniquity of our fathers; for we have sinned against Thee (Jeremiah 14: 19-20 ASV).

- In 587 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar took captive the Hebrew nation, He took gold and silver from the Temple and the exiles wept by the rivers of Babylon. There we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion (Psalm 137: 1 ASV). Titus besieged and captured Jerusalem in A.D. 70. The Temple was destroyed and much tribute

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taken to Rome. Neither 587 B.C. nor A.D. 70 marked the end of Zion.

- The prophetic city assumes a prominent place in biblical (end times) eschatology. A thousand years before Christ, king David anticipated that time when the LORD would send forth His Son, His anointed, His Messiah; the kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against Jehovah, and against His anointed, saying, I will tell of the decree. Jehovah said unto me, Thou art My Son; this

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day have I begotten Thee. Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and ye perish in the way, for His wrath will soon be kindled. Blessed are all they that take refuge in Him (Psalm 2: 2, 7 & 12 ASV). I set My King upon My holy hill of Zion (Psalm 2: 6 ASV). Jehovah will send forth the rod of thy strength out of Zion to rule thou in the midst of thine enemies (Psalm 110: 2 ASV). King David prayed for the day when salvation would come out of Zion and Jehovah would restore prosperity and joy to His people. Oh that the salvation of Israel

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were come out of Zion! When Jehovah bringeth back the captivity of his people, Then shall Jacob rejoice, and Israel shall be glad (Psalm 14: 7 ASV). Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion! When God bringeth back the captivity of his people, Then shall Jacob rejoice, and Israel shall be glad (Psalm 53: 6 ASV). Isaiah foretold the security of those who would believe Christ at His first coming, fulfilling God's promise He would [lay] in Zion a tested foundation stone. Thus saith the Lord Jehovah,

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behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner- stone of sure foundation: he that believeth shall not be in haste (Isaiah 28: 16 ASV). A Redeemer will come to Zion, unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith Jehovah (Isaiah 59: 20 ASV). Cry aloud and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion; for great in the midst of thee is the Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 12: 6 ASV). For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem; thou shalt weep no more; He will surely be gracious unto thee at the voice of thy

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cry; when He shall hear, He will answer thee (Isaiah 30: 19 ASV). No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast go up thereon; they shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there: and the ransomed of Jehovah shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon their heads: they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away (Isaiah 35: 9-10 ASV). And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion,

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and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem; when the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof, by the spirit of justice, and by the spirit of burning. Jehovah will create over the whole habitation of mount Zion, and over her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night; for over all the glory shall be

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spread a covering (Isaiah 4: 3-5 ASV).

- Ariel, Ariel, the city where David encamped! add ye year to year; let the feasts come round: then will I distress Ariel, and there shall be mourning and lamentation; and she shall be unto me as Ariel. And I will encamp against thee round about, and will lay siege against thee with posted troops, and I will raise siege works against thee. And thou shalt be brought down (Isaiah 1: 1-4 ASV). Ariel translates *lion of God*, and is a symbolic name for Jerusalem referencing

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invincible God as the lion of the tribe of Judah.

- The glory in Zion will lead all nations against a futile attack upon the city. And the multitude of all the nations that fight against Ariel, even all that fight against her and her stronghold, and that distress her, shall be as a dream, a vision of the night. It shall be as when a hungry man dreameth, and, behold, he eateth; but he awaketh, and his soul is empty: or as when a thirsty man dreameth, and, behold, he drinketh; but he awaketh, and, behold, he is faint, and his

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soul hath appetite: so shall the multitude of all the nations be, that fight against mount Zion (Isaiah 29: 7-8 ASV), gathered together in the place which is called in Hebrew Har-Magedon (Revelation 16: 16 ASV). God's actual purpose is to demonstrate His deliverance for the faithful. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of Jehovah shall be delivered; for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those that escape, as Jehovah hath said, and among the remnant those whom Jehovah

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doth call (Joel 2: 32 ASV). And many nations shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of Jehovah, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths. For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of Jehovah from Jerusalem (Micah 4: 2 ASV). But in mount Zion there shall be those that escape, and it shall be holy; and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions (Obadiah 1: 17 ASV). Former enemies will come to Zion seeking His word

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and His law. It shall come to pass in the latter days, that the mountain of Jehovah's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many peoples shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of Jehovah, to the house of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of Jehovah from Jerusalem. And He will judge

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between the nations, and will decide concerning many peoples; and 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. O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of Jehovah (Isaiah 2: 2-5 ASV). Zion will be the ultimate kingdom of God. It shall come to pass in that day, that Jehovah will punish the host of the high ones on high, and the kings of the earth upon the earth. And they shall be

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gathered together, as prisoners are gathered in the pit, and shall be shut up in the prison; and after many days shall they be visited.

