

## **Zechariah Chapter 2 Verses 1 to 9 The Man With the Measuring Line: Hope of Future Restoration Part 1**

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Zechariah

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To briefly review; the Book of Zechariah is one of the Minor Prophets in the Hebrew Scriptures. Zechariah is a "Post Exilic" book or meaning after the Babylonian Captivity.

Zechariah's name means Ya-Hovah Remembers.

The Book of Zechariah Chronicles Ten Visions that God gave Zechariah concerning the nation of Israel. The book also includes a Historic Interlude and Prophetic Burdens regarding the First and Second Comings of JESUS Christ.

Last time in Zechariah; we looked at the third vision. The vision of the four horns and four craftsmen. This is found in chapter 1 verses 18-21.

### [Zechariah 1:18-21](#)

"18 Then I raised my eyes and looked, and there were four horns.

19 And I said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these?" So he answered me, "These are the horns that have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem."

20 Then the Lord showed me four craftsmen.

21 And I said, "What are these coming to do?" So he said, "These are the horns that scattered Judah, so that no one could lift up his head; but the craftsmen are coming to terrify them, to cast out the horns of the nations that lifted up their horn against the land of Judah to scatter it."

The horns represent the nations that scattered the nation of Israel. The craftsmen represent the judgement of the horns.

We saw how the vision was similar to the dream Nebuchadnezzar had in Daniel Chapter 2. The theme of the vision in Daniel Chapter 2 is repeated in Daniel Chapter 7 (explain the difference of the two dreams.)

(explain the numbering of the horns and craftsmen.

Babylon Horn # 1

Medo Persia Craftsman # 1 and Horn # 2

Greece / Rome And JESUS

Tonight we will begin to look at the Fourth Vision. The Vision of the man with a measuring line. Please turn to Zechariah Chapter 2.

[Zechariah 2:1-9](#)

“1 Then I raised my eyes and looked, and behold, a man with a measuring line in his hand.

2 So I said, “Where are you going?” And he said to me, “To measure Jerusalem, to see what is its width and what is its length.”

3 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.’ ”

6 “Up, up! Flee from the land of the north,” says the Lord; “for I have spread you abroad like the four winds of heaven,” says the Lord.

7 “Up, Zion! Escape, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon.”

8 For thus says the Lord of hosts: “He sent Me after glory, to the nations which plunder you; for he who touches you touches the apple of His eye.

“9 For surely I will shake My hand against them, and they shall become spoil for their servants. Then you will know that the Lord of hosts has sent Me.”

[Zechariah 2:1-2](#)

“1 Then I raised my eyes and looked, and behold, a man with a measuring line in his hand.

2 So I said, “Where are you going?” And he said to me, “To measure Jerusalem, to see what is its width and what is its length.””

In verse 1 we see that Zechariah raised his eyes. This means that he literally looked at and was seeing the events that he is about to describe.

In the scriptures; whenever a measuring line is used; it refers to something being physically measured.

[Jeremiah 31:38-39](#) “38 “Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, that the city shall be built for the Lord—from the Tower of Hananel to the Corner Gate.

39 The surveyor’s line shall again extend straight forward over the hill Gareb; then it shall turn toward Goath.”

Turn to [Ezekiel 40:2-3](#)

“2 In the visions of God He took me into the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain; on it toward the south was something like the structure of a city.

3 He took me there, and behold, there was a man whose appearance was like the appearance of bronze. He had a line of flax and a measuring rod in his hand, and he stood in the gateway. 4 And the man said to me, “Son of man, look with your eyes and hear with your ears, and fix your mind on everything I show you; for you were brought here so that I might show them to you. Declare to the house of Israel everything you see.””

Throughout the rest of Chapter 40 the man is measuring various aspects of the temple. We are given precise measurements of what is being measured. What is being measured in Ezekiel Chapter 40 is the Millennial Temple.

Turn to [Revelation 11:1–2](#)

“1 Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, “Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there.

2 But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months.”

The temple being measured in Revelation Chapter 11 is the Third Temple that will be standing during the tribulation.

When GOD uses a measuring line, it simply means that HE is getting ready to move again on behalf of that which he is measuring.

Turn Back to Zechariah Chapter 2.

[Zechariah 2:1–2](#)

“1 Then I raised my eyes and looked, and behold, a man with a measuring line in his hand.

2 So I said, “Where are you going?” And he said to me, “To measure Jerusalem, to see what is its width and what is its length.””

The man in these two verses is another Christophany; or an Old Testament appearance of JESUS CHRIST.

The fact that HE is measuring Jerusalem; shows that Jerusalem is HIS city. HE owns it.

[Zechariah 2:3–4](#)

“3 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.’”

This measuring shows that the city of Jerusalem will expand. (explain what the current city looks like.)(Also a yet future expansion.)

