

ZECHARIAH



1:1-6 INTRODUCTION

1:1-6 YOUR BACK TO GOD! DON'T BE LIKE YOUR ANCESTORS! WE REPENT!!

1:1-6 EARLIER PROPHETS

1:1-6 OR SOIT SEEMS

1:1-6 ENIGMA!

1:7-6 ZECHARIAH'S DREAM-VISIONS

1:7-6 WARNING: THESE ARE BIZARRE (LIKE YOUR DREAMS)

1:7-6 THE IDEA OF GOD STEERING IN DREAMS IS ROOTED IN GENESIS (JACOB, ch28; JOSEPH, ch37; PHAROAH, ch41)

1:7-6 THEY EXPLAIN CURRENT EVENTS OUR POINT TO THE FUTURE.

7-8 CONCLUSION

7-8 SHOULD WE STOP DREAMING? IS GOD'S KINGDOM COMING SOON?

7-8 ONLY IF YOU ARE FAITHFUL TO THE COVENANT (8:1-7)

7-8 QUESTION REVERSED: WILL YOU BECOME PEOPLE WHO ARE READY TO FACTURATE IN GOD'S KINGDOM?

7-8 ENIGMA!

9-11 IMAGES OF THE MESSIANIC KINGDOM, PT. 1

9-11 THE COMING KING...

9-11 ...BECOMES THE REJECTED SHEPHERD

9-11 LEADERS OF ISRAEL

9-11 PEOPLE OF ISRAEL

9-11 JERUSALEM

9-11 NEW JERUSALEM

9-11 "REJOICE, JERUSALEM—YOUR KING COMES! HE'S RIGHTEOUS, HUMBLE, AND RIDES A DONKEY" (9:9)

9-11 WILL THIS REJECTION LAST FOREVER...? **No!**

12-14 IMAGES OF THE MESSIANIC KINGDOM, PT. 2

12-14 GOD'S JUSTICE CONFRONTS EVIL AMONG THE NATIONS (SEE JUD. 3 & EZRA 1:36-37)

12-14 GOD PUNISHES OUT A SPIRIT OF REPENTANCE ON HIS PEOPLE

12-14 WE'RE SORRY WE REJECTED YOU

12-14 JERUSALEM

12-14 RIVER OF LIFE

12-14 ALL NATIONS

4 JOSHUA, THE HIGH PRIEST

4 3:1-10 IT'S YOU ARE FAITHFUL TO GOD PEOPLE AND BECOME A SYMBOL OF THE FUTURE MESSIANIC KING (3:7-9)

4 ISRAEL'S SIN REMOVED

4 MESSIANIC KINGDOM CALL ONLY COME IF THE PEOPLE ARE FAITHFUL

4 JERUSALEM

4 SUCCESS WILL COME ONLY IF THEY DEPEND ON GOD'S SPIRIT

4 ZECHARIAH: ROTAL HERO OF DAVID

3 JERUSALEM IS REBUILT

3 2:1-13 LET US HELP! (2:1-3)

3 THE NEW JERUSALEM: A BEACON TO THE NATIONS, FOUNDED BY THE SON OF DAVID

3 DON'T LIE

3 THE FLYING SCROLL

2 FOUR WINDS, FOUR BLACK CHURCHES

2 1:18-21 SYMBOL OF ASSYRIA-BABYLON (1:18-21)

2 REFLECTIONS ON ISRAEL'S PAST SIN & EXILE

2 THE NORTH LAND IS AT REST (1:18-21)

2 THE NORTH LAND IS AT REST (1:18-21)

2 THE NORTH LAND IS AT REST (1:18-21)

1 FOUR HORSEMEN ON PATROL

1 1:8-17 THE WORLD BASED UP PERSIA TO CONQUER BABYLON & BRING PEACE (1:8-17)

1 70 YEAR EXILE IS ALMOST OVER IS MESSIANIC KINGDOM?

