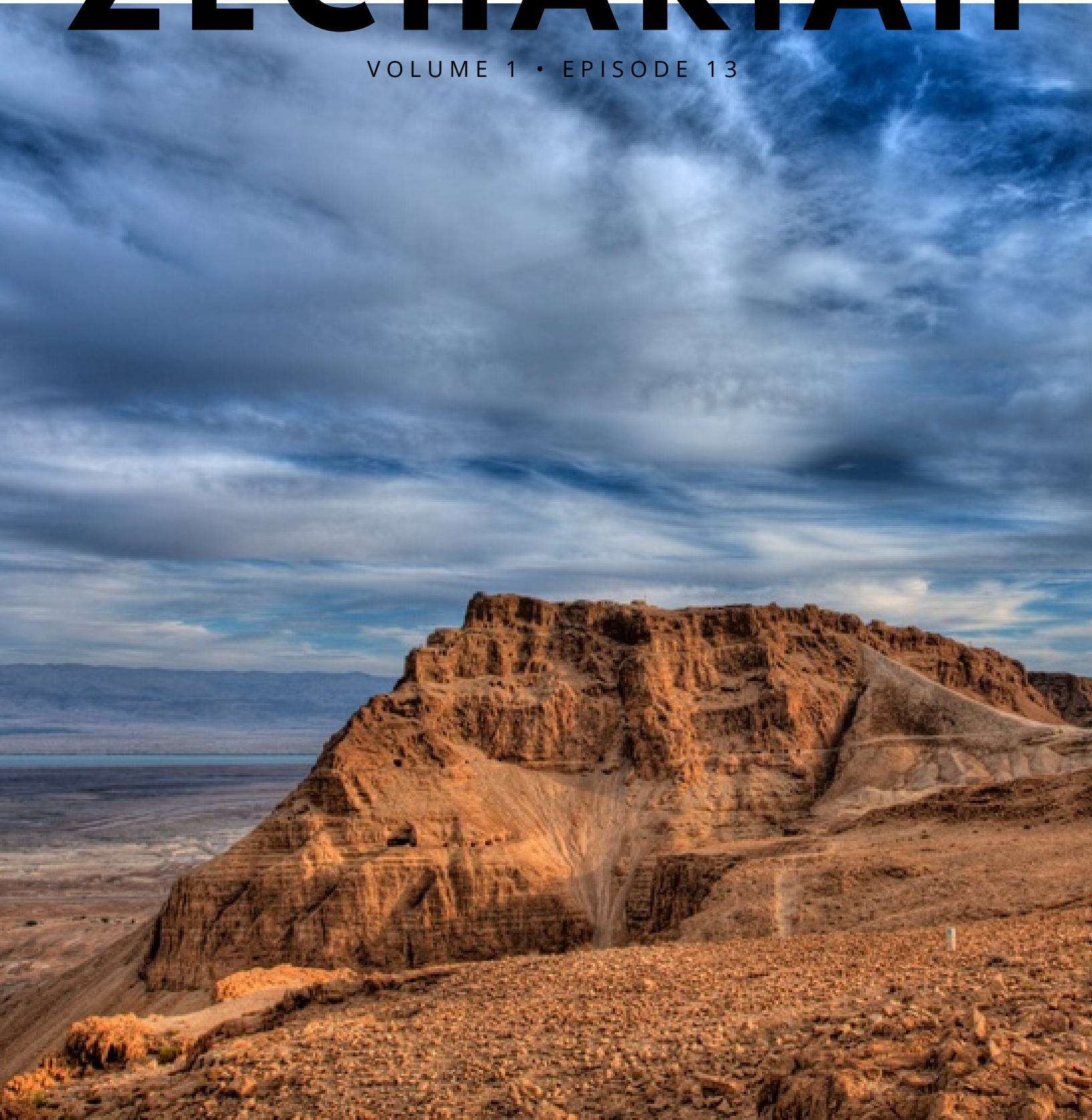


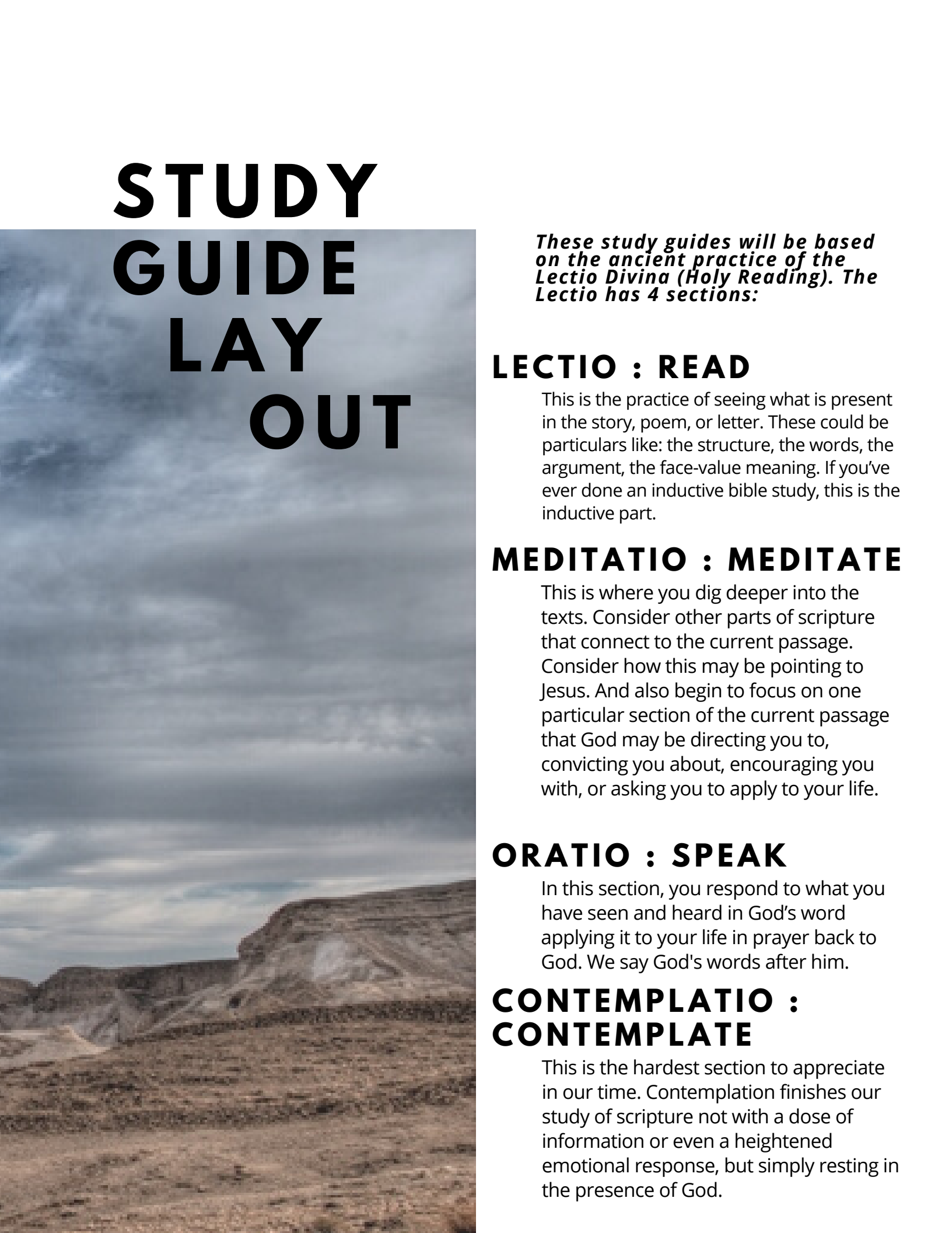


ALL SAINTS
PRESBYTERIAN

ZECHARIAH

VOLUME 1 • EPISODE 13





STUDY GUIDE LAY OUT

These study guides will be based on the ancient practice of the Lectio Divina (Holy Reading). The Lectio has 4 sections:

LECTIO : READ

This is the practice of seeing what is present in the story, poem, or letter. These could be particulars like: the structure, the words, the argument, the face-value meaning. If you've ever done an inductive bible study, this is the inductive part.