The young man that the second angel referenced is Zechariah.

The first angel talking with Zechariah is known as an interpreting angel. This is merely an angel who is explaining what is being seen.

An interpreting angel appeared to Daniel in the Book of Daniel, twice.

#### [Daniel 8:15-17](#)

“15 Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance of a man.

16 And I heard a man’s voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, “Gabriel, make this man understand the vision.”

17 So he came near where I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me, “Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end.””

Gabriel also appeared again to Daniel in Chapter 9 when Daniel was given the vision of the Seventy Weeks. For those of you who are new with us. The Prophecy of Daniel’s Seventy Weeks is a mathematical prophecy showing the very day that JESUS would present HIMSELF as Messiah. See Daniel Chapter 9 verses 20-27

Gabriel also appeared to Zecharias the Father of John the Baptist and Mary the mother of JESUS. Turn to Luke Chapter 1.

#### [Luke 1:5](#)

“5 There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah. His wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth.”

#### [Luke 1:7-9](#)

“7 But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both well advanced in years.

8 So it was, that while he was serving as priest before God in the order of his division,

9 according to the custom of the priesthood, his lot fell to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord.”

#### [Luke 1:11-13](#)

“11 Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense.

12 And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.

13 But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John.”

The Angel goes on to recount the yet future ministry of John the Baptist.

That through John's ministry; many of the children of Israel would turn to the LORD their GOD. In verse 19 the Angel identifies himself as Gabriel who was sent by GOD to deliver these glad tidings.

(explain the division of priests and service and the casting of lots to burn incense)

Luke Chapter 1 verse 9 tells us that Zacharias was selected to burn incense by the casting of lots. This was possibly a once in a lifetime duty for any priest.

#### [Proverbs 16:33](#)

"33 The lot is cast into the lap, But its every decision is from the Lord."

The LORD is Omniscient (or all-knowing). HE knows the end from the beginning. So while the lot is cast; the LORD already knows the outcome.

For four hundred years; the LORD was silent with the children of Israel, until this point in time. The lot "happened" to fall to Zacharias. GOD knew that the lot was going to fall on Zacharias; because HE was going to be moving again because the time had come for JESUS to come the first time.

Just because GOD may appear to be silent in your life right now; does not mean that HE will always be silent. HE may be waiting for the right moment at the right time to give you an answer.

Please turn to back to Zechariah.

#### [Zechariah 2:4-5](#)

"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.' ""

We will get more into the expansion of Jerusalem next time.

Vs 5 Walls around a city were a great defensive need. They provided protection for the inhabitants. Walls would provide a high ground for the defenders of the city. Militarily; it is easier to defend against attackers from above; rather than from below.

Two prime Biblical and historical examples of "unconquerable walls;" would be Jericho and Babylon.

(Explain the three tiered walls of Jericho;{ stone wall to inner third wall})

The Euphrates river flowed under the walls of Babylon and there were gates that went down into the water to prevent an invasion. Babylon was so massive that it would be a three day journey to walk from one side to the other. The walls were so thick that chariot races would be performed on the tops of the walls two to six chariots wide.

In both of these cities; the inhabitants thought that their cities were impregnable.

[Psalm 127:1](#) "1 Unless the Lord builds the house, They labor in vain who build it; Unless the Lord guards the city, The watchman stays awake in vain."

In both of these cities; GOD ordained that the walls would not protect the inhabitants.

GOD'S promise to be a wall of fire around Jerusalem is an unconditional; unilateral promise.

Compare this when GOD is protecting a city. Turn to 2 Kings Chapter 6.

In this Chapter Elisha (with an S) is in the city of Dothan which was part of the Northern State of Israel. The enemy came and surrounded the city.

#### [2 Kings 6:14–17](#)

“14 Therefore he sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city.

15 And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?”

16 So he answered, “Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”

17 And Elisha prayed, and said, “Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.” Then the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

(tell the victory with the LORD striking the enemy with blindness)

Turn to 2 Kings Chapter 19.

In 2 Kings Chapter 19 Sennacherib the king of Assyria came to put Jerusalem under siege. Assyria was conquering the surrounding nations. (recount the narrative...

the letter and Hezekiah's response)

#### [2 Kings 19:32–35](#)

“32 “Therefore thus says the Lord concerning the king of Assyria: ‘He shall not come into this city, Nor shoot an arrow there, Nor come before it with shield, Nor build a siege mound against it.

33 By the way that he came, By the same shall he return; And he shall not come into this city,’ Says the Lord.

34 ‘For I will defend this city, to save it For My own sake and for My servant David’s sake.’ ”

35 And it came to pass on a certain night that the angel of the Lord went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand; and when people arose early in the morning, there were the corpses—all dead.”