1 UNDETERMINED

1 THE NORTH LAND IS AT REST (1:18-21)

1 THE NORTH LAND IS AT REST (1:18-21)

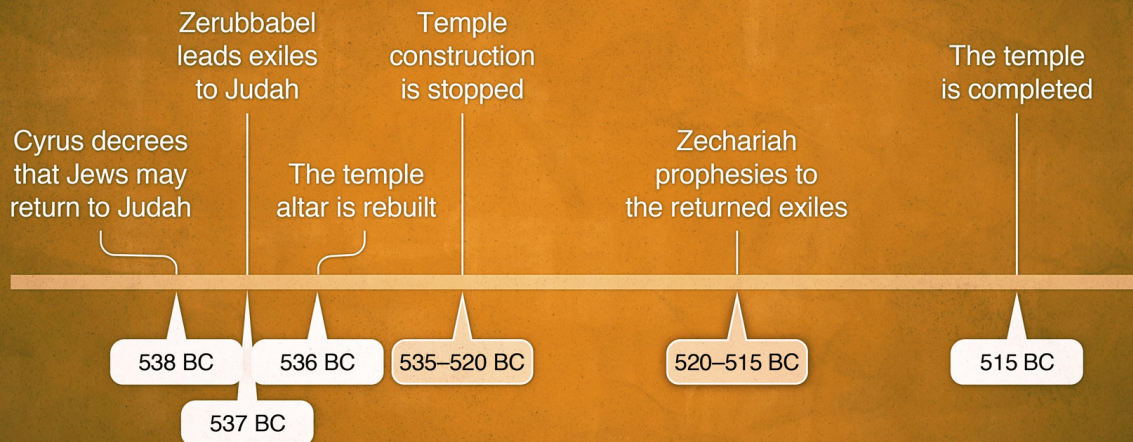
1 THE NORTH LAND IS AT REST (1:18-21)

created by the Bible Project

WEEK 8

TIMELINE

ZECHARIAH



*All dates are approximate

ZECHARIAH

- **NAME:** means "Yahweh remembered".
- **PURPOSE:** to call people to repentance and a renewed covenant relationship with God.
- **KEY IDEAS:**
 - Repentance and covenant renewal.
 - Hope rooted in God's sovereignty.
 - Social justice.
 - Messiah.
- **GOD'S PRESENCE:** God is symbolized as a rider on a red horse ready to re-enter the temple once the sanctuary has been rebuilt. He declares that he will be a wall of fire around Jerusalem and the glory within it. God will also return to Jerusalem and live there.

- One of the ways that the 12 highlight the calls to reverent awe in the present is by depicting the universal scope of God's reign as it will be manifest in the end.
- Zech 14:9 anticipates the day when the absolute uniqueness of Yahweh as king will be revealed for the entire world to see, as the fundamental truth of the Shema is manifest.
 - "and the Lord will be king over the Earth. On that day, the LORD will be one and his name one."
- About two months after Zerubbabel and Jeshua had marshalled a group to begin work once again on the temple, Zechariah calls for repentance.
- While construction on the temple was once again underway, the mere construction of the building would be meaningless if they did not restore their fellowship with God.
- Three months later, Zechariah had his visions.
 - The temple is being completed.
 - Apocalyptic description of Judah's victory over their enemies and the gathering of all repentant people to Yahweh because of the testimony of his repentant covenant people.

THE WRITING OF THE BOOK

- Like Haggai's prophecy, Zechariah's messages originated in Jerusalem and were intended for the post-exilic community.
- The spiritual apathy, despair, and sense of hopelessness were the motivations behind the prophet's exhortations and predictions.
- Like Haggai, this book was written against the backdrop of Darius's rule.
- Despite the return from exile, there was little evidence of the covenant restoration Yahweh had promised Jerusalem (Jer 30-33, Ezek 36-39).

PURPOSE AND MESSAGE

- His message was one of rebuke, exhortation, and encouragement.
- A guide on how to live in troubled times.
- Zechariah calls out the post-exilic community for continuing in sin. They were, in fact, continuing in the same covenant violation that had sent a previous generation into exile.
 - The solution to sin and rebellion is repentance and return to God.
 - Only spiritual renewal could foster true worship and service in the temple that was currently under construction after Haggai's intervention.
- The people were waiting for the promised blessing, prosperity, and righteousness of the messianic age, which could only be ushered in by obedience to God.