MEDITATIO : MEDITATE

This is where you dig deeper into the texts. Consider other parts of scripture that connect to the current passage. Consider how this may be pointing to Jesus. And also begin to focus on one particular section of the current passage that God may be directing you to, convicting you about, encouraging you with, or asking you to apply to your life.

ORATIO : SPEAK

In this section, you respond to what you have seen and heard in God's word applying it to your life in prayer back to God. We say God's words after him.

CONTEMPLATIO : CONTEMPLATE

This is the hardest section to appreciate in our time. Contemplation finishes our study of scripture not with a dose of information or even a heightened emotional response, but simply resting in the presence of God.

A JOURNEY OF PRAYER

As Christians, we truly believe that God speaks through His Word. It's alive because Jesus is alive. We also believe that God is present in and through the scriptures. Furthermore, as God's present Spirit breathes in us--the church--the near presence of Jesus is known in reading and hearing scripture. Listen to the story of Jesus.

The final section of the Lectio Divina (Contemplatio), consequently, practices stillness in the presence of the Lord, resting in the knowledge of His attention and care of you. Trust God speaking his word. Let your soul wait in stillness on the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. May God bless you as you study His word.



**READ | MEDITATE | PRAY |
CONTEMPLATE**

“Contemplative prayer is nothing else than a close sharing between friends; it means taking time frequently to be alone with him who we know loves us.’ Contemplative prayer seeks him ‘whom my soul loves’. It is Jesus, and in him, the Father. We seek him, because to desire him is always the beginning of love, and we seek him in that pure faith which causes us to be born of him and to live in him. In this inner prayer our attention is fixed on the Lord himself.” – Teresa of Avila



LECTIO: READ

- If the eight visions all take place in one night, imagine what the morning after was like for Zechariah. Who wakes Zechariah? What does the word, "Take" signal?
- How does this hinge between Part 1: Visions and Part 2: Messianic Oracles use poetry to communicate a transition? Think of the poetic devices like: metaphor, parallel images & words, or allusion.
- In v11, there's a textual variant that suggests Zechariah should commission two crown(s) be made. How would you weigh the internal evidence toward a conclusion of accepting or rejecting this textual variant?
- Are these three named guys from the exiles and Josiah son of Zephaniah like the 4 craftsmen from Ch1?
- If we take the aforementioned textual variant in v11 to read, "Crowns" as opposed to "Crown," ...How does that help us count the number of thrones in v13? Where is the crown(s)?
- "Behold, the man...whose name is the Branch...he shall build the temple of the Lord." Who is the Branch? Zerubbabel? Joshua? Jesus?
- What is the "If" condition of this prophecy, "Come[ing] to pass..."?

MEDITATIO :

MEDITATE

- What does God command Abraham to take in Gen22? In Exod4 what does Moses "take" with him back to Egypt? What does Aaron have the people "take" in Exod32? David in 1 Sam17?
- How many crowns did we see in Zechariah Ch3? How many olive trees inCh4? Those central visions of the book must help us understand the crown(s) in this hinge section of 6:9--15. How?
- Remember that Zechariah is like a little Isaiah. The prophet who is the OG of using the name The Branch. Read Isaiah 4; Jer 23:5, 33:15 all about the branch to help you decide who this figure is.
- Read Zech 6:12 and John 19:5. What does it mean for a prophecy to be fulfilled?
- What is the relationship between a ruler/king and a priest in ancient Israel? Which king built the temple? Which king ate the bread of the presence? Read Exod 32:11ff and John 17. Who is Melchizedek?

ORATIO : SPEAK



- Pray Moses' and Jesus' words (Exod32 & Jn17) like they were your own. How does it feel to talk to God this way?
- Read Psalm 2 aloud, then use its words to help you speak God's words back to him about His Anointed.
- Take 10 mins to write your own priestly and kingly prayer.

CONTEMPLATIO : CONTEMPLATE

Set your clock for 5-10mins. And simply rest in the presence of God, attentive to His presence to you and with you IN Jesus, his Word made flesh, and by the Holy Spirit.

Use this prayer from Psalm 62 to focus your attention upon Christ:

“For you alone O Lord, my soul waits in silence.”

Spend the time in silence.

You may conclude with The Lord's Prayer or:

“Lord Jesus, Son of God have mercy on me a sinner.”