GOD defended his city; Jerusalem. HE works in such a powerful way that HE receives the Glory.

Just as GOD defends Jerusalem; HE will defend and protect you.

[Psalm 5:12](#) “12 For You, O Lord, will bless the righteous; With favor You will surround him as with a shield.”

[Psalm 18:2](#) “2 The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.”

[Psalm 28:7–8](#) “7 The Lord is my strength and my shield; My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart greatly rejoices, And with my song I will praise Him. 8 The Lord is their strength, And He is the saving refuge of His anointed.”

[Psalm 34:7](#) “7 The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him, And delivers them.”

[Isaiah 52:12](#) “12 For you shall not go out with haste, Nor go by flight; For the Lord will go before you, And the God of Israel will be your rear guard.”

Turn back to Zechariah Chapter 2

### [Zechariah 2:5](#)

“5 For I,’ says the Lord, ‘will be a wall of fire all around her, and I will be the glory in her midst.’ ”

The second half of this verse speaks of more encouragement beyond the expansion of the city of Jerusalem. When the LORD said, “ I will be the glory in her midst;” speaks of the fact that HE will be dwelling there physically or tabernacling with the inhabitants of Jerusalem at some point in the future.

### [Zechariah 2:6–7](#)

“6 “Up, up! Flee from the land of the north,” says the Lord; “for I have spread you abroad like the four winds of heaven,” says the Lord.

7 “Up, Zion! Escape, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon.””

Verse 6. Flee from the land of the North refers to Babylon. Also Militarily; whenever Israel was attacked; it was always from the North.

Many foreign nations were used by GOD to spread the Jewish people abroad like the four winds; which means throughout the face of the the Earth.

Assyria; Bablyon; during the time of Zechariah, Medo-Persia; and yet future nations as the Greeks. Also yet future from the time of Zechariah the Diaspora or dispersion; under Rome.

Why the Diaspora?

After the 400 years of silence from the Prophet Malachi to the time of JESUS CHRIST; when GOD began to speak to the Nation of Israel again; through the Angelic messengers sent to Zacharias; Mary and Joseph; did they heed the messages sent? No.

As JESUS rode into Jerusalem during HIS “Triumphal Entry;” on the first Palm Sunday; completing the 69th Week of Daniel’s 70 Week prophecy; he wept over the city.

[Matthew 23:37–39](#) “37 “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!

38 See! Your house is left to you desolate;

39 for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' """

Thirty eight years later in 70 A.D.; Rome leveled Jerusalem and destroyed the temple and dispersed the Jewish people to the nations of the world.

[Zechariah 2:7](#) "7 "Up, Zion! Escape, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon.'""

Approximately two years after this prophecy; in the fourth year of the reign of Darius the Mede; Babylon would be destroyed.

This also refers to a yet future rebuilding of Babylon. Where GOD said in:

[Revelation 18:4](#)

"4 And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues."

During the tribulation; the LORD will destroy Babylon; for the destruction it has brought upon the world.

[Zechariah 2:8](#)

"8 For thus says the Lord of hosts: "He sent Me after glory, to the nations which plunder you; for he who touches you touches the apple of His eye."

GOD has a special relationship with HIS chosen people the Jews and the Nation of Israel. HE may discipline them for disobedience; but HE still loves them.

[Hebrews 12:6](#)

"6 For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.'""

HE has and may raise up a pagan nation to judge HIS people for disobedience; but GOD will then deal with and judge those nations for how they treated HIS people.

It is one thing to discipline your own children; but try to discipline someone else's children or someone else disciplining your children — and look out.

verse 8: "For he who touches you touches the apple of HIS eye."

How tender is the affection of GOD towards Israel that the phrase, "The apple of HIS eye;" refers to the gate that light enters the eye or the pupil.

As one author said,

*"The pupil or apple of the eye is a proverbial figure for that which is most precious; most easily injured; hardest of repair and most demanding of protection and care.*

*This is a most fitting symbol for Israel, because just as the light comes through the pupil, so the light of salvation has come through the Jews. ( see [John 4:22.](#))*



*Note the provision for the protection of the pupil:*

*1) Strong frontal bones to protect from a blow.*

*2) The brow and the eyelash to protect against dust.*

*3) The eyelid to protect from painful glare*

*4) The tear glands for continual cleansing.”*

Touching the apple or pupil of one’s own eye does irreparable damage to one’s self.

### [Genesis 12:3](#)

“3 I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.””

Could some of the anti-Israel protests on college campuses be GOD bringing judgement upon America; for supporting anti-semitism in Israel?

### [Zechariah 2:9](#)

“9 For surely I will shake My hand against them, and they shall become spoil for their servants. Then you will know that the Lord of hosts has sent Me.”

GOD still is the defender of Israel and will bring judgment upon those nations who treat Israel with contempt.