PURPOSE AND MESSAGE

- Yahweh's intention to do good to Jerusalem was contingent on the community's adherence to the covenant stipulations, especially those governing behavior patterns.
 - Zechariah was particularly concerned with social justice in his presence.
- Israel needed to seek the Lord's favor, render justice, and show kindness and mercy to widows, orphans, and foreigners. Then the nations could come to seek the Lord in Jerusalem.
 - *"Thus says the LORD of hosts, Render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another, do not oppress the widow, the fatherless, the sojourner, or the poor, and let none of you devise evil against another in your heart."* (7:9-10)

PURPOSE AND MESSAGE

- Zechariah specifically says that part of his duty as a spokesman was to comfort and strengthen the people of Judah and Jerusalem.
- **His message took many forms:**
 - Visions reminded Israel that God still cared for his people and continued to rule the destinies of the nations.
 - The ordination of Jeshua as priest and Zerubbabel as governor showed the return of divinely appointed leadership in Israel—rekindled messianic hopes.
 - Repeated reference to the words of the “former prophets” was an attempt to assure the people that they had not misunderstood Yahweh's earlier revelations— God intended to continue his covenant with Israel.

STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION

- **Divided into two major parts.**
 - **1-** introductory verse, call to repentance, 7 night visions, 2 oracles addressing fasting.
 - The night visions graphically outline God's plan to bring peace to Israel, retribution to the nations that scattered Israel, restoration to Jerusalem, appoint leadership, purge evil among the people, and establish covenant righteousness.
 - The sermons on fasting connected the pursuit of social justice in the current age with the eventual reversal of Judah's fortunes among the nations to come. If Judah sought God's favor, so too would the nations one day seek the Lord in Jerusalem.
 - **2-** Eschatological oracles encouraged the community by depicting the promised future kingdom of God.
 - A: The word concerning Hadrach.
 - B: The word concerning Israel.
- Built around a chiasmic structure (ABBA).

- The book is described as “oracular prose” or a combination of prose and poetry (common in prophetic literature).
- Contains various literary forms: exhortation with repentance oracle, narrative, vision, prediction, inquiry, symbolic actions, admonition with messenger formula, divine oracles, judgment, and salvation.
- Often classified as proto-apocalyptic (like Daniel). It has some forms of apocalyptic writing, such as visions, a divine messenger who interprets the vision, and themes of judgement.



2022

THEME: MESSIAH

- Other than Isaiah, we learn the most about the Messiah from the book of Zechariah.
- Luke 24:44 “Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”



Messianic Prophecy	Zechariah	New Testament
Comes in a low and humble station in life	9:9; 13:7	Matt 21:5; 26:31, 56
Restores Israel by the blood of the covenant	9:11	Mark 14:24
Serves as shepherd to a scattered people	10:2	Matt 9:36; 26:15
Be pierced and struck down	12:10; 13:7	Matt 24:30; 26:31, 56; John 19:37
Returns in glory to deliver Israel from her enemies	14:1-6	Matt 25:31
Rule as king in peace and righteousness in Jerusalem	9:9-10; 14:9, 16	Rev 11:15; 19:6
Establish a new world order	14:6-19	Rev 21:25; 22:1, 5

THEME: OT ESCHATOLOGY

- Although Zechariah does not use the term "Day of the Lord" so commonly used in Amos, Malachi, Obadiah, and Zephaniah, we get a lot of information about the end times from Zechariah.
- Central teaching: the salvation of Israel for the "LORD will save them on that day" (9:16).
 - Predicted that this would be accomplished by a shepherd-king who would be rejected and struck down (11:4-17).
 - His ministry will be one of peace and reconciliation (9:9-10).
- Secondary Teaching: the regathering and restoration of Israel (10:9-12).
 - Through the Messiah, God will unify Judah and Israel and restore the fortunes of his elect.
 - This will come to pass after the nations have waged war against Jerusalem and are vanquished.
 - Then Israel will mourn over the "one they have pierced." Their repentance will lead to cleansing and covenant renewal (12:10-13:9).

- Culmination: the restoration will come to fulfillment in the creation of a new created order where the LORD himself will rule over all the earth.
- There will be a new Jerusalem, the wealth of the nations will flow into Zion, and the temple will stand as a symbol of peace, righteousness, and holiness that characterize the kingdom of God.
- The temple is at the center of Zechariah's eschatology– even the people of the nations will make regular pilgrimages to worship Yahweh there.