- With the termination of sun and moon, day and night; there shall be night no more; and no need of lamp, neither light of sun; the end of time as we know it. The moon shall be confounded, and the sun ashamed; for Jehovah of hosts will reign in mount Zion, and in Jerusalem; and before His elders shall be glory (Isaiah 24: 21-23 ASV). The Lord God shall give them light: and they

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shall reign for ever and ever (Revelation 22: 5 ASV).

- I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth are passed away; and the sea is no more. I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a great voice out of the throne saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He shall dwell with them, and they shall be His peoples, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God:

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and He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and death shall be no more; neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain, any more: the first things are passed away. And He that sitteth on the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And He saith, Write: for these words are faithful and true (Revelation 21: 1-5 ASV).

- Zion is the joy of all earth because of the redemption in all nations. The city of the living God, heavenly Jerusalem which translates New Peace. At the Second Coming Christ will stand

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in triumph; and I saw, the Lamb standing on the mount Zion, and with Him a hundred and forty and four thousand, having His name, and the name of His Father, written on their foreheads (Revelation 14: 1 ASV). So all Israel shall be saved: even as it is written, there shall come out of Zion the Deliverer; He shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob (Romans 11: 26 ASV). Christ will go forth from mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau; and the kingdom shall be Jehovah's (Obadiah 1: 14 ASV).

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- **Text:** Hebrews 12: 11-24 ASV

All chastening seemeth for the present to be not joyous but grievous; yet afterward it yieldeth peaceable fruit unto them that have been exercised thereby, even the fruit of righteousness. Wherefore lift up the hands that hang down, and the palsied knees; and make straight paths for your feet, that that which is lame be not turned out of the way, but rather be healed. Follow after peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no man shall see

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the Lord: looking carefully lest there be any man that falleth short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby the many be defiled; lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one mess of meat sold his own birthright. For ye know that even when he afterward desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected; for he found no place for a change of mind in his father, though he sought it diligently with tears. For ye are not come unto a mount that

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might be touched, and that burned with fire, and unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard entreated that no word more should be spoken unto them; for they could not endure that which was enjoined, If even a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned; and so fearful was the appearance, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake: but ye are come unto mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly

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Jerusalem, and to innumerable hosts of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant.

- **Let's praise the LORD in song:**

Disc 1 Hymn 22

WE'RE MARCHING TO ZION

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- 1. Come, we that love the Lord, And let our joys be known

Join in a song with sweet ac-cord, Join in a song
with sweet ac-cord,

And thus sur—round the throne, And thus sur—
round the throne.

NEXT

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- CHORUS

We're march-ing to Zi-on, Beau-ti-ful, beau-ti-ful
Zi-on;

We're march-ing up-ward to Zi-on, The beau-ti-ful
cit-y of God.

NEXT

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- 2. Let those re-fuse to sing Who nev-er knew
our God;

But chil-dren of the heav'nly King, But chil-dren of
the heav'nly King,

May speak their joys a-broad, May speak their
joys a-broad.

NEXT

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- CHORUS

We're march-ing to Zi-on, Beau-ti-ful, beau-ti-ful
Zi-on;

We're march-ing up-ward to Zi-on, The beau-ti-ful
cit-y of God.

NEXT

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4. Then let our songs a-bound, And ev-'ry tear be
dry;

We're marching thro' Immanuel's ground, We're
marching thro' Immanuel's ground,

To fair—er worlds on high, To fair-er worlds on
high.

NEXT

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- CHORUS

We're march-ing to Zi-on, Beau-ti-ful, beau-ti-ful
Zi-on;

We're march-ing up-ward to Zi-on, The beau-ti-ful
cit-y of God.